



**SILVER SPRING  
TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT DISTRICT  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**AGENDA**

**March 11, 2021 / 8:00 – 9:30 a.m.  
Zoom Meeting**

**Chair – Valerie Spencer**

Staff Contact: Jim Carlson / (240) 777-8382; (301) 318-0328  
[james.carlson@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:james.carlson@montgomerycountymd.gov)

- 
- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>1. Introductions/Agenda Review/Chair Comments</b>   | <b>Valerie Spencer</b>   |
| <b>2. Minutes Review</b><br>Nov (©2a) / Jan (©2b)      | <b>All</b>   |
| <b>3. Presentation: Personal Rapid Transit</b>         | <b>Peter James</b><br>Crystal Clear Automation, LLC  |
| <b>4. Metro Update</b>                                 | <b>Gary Erenrich</b><br>MCDOT-Special Assistant to the Director                                      |
| <b>5. Employer TDM Plans</b><br>Summary (©5)           | <b>Jim Carlson</b>   |
| <b>6. Employer Outreach Update</b>                     | <b>Van Eperen Team</b>   |
| <b>7. Updates: Police/TMD/DOT/Other County Updates</b> | <b>Sandra Brecher</b><br><b>Sgt. Kerry Moore</b><br><b>Reemberto Rodriguez</b><br><b>Jim Carlson</b> |

**Adjourn / Next Meeting: April 8, 2021**

---

Information Items:

*Ride On schedule changes*

*CSS Telework Webinar – Covid Lessons Learned available online*

*MCDOT Seeks Applicants for Ride On Transit Advisory Group*

**Silver Spring  
Transportation Management District  
Advisory Committee  
November 12, 2020**

**Item 1 & 2 – Introductions/Minutes/Chair Comments:** Chair Valerie Spencer opened the meeting. Members, guests introduced themselves and the meeting minutes were tabled.

**Item 3 – Silver Spring Downtown and Adjacent Communities Plan;** Iftin Thompson, Atara Margolies, and Lauren Stamm, M-NCPPC, briefed the Committee on the Silver Spring Downtown Plan objectives and answered comments and questions. They provided information on proposed Downtown boundary changes, current multi-modal conditions, and next milestones in the approval process.

The plan is currently in its “Visioning Phase”, eliciting public comment from stakeholders. Silver Spring has developed and is continuing along the path into a transit-oriented, green and pedestrian-friendly downtown with a strong commercial and residential development market. The Silver Spring Downtown and Adjacent Communities Plan is an update to the previous downtown Silver Spring sector plan and will guide Silver Spring’s future growth.

**Item 4 – Employer Outreach Update:** Jennifer Bolick and Zachary Deshaies briefed the Committee on employer outreach efforts during Covid protocols, focusing on virtual meetings and more reliance on email and phone communication.

**Item 5 – County Updates:** Sandra Brecher and Jim Carlson advised the Committee of upcoming virtual public forums on proposed Ride On service changes and the start of Flash bus service on Oct 14 for Rt. 29.

Ms. Brecher described her work on the County’s proposed Climate Action Plan and said the September all-TMD virtual meeting on the Corridor Forward Plan was well attended.

Sgt. Kerry Moore briefed the Committee on Fall traffic enforcement efforts and pedestrian safety measures.

**Adjourn/Next meeting: January 14, 1021**

# Silver Spring Transportation Management District Advisory Committee Attendance Sheet

November 12, 2020

<b>Voting Members (12)</b>			
<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Chamber Members (3)</b>			
Chris Kabatt	Wells + Associates	X	
Julie Statland	Statland & Katz, Ltd.	X	
Vacant			
<b>Citizens Advisory Board Members (3)</b>			
Harriet Quinn	Kemp Mill, Four Corners, East SS	X	
Vacant	North & West Sector Plan Area		
Chris Perry	CBD Resident	X	
<b>Employers less than 50 employees (3)</b>			
Valerie Spencer	MayaTech	X	
Dar Maxwell	Panagora Group	X	
Vacant			
<b>Employers with 50 or more employees (3)</b>			
G. Michael Price	Discovery Communications	X	
Vacant			
Vacant			
<b>Non-Voting Members (3)</b>			
Sandra Brecher, DOT-Commuter Services	MCDOT Director or Designee	X	
Iftin Thompson	M-NCPPC	X	
Reemberto Rodriguez	Silver Spring Regional Center	X	
Sgt. Kerry Moore	Montgomery County Police	X	
<b>Staff</b>			
Nakengi Byrd	MCDOT-Commuter Services	X	
Jim Carlson	MCDOT-Commuter Services	X	
<b>Guests</b>			
Jennifer Bolick	Van Eperen & Co.	X	
Zachary Deshaies	Van Eperen & Co.		
Jay Elvove	SS Citizens Advisory Board	X	
Sean Emerson	Councilmember Tom Hucker's office	X	
Gary Erenrich	MCDOT	X	
Leslye Howerton	M-NCPPC	X	
Atara Margolies	M-NCPPC	X	
Christine McGrew	M-NCPPC	X	
Lauren Stamm	M-NCPPC	X	
Mel Tull	Lee Development	X	
Laura Van Eperen	Van Eperen & Co.	X	

**Silver Spring  
Transportation Management District  
Advisory Committee  
January 14, 2021**

**Item 1 & 2 – Introductions/Minutes:** Members and guest introduced themselves. November meeting minutes were tabled.

**Item 3- Purple Line Update:** Maricela Cordova, MCDOT Purple Line Manager, gave an update of the Purple Line project, explaining that the general contractor Purple Line Transit Partners (PLTP), responsible for the building and design of the project, terminated their contract with MTA October 2020. A punch list was completed focusing on safety issues and securing the job site; also, a letter from the County addressed issues of safety, traffic maintenance and project completion schedule among other concerns. In December PLTP reached an agreement with MDOT to continue the Purple Line project for \$150 million, when a new general contractor is to be selected. PLTP issued a Request for Qualifications for applicants, then a request for cost & technology proposals with a new contractor chosen by Fall 2021 and construction to resume early 2022. Also reported:

- The importance of keeping subcontractors on the project to ensure continuity of the project’s design
- A revised project workplan and schedule has not been received, pending new general contractor; however, funding is in place per MTA’s efforts
- MDOT has site maintenance responsibility for the project, and MTA conducted community walk-throughs addressing comments and concerns

**Ms. Cordova** commented that MTA’s executive management has been an improvement, being more communicative and open during the project’s progress.

- Project is 98% complete in the design phase, with structures in various stages of completion and with work continuing on the light rail vehicles - three vehicles completed to date
- The last property acquisition for Montgomery County and Capital Crescent Trail CCT access will be completed by the month’s end – CCT is in various stages of completion; however, will be inoperable until the Purple Line is completed
- Bethesda’s Metro south entrance construction requires a special contractor due to the specialized and complex structure design
- Green Trail design is complete - road widening on Wayne Avenue and utility relocation
- Traffic detours will impact the Silver Spring area indirectly due to bridge demolition and 7 – 8-month reconstruction schedule
- The steel structure crossing Colesville Road, CCT bridge erection was completed on time; however, upon selection of a new general contractor the decks, plaza and mezzanine will be completed
- MTA to conduct testing on the Bonifant West section of Bonifant Street between Georgia & Fenton, closed due to “Shared Streets” dining; the businesses have since moved – line utility relocations will take approximately four months to complete

- MTA is conducting prep work for the new incoming general contractor by restarting construction, utility relocation, retaining walls, and the new Kenwood Parking
- Art In Transit: 16 out of 22 contracts have been fully executed and photos can be viewed on the Purple Line website

The question and answer discussion from the Committee included:

- The rendering showing Silver Spring library station was viewed as inconsistent by some on the Committee as the proportions are incorrect – rendering presented to show that the train will travel under the library
- An explanation of two bills in the state legislature regarding the Purple Line - HB 080 to instruct MTA in Purple Line tree replacement; and SB 97 instructing MTA to fund \$500,000 for two fiscal years to support marketing and education efforts for street safety and to stimulate ridership
- No opening date set due to no new General Contractor chosen

**Item 4 – Metro Update:** Gary Erenrich gave an update on Metro, explaining that there are many moving targets regarding Metro’s current & future budgets. Due to Federal funding, the budget gap for fiscal year 21 has been secured; however, FY22 is still in danger of budget cuts to service due to the looming deficit. Also reported:

- \$610 million will be given to transit, with Metro receiving \$514 to cover FY21; but trouble looming for FY22 starting January 2022 – proposed no weekend rail service, station closings, reduced operation hours closing at 9 pm
- Questions regarding building up Metro ridership just to cut service later – Metro assumes that ridership will only grow to 35% - 40% of pre-Covid levels
- The bus system carries more passengers than rail during the pandemic
- Metro & Ride On are operating at 80% to promote social distancing during pandemic
- Metro is preparing docket for public hearing March 9, 2021 with budget approval in April
- Hope to receive \$20 to \$25 million for Ride On operations as it is not collecting fares due to the pandemic – fare collection will resume once safety barriers are in place
- Metro not happy with the design of Silver Line Phase 2 and will not take ownership until issues are remedied; however, cost to the region to get section up is \$36.5 million, this is to hire employees for segment

**Item 5- Employer TDM Plans:** Jim Carlson reported that there are a dozen plans for approval with some exceptions. The exceptions included:

- Excell-doesn’t apply due to not having 25 or more employees
- Marshalls not for consideration pending regional approval
- SEEC is outside the TMD
- Toole design will resubmit report

**The Committee approved for recommendation TDM plans**

The Committee discussion regarding attendance and new member recruitment:

- Schedules book up quickly with Covid related items
- Involving Marketing contractors in recruitment efforts
- Obtaining assistance from **Jane Rediker** and the Chamber
- Not much concern for transportation issues since people are not commuting due to the pandemic

**Item 6 – Employer Outreach Update: Jenifer Bolick reported:**

- Continuing Employer outreach efforts – teleworking productivity a concern
- Seeking nominees for COG Employer Awards, which consists of three categories: Transit Incentives, Employee Marketing and Telework

**Item 7 – Updates:** The Climate Action Plan draft is available for review on the website: [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/Climate](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/Climate) and a virtual information room is also available. The transportation sections begin on page 114 with youth Resilience Climate Ambassadors available to engage the community. An all-TMD and Regional center briefing will be Feb. 10<sup>th</sup>. Public comment will be to end of February. Also announced:

- Electric vehicle EV group buy effort to reduce cost of vehicle purchasing – forum held for feedback and currently reviewing responses
- Capital Bikeshare corporate participation has been upgraded to make easier
- Bike Match program is seeking bike donations
- The Business Improvement District BID legislation was introduced to County Council that has the potential to transform downtown Silver Spring by shifting the administration and stewardship of the area from governmental agency to a private entity -public hearing on February 2nd

**Adjourn Next Meeting: March 11, 2021**

# Silver Spring Transportation Management District Advisory Committee Attendance Sheet

January 14, 2021

<b>Voting Members (12)</b>			
<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Chamber Members (3)</b>			
Chris Kabatt	Wells + Associates	X	
Julie Statland	Statland & Katz, Ltd.	X	
Vacant			
<b>Citizens Advisory Board Members (3)</b>			
Harriet Quinn	Kemp Mill, Four Corners, East SS	X	
Vacant	North & West Sector Plan Area		
Chris Perry	CBD Resident	X	
<b>Employers less than 50 employees (3)</b>			
Valerie Spencer	MayaTech	X	
Dar Maxwell	Panagora Group	X	
Vacant			
<b>Employers with 50 or more employees (3)</b>			
G. Michael Price	Discovery Communications	X	
Vacant			
Vacant			
<b>Non-Voting Members (3)</b>			
Sandra Brecher, DOT-Commuter Services	MCDOT Director or Designee	X	
Iftin Thompson	M-NCPPC	X	
Reemberto Rodriguez	Silver Spring Regional Center	X	
Sgt. Kerry Moore	Montgomery County Police	X	
<b>Staff</b>			
Nakengi Byrd	MCDOT-Commuter Services	X	
Jim Carlson	MCDOT-Commuter Services	X	
<b>Guests</b>			
Jennifer Bolick	Van Eperen & Co.	X	
Maricela Cordova	MCDOT	X	
Jay Elvove	SS Citizens Advisory Board	X	
Sean Emerson	Councilmember Tom Hucker's office	X	
Gary Erenrich	MCDOT	X	
Christine McGrew	M-NCPPC	X	
Mel Tull	Lee Development	X	
Laura Van Eperen	Van Eperen & Co.	X	

**Silver Spring TMD  
Traffic Demand Management Plan Summary  
March 2021**

**Code Requirements:**

1. *Contact person designated to receive and distribute commuter information to employees*
2. *Information on transit and other commute alternatives distributed/ posted regularly (furnished by Commuter Services/CSS)*
3. *Facilitate CSS/TMD staff presentations and commuter information events for employees and HR/administrative staff. This could include benefits fares and other employer-sponsored events*
4. *Guaranteed Ride Home Promotion (free regional program offering emergency rides)*
5. *Annual Commuter Survey distributed to employees (short survey of transportation– supplied by CSS/TMD)*
6. *ADA information provided (transportation services for people with disabilities)*
7. *Permanent display area for bus schedules and other transportation information*
8. *Compile information on yearly TDM activities and submit Annual Report*

<b>Employer</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Recommend to MCDOT</b>
<b>TTT Restaurant</b>	Meets requirements and has voluntary measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carpool matching</li> </ul>	Yes
<b>AFI Silver Theatre</b>	Meets requirements and has voluntary measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All employees working remotely, per CE directive</li> </ul>	Yes
<b>Pulmonary Hypertension Association</b>	Meets requirements and has voluntary measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SmartBenefits – \$115 / 21 employees</li> <li>• Formal telework – 26 employees</li> <li>• Subsidizes parking and transit equally</li> <li>• Bike racks/lockers</li> <li>• Flexible schedules</li> </ul>	Yes
<b>IBSS Corp.</b>	Meets requirements and has voluntary measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre-tax benefit</li> <li>• Formal telework – 34 participating</li> <li>• Bike racks</li> <li>• Flexible schedules</li> </ul>	Yes
<b>Paladian Partners</b>	Meets requirements and has voluntary measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre-tax benefit</li> <li>• Formal telework – 121 participating</li> <li>• Bike racks/lockers</li> <li>• Flexible schedules</li> </ul>	Yes





**Snow Information Portal | MCDOT Shared Streets**

**COVID-19 Transportation changes, updates, and resources | Información actual,  
recursos de transporte y cambios**

# ***Press Releases - Department of Transportation***

[MCDOT Home](#) » [Press Releases](#) » [Release](#)

## MCDOT Ride On Bus Schedule Changes Beginning Sunday, Feb. 28, Will Increase Overall Service and Improve Efficiency

For Immediate Release: Wednesday, February 24, 2021



Montgomery County's Department of Transportation (MCDOT) will adjust Ride On bus service schedules starting Sunday, Feb. 28, to increase service in areas with growing passenger demand. The changes reflect the continuing shift of resources toward schedule patterns prior to the COVID-19 health crisis. The revisions will increase Ride On and Ride On extRa service to nearly 80 percent of pre-pandemic levels.

Flash, the unique service which since October has been operating on Colesville Road/ Columbia Pike (US 29) and Lockwood Drive with destinations including Downtown Silver Spring, Four Corners, White Oak, Fairland and Burtonsville, continues to be fully operational.

The pilot on-demand Flex service in the Rockville and Wheaton/Glenmont areas remains suspended.

Ride On planners have monitored ridership data and user feedback to identify routes that could achieve more efficiencies with schedule updates. That information led to the 22 routes that will have schedule changes starting Feb. 28.

Extra buses continue to be stationed at all Metro stations in the County and are ready to deploy to nearby service routes experiencing levels of demand that cannot be met by buses under the standard schedule. In addition, based on new housing developments and community inputs, there are route design changes on five routes.

The affected routes are:

- Route 58 will end at the Lakeforest Transit Center every trip. See Route 61 for service along Watkins Mill Road/Frederick Road. Riders on Route 58 going to the Kaiser Permanente Center, will require transfer to Route 61 at Lakeforest Transit Center.
- Route 61 will now serve Watkins Mill Road, including the Kaiser Permanente Center, and will continue to the Lakeforest Transit Center along MD355. Riders going to MARC and the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) office would transfer to Route 78 along Clopper Road. Riders going to locations along Firstfield and Quince Orchard roads would transfer to Route 56 on Clopper Road and Firstfield.

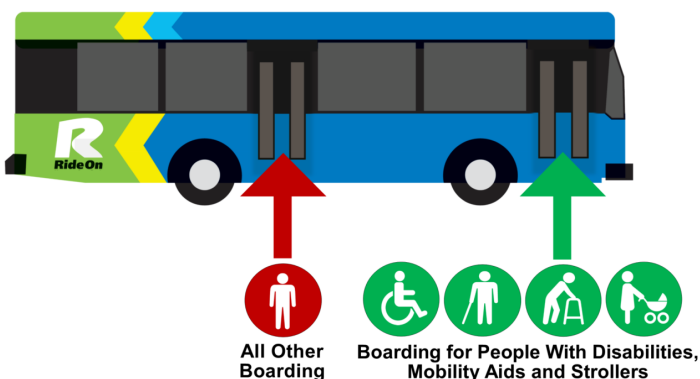
- Route 78 will serve the Metropolitan Grove MARC and Maryland MVA with the service change to Route 61 operating along Watkins Mill Road. Mid-day service has been added.
- Route 83 will serve the new Black Hill development. The route will serve Crystal Rock Drive and Century Boulevard in a one-way loop travelling to and from the Germantown Transit Center.
- Route 36 will no longer serve the stop at the Connelly School of the Holy Child, per the request of the school.

Routes that will have schedule changes and some improved frequencies

include 1, 5, 10, 11, 15, 16, 20, 26, 34, 36, 43, 46, 48, 49, 54, 55, 58, 59, 61, 74, 78 and 83.

The new schedule webpage with detailed information can be viewed at [montgomerycountymd.gov/dot-transit/routesandschedules/rideonroutes.html](http://montgomerycountymd.gov/dot-transit/routesandschedules/rideonroutes.html).

All Ride On routes are in operation, but ridership capacity remains limited to support safe distancing between riders where possible. Operational changes implemented by MCDOT during the health crisis for riders boarding buses will remain in place. All passengers are required to wear a face covering to board and must continue wearing the covering for the entire time on the bus. All buses have a supply of face coverings for riders who cannot provide their own.



Riders are asked to maintain maximum physical distance between themselves and other riders who are not from the same household. Passengers generally must board at the rear door of the bus, but can board through the front door if a ramp is needed to accommodate a disability or stroller. Divider partitions are currently being installed to facilitate front door entry and increased passenger capacity.

Ride On services remain free to all passengers—a temporary change made during the health crisis.

Bus interiors will continue to be cleaned by the County's Department of General Services twice daily with hospital-grade disinfectant. Bus filter and ventilation systems are treated each night with a disinfectant.

For the most up-to-date service information, riders should follow @RideOnMCT on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and YouTube. In addition, information is available at [RideOnBus.com](http://RideOnBus.com) or by subscribing to "Ride On Services" email alerts. Rider can receive text alerts by texting MONTGOMERY RIDEON to 468311.

For transportation updates, follow @MCDOTNow on Twitter, visit the department website at [montgomerycountymd.gov/mcdot](http://montgomerycountymd.gov/mcdot), subscribe to MCDOT news releases or subscribe to MCDOT's 'Go Montgomery!' newsletter.



**Snow Information Portal | MCDOT Shared Streets**

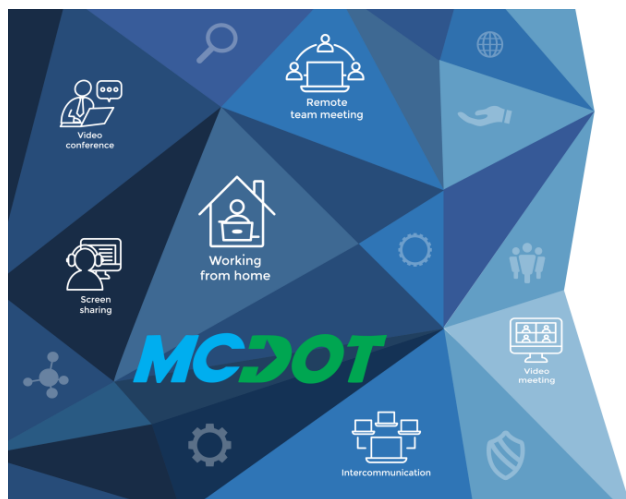
**COVID-19 Transportation changes, updates, and resources | Información actual,  
recursos de transporte y cambios**

# ***Press Releases - Department of Transportation***

MCDOT Home » Press Releases » Release

## MCDOT's Employer Focused Webinar on Teleworking During COVID-19; Lessons Learned Over the Past Ten Months Now Available Online

For Immediate Release: Monday, March 1, 2021



### **MCDOT Webinar for Employers on Teleworking**

Lessons Learned During COVID-19  
and Look Ahead to Future Trends  
and Solutions for Telework

**Better Ways To Work!**  
Montgomery County Computer Services

On Thursday, February 11, Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) Commuter Services hosted an informative webinar for employers that offer teleworking, featuring Elham Shirazi, a telework expert with over 30 years' experience who discussed lessons and trends that organizations and employees are realizing as a result of working from home in the past ten months.

Other topics covered were employees' views about returning to a physical workplace, their desired amount of teleworking, need for resources and assistance, work from home and video conferencing fatigue, as well as employers' reactions to working from home, dealing with employee wellness and mental health, and employee engagements. There was also an overview of Montgomery County's FareShare transit subsidy program.

The webinar was recorded and now available for viewing online at [ow.ly/150430rxz](https://ow.ly/150430rxz).

Follow Commuter Services on Twitter and Instagram to learn about more services on their webpage.

For ongoing updates, follow @MCDOTNow on Twitter, visit the department website at [montgomerycountymd.gov/mcdot](https://montgomerycountymd.gov/mcdot), subscribe to MCDOT news releases or subscribe to MCDOT's 'Go Montgomery!' newsletter.

*Release ID: 21-022*

*Media Contact: Hannah Henn 240-777-8389*



Sign up for

Go Montgomery

Ride On Alerts

# MCDOT Seeks Applicants for Ride On Transit Advisory Group by April 5; High School Students and Bilingual Adults Encouraged to Apply

---

For Immediate Release: Friday, March 5, 2021

## Transit Advisory Group

Are you a public transit fan?



**MCDOT**

**Ride On**  
Montgomery County Transit

Montgomery County Department of Transportation's (MCDOT) Division of Transit Services seeks bus riders to fill positions on the Ride On Transit Advisory Group (TAG). TAG acts as a consumer advisory panel, serves as a sounding board for Transit Services, and provides feedback on Ride On policies, services, and programs.

County residents who represent a broad range of interests, such as transit ridership advocacy, community advocacy, environmental protection, economic development, transportation equity, and issues concerning seniors and the disabled are urged to apply. Consideration will also be given to applicants that represent each Ride On geographic service area. Three bus operators also serve as members of the advisory group. The membership term is two years, and meetings are held three times a year virtually (since COVID) and were previously held at the Montgomery County Executive Office Building in Rockville.

Montgomery County's Ride On system provides fixed-route and on-demand bus service to residents and visitors in Montgomery County, Maryland. Since Ride on began service in 1975, 22 million trips



were completed annually (pre COVID) on 79 routes with more than 5,400 stops across the county. Services include Ride On extRa, Ride On Flex and Flash.

Applicants can find more details and apply [online](#) by April 5, 2021. High School students are encouraged to apply and will receive Student Service Learning (SSL) hours.

For more information, call (240) 777-5800.

For the most up-to-date service information, riders should follow Ride On on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#). In addition, information is available at [RideOnBus.com](#) or by [subscribing](#) to "Ride On Services" email alerts. Rider can receive text alerts by texting MONTGOMERY RIDEON to 468311.

For transportation updates, follow [@MCDOTNow](#) on Twitter, visit the department website at [montgomerycountymd.gov/mcdot](#), [subscribe](#) to MCDOT news releases or [subscribe](#) to MCDOT's 'Go Montgomery!' newsletter.

*Release ID: 21-023*

*Media Contact: Hannah Henn 240-777-8389*

