

SILVER SPRING TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

AGENDA

July 14, 2022 / 8:00 – 9:30 a.m. Teams Meeting

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

8:00 1. Introductions/Agenda Review/Chair Comments Jim Carlson 2. Minutes Review All June (©2) 3. Silver Spring Regional Services Center Jacob Newman Regional Center roles and responsibilities SS Regional Services Center Director 4. Metro Update **Gary Erenrich** MCDOT Special Assistant to the Director 5. Employer TDM Plans/Reports Jim Carlson Summary (©5) 6. Updates: Police/TMD/DOT/Other County Updates Sandra Brecher Larissa Klevin Sgt. Kerry Moore 7. Employer Outreach Update Jennifer Bolick TMD Outreach Team 9:30 Adjourn / Next Meeting: September 8, 2022 Information Items:

Ride On and Metro Bus Routes Available to Take Residents to Montgomery County's 14 Early Voting Centers MCDOT Bus Priority Project

Ride On's Flex – Celebrating Three Years of Convenience, Reliability and Ease of Use Rockville Metro Station East Side Closure– Temporary Bus Stop Relocations – Extended Through Early October MTPD awarded DOJ grant to support implementation of body worn camera program

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Silver Spring Transportation Management District Advisory Committee June 9, 2022

Item 1 & 2 – Introductions/Minutes: Members and guests introduced themselves. January minutes were reviewed and approved

Item 3 – County Update: Sande Brecher reported that Bike To Work Day was a success. This was the first in-person event in two years. Two bikes were raffled off at each of the Commuter Services hosted pitstops. Also announced:

- Bike Match MoCo program is looking for donations for its program
- Micromobility program is going well with 700 scooters and e-bikes available
- Funding received to update and replace parts for Capital Bikeshare stations
- TravelSmart Ambassador program planned to address climate change issues by reducing single vehicle usage and increasing alternative modes of travel throughout the County
- The third quarter of the Climate Action Planning report has been released, which shows the progress for achieving the 2035 net zero greenhouse gas emissions
- New Climate Action website is being put together
- Electric vehicle purchasing co-op program, pledging conversion to electric vehicles reached its goal of 1,000 residents to make next vehicle an electric vehicle but fell short of businesses pledge

Gary Erenrich reported that he drives a hybrid and the battery capacity is limited, which has implications requiring more time for charging for vehicles traveling longer distances. He said his vehicle averages 50 miles per charge for under \$2.

Also reported:

- On Wednesday, June 6th the Planning Board will adopt an update to the long-range plan integrating greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) reporting into the plan although it's not a Federal requirement
- There is a challenge in reaching the County's goals of GHG reduction in transportation, which is separate from the region's goals since the region will not meet the 50% reduction by 2030. This is due to many factors best model projection is a 35% reduction by 2030
- Some areas do not have good transit options, which prevents GHG reduction efforts in transportation for areas heavily dependent on solo driving to commute to work
- The I-270 & I-495 Opportunity Lanes present another challenge: i.e., is the State going to live up to its promise of transit investment
- The \$300 million for ongoing operation funds from toll revenues will help to fund transportation projects in the area; however, a memorandum of understanding is needed between the County and State to distribute funds
- Future Metro General Manager Randy Clark has experience in Texas & Boston Andy Off is the interim GM
- Many Metro operators have let their operation certification lapse
- An automated system has been installed to monitor the 7000 series cars wheels & axles
- Metro's FY24 budget will see a major deficit due to lack of Covid relief funds that helped Metro in the past

Item 4 – Flash/BRT Update: Cory Pitts updated the Committee regarding the Flash service, starting with the US29 corridor which opened in the fall of 2020. Although service was cut due to Covid issues, it is currently operating. The current Phase 2 operation is focused on more improvements to enhance service travel time & increasing pedestrian/cyclist access. Also reported:

- Looking at bus lane alternatives along 29 to optimize travel time, including intersection & interchange improvements, by receiving notifications of traffic conditions allowing drivers to divert routes if necessary
- Having an integrated management plan for corridors in the surrounding areas and receiving text alerts
- Implementing the over 200 recommendations for walking & biking infrastructure improvements along the Route 29 corridor

Mr. Pitts reported that the Study was completed in early 2021 that led to additional analysis. That will be reviewed at the US 29 Advisory Committee briefing being held tonight. The US 29 corridor project will ultimately see Planning Board approval for funding.

For the Veirs Mill project **Mr. Pitts** reported that the 7.6- mile corridor from Wheaton to Montgomery College Rockville campus will start construction in 2025. That will include intersection improvements, queue jumps. Base ridership is already present along the corridor.

The 22-mile route along US 355 will be about 35% designed by year's end as central phase funding has been received for the project. Other updates:

- Planning details in White Flint & Bethesda for commuters traveling south from Germantown and developing more ridership along the 355 corridor
- No lane repurposing for the 355 project
- There is continued coordination with other agencies such as FTA, MTA, SHA, Planning, among others
- Currently in the outreach phase of the project by seeking community input online events & office hours provided to answer questions
- The New Hampshire portion is currently in the planning stages, with a study to look at phasing, station locations, and bus lane placement
- Public outreach for the multi-jurisdictional project includes a web map for leaving comments and community events
- The North Bethesda transitway from Montgomery Mall to White Flint or Grosvenor terminus need to decide which terminal
- North Bethesda will connect to 355 & the Randolph Road portion will also be integrated
- Project planning will continue over the next six years, based on funding Veirs Mill and 355 are funded for design and construction
- The Great Seneca Transit network in the Life Sciences portion of Shady Grove consists of four bus routes funding is available to construct two of the four lines
- The Bus Priority project is also currently underway

During the Q & A Mr. Pitts announced that current Flash ridership along US 29 corridor is 2100 riders a day, which is favorable among the skepticism of some residents that question the viability of the service.

Item 5 – Employer Outreach Update: Laura Van Eperen reported:

- Bike to Work day was a success
- The TMD Outreach team is conducting Flash outreach to the community and providing other transportation updates
- Providing 'return to work' information regarding transportation to employers bringing back teleworkers

Adjourn/ Next Meeting: July 14th

Silver Spring Transportation Management District Advisory Committee Attendance Sheet June 6, 2022

| Voting Members (12) | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|---------|--------|
| Name | Affiliation | Present | Absent |
| Chamber Members (3) | | | |
| Chris Kabatt | Wells + Associates | | X |
| Julie Statland | Statland & Katz, Ltd. | | X |
| Vacant | , | | |
| Citizens Advisory Board Members (3) | | | |
| Harriet Quinn | Kemp Mill, Four Corners, East SS | X | |
| Vacant | North & West Sector Plan Area | | |
| Chris Perry | CBD Resident | X | |
| Employers less than 50 employees (3) | | | |
| Vacant | | | |
| Vacant | | | |
| Vacant | | | |
| Employers with 50 or more employees (3) | | | |
| G. Michael Price | Discovery Communications | X | |
| Vacant | • | | |
| Vacant | | | |
| Non-Voting Members (3) | | | |
| Sandra Brecher, DOT-Commuter Services | MCDOT Director or Designee | X | |
| Larissa Klevin | M-NCPPC | X | |
| Jacob Newman | Silver Spring Regional Center | X | |
| Sgt. Kerry Moore | Montgomery County Police | | X |
| Staff | | | |
| Nakengi Byrd | MCDOT-Commuter Services | X | |
| Jim Carlson | MCDOT-Commuter Services | X | |
| Guests | | | |
| Haeun Baek | DOT Summer Intern | X | |
| Henry Carson | SS Urban District | X | |
| Jay Elvove | SS Citizens Advisory Board | X | |
| Gary Erenrich | MCDOT | X | |
| Laura Van Eperen | Van Eperen & Co. | X | |
| Cory Pitts | DOT Planning Section Manager | X | |
| Gabriel Terrell | DOT Summer Intern | X | |

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Silver Spring TMD Traffic Demand Management Plan Summary July 2022

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

| Employer | Employee Total | Status | Recommend to MCDOT |
|--|-------------------|---|-----------------------|
| ASPEN (American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition) | 20 FT 5 PT | Meets requirements and has voluntary measures: SmartBenefits - \$100/mo Formal telework - 20 participating Provide equal parking and transit benefits Lobby information monitor New hire info Flexible & compressed schedules Carpool matching | Yes |
| Silver Spring Health Center | 50 FT 2 PT | Meets requirements and has voluntary measures: Formal telework – 50 participating New hire info Bikeshare membership subsidy Carpool matching Compressed schedules | Yes |



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Press Releases - Department of Transportation

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Ride On and Metro Bus Routes Available to Take Residents to Montgomery County's 14 Early Voting Centers During Primary Election

For Immediate Release: Thursday, June 30, 2022



Early voting in Montgomery County for the 2022 Gubernatorial Primary Election will be available at 14 early voting centers from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. from Thursday, July 7, through Thursday, July 14, including Saturday and Sunday. Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) Ride On bus service has several routes available to transport voters to the early voting centers located throughout the County.

"Lack of access to transportation should not be a barrier to voting," said County Executive Marc Elrich. "I want to ensure that all our eligible residents can cast a vote. As many as a quarter of households within our dense urban areas do not have access to a vehicle. That is why it is important to highlight the bus routes that serve the early voting centers that will be open from July 7 through July 14. Our bus system is imperative to ensure that all residents have access to voting centers regardless of where they live and their socio-economic status."

Montgomery County Ride On and Metrobus routes that will serve early voting centers:

- Activity Center at Bohrer Park in Gaithersburg (Ride On Route 59)
- Bauer Drive Community Recreation Center in Rockville (Ride On Route 48)
- Damascus Community Recreation Center (Ride On Route 90)
- Executive Office Building in Rockville (Ride On Routes 44, 46, 47, 54, 56)
- Germantown Community Recreation Center (Ride On Route 98)
- Jane E. Lawton Community Recreation Center in Chevy Chase (Ride On Route 34—closest)
- Marilyn J. Praisner Community Recreation Center in Burtonsville (Metrobus Routes Z6 and Z7)
- Mid-County Community Recreation Center in Silver Spring (Ride On Routes 26, 39 and 49)
- Nancy H. Dacek North Potomac Community Recreation Center in Rockville (Ride On Route 301)
- Potomac Community Recreation Center (Ride On Route 37)
- Sandy Spring Volunteer Fire Station (Ride On Routes 52 and 53 / Metrobus Routes Y2 and Y8)
- Silver Spring Civic Building (Ride On Routes 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 19 / Metrobus Route F4)
- Wheaton Library and Community Recreation Center (Ride on Routes 9 and 31 / Metrobus Routes Y2, Y7 and Y8)
- White Oak Community Recreation Center in Silver Spring (Ride on Route 10 / Metrobus Routes Z6 and Z8)

"In Montgomery County, a large portion of our population relies on public transportation for essential trips," said MCDOT Director Chris Conklin. "Buses allow for inclusion, connectedness and advancement. We want to ensure that all of our residents, regardless of income or ability, can get to polling sites."

Residents can look up scheduled Ride On bus routes by location here. For information on the approved early voting centers and hours of operation, go to the early voting information page.

Ride On bus fare remains free through the end of July.

For the most up-to-date service information, riders should follow @RideOnMCT on Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, and Instagram. In addition, information is available at rideonbus.com, by subscribing to receive email alerts at montgomerycountymd.gov/govdelivery, or texting MONTGOMERY RIDEON to 468311 to receive text alerts.



COVID-19 Updates

Vaccine and Booster Information

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MCDOT Bus Priority Project

This Montgomery County Department of Transportation program provides for the planning, design and construction of improvements to bus service. The Bus Priority Project includes multiple projects that improve local bus timing, ease of access and safety such as marked dedicated bus lanes; queue jumps; passenger boarding and alighting improvements; implementation of transit signal priority; enhanced bus stops; and other similar improvements that will increase reliability and result in faster buses throughout Montgomery County.

These improvements will advance the transit network as specified by master plans. Potential improvements may also be identified through other planning and transit operations studies or requested by community members.

Completed bus priority projects have been added in the following locations:

 Marked Dedicated Bus Lanes at Crystal Rock Drive and Aircraft Road servicing the Germantown transit Center, Completed Winter 2021

Future bus priority projects are planned in the following locations:

- Marked Dedicated Bus Lanes at Veirs Mill Road, servicing the Wheaton Metrorail Station, Planned Completion Summer 2022
- Marked Dedicated Bus Lanes on US29 in Silver Spring, Planned Completion Fall/Winter 2022
- Bus Shelter Improvements at Flower Avenue, Planned Completion Summer 2022

Funding

See Fiscal Year 23 funding information here. For Fiscal Year 22, 1.25M from the Mass Transit Fund was allocated to this project.

Contact

Have questions or want to provide feedback? Contact the project lead.

Mark Terry
Chief, Traffic Engineering Studies Section, MCDOT
240.777.2190

mark.terry@montgomerycountymd.gov

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Ride On's Flex - Celebrating Three Years of Convenience, Reliability and Ease of Use

June 22, 2022, 11:42 AM

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This content is sponsored by the Montgomery County Department of Transportation.



Montgomery County's Ride On Flex on demand transit service is celebrating three years of helping riders get around Rockville, Glenmont/Wheaton! The simple and convenient bus service is hailed for its ease of use and reliability.

Using Flex is straightforward and has proven to be a convenient option for Montgomery County residents. All riders have to do is download the Ride On Flex app or call 240-301-3842 to request a pick-up spot and a drop off location within one of the two service zones. The microtransit service, which launched in 2019, was the first on-demand bus service in the region using a mobile app to book rides and a 2020 National Association of Counties (NACo) Innovation Award Winner.

The Flex has no fixed stops or a set schedule. It comes when the rider books their trip within the service hours. After a customer books a ride, the app allows them to track their bus and receive real-time updates on the vehicle's estimated time of arrival. Riders are notified when the bus is two minutes away and again when it arrives. Boarding is at designated corners, not at bus stops. Curb to curb service is provided for people with disabilities.

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Service is only provided within the two Flex zones – Rockville and Wheaton-Glenmont. The Rockville zone covers an area of about 0.7 square miles. The Wheaton-Glenmont zone is larger covering 3.4 miles. Riders can travel to and from any location within the same zone but cannot travel between zones.

The Flex buses are smaller, 11-person vehicles so they can easily navigate neighborhood streets. Each bus features mobility device accessibility and free WIFI.

The Flex was created to help reshape the way County residents think about getting around in the Rockville and Glenmont/Wheaton zones, as well as to help the environment by cutting back on the use of cars and to provide a dependable on-demand service for residents.

As Ride On looks for ways to continue to upgrade and improve service moving forward, the bus service is working on additional new initiatives. First, Ride On launched a comprehensive study – the Ride On Reimagined Study – in the Fall of 2021. The study aims to take a critical look at the County's current and future bus network and transit systems, including Metrobus and the planned Purple Line, to pinpoint where improvements can be made. The study is based on experience and feedback from the community.

Another program is the Bus Priority Program which was created by a group of MCDOT and Montgomery County staff members last year. The program focuses on advancements for bus operations including dedicated bus lanes, bus signal prioritization and enhanced bus stops. The first project created under this program, dedicated bus lanes around the Germantown Transit Center.

The Great Seneca Transit Network is also in planning stages. The plan is for hubs at Shady Grove Metrorail Station, the Universities at Shady Grove, and Adventist Shady Grove Hospital. The service, which will be branded as Ride On extRa, is slated to start in 2024. It will include 11 stations, dedicated bus lanes, transit signal priority at seven intersections and new bike and pedestrian connections.

Montgomery County Department of Transportation's focus is to provide a seamless transportation system for people of all ages, incomes and abilities that supports the community. In addition, the department aims to reduce the number of single occupant vehicles on the roads, especially during rush-hour times, and to help increase the efficiency of the infrastructure and address climate and air quality concerns.

Montgomery County Transit Services plans, schedules, and manages over 80 bus routes using 375 County owned and operated buses including the Flash, Ride On Bus, Ride On extRa (a popular limited stop service on MD 355), and Ride On Flex. Montgomery County's transit system is designed to complement the service provided by the other transit providers in the County and is integrated with the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority's Metrobus and Metrorail and the Maryland Transit Administration's MARC commuter rail and MTA commuter bus systems.

Learn more at RideOnBus.com.

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Press Releases - Department of Transportation

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UPDATE: Rockville Metro Station East Side ClosureTemporary Bus Stop Relocations – ExtendedThrough Early October

For Immediate Release: Wednesday, July 6, 2022

The ongoing Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Administration (WMATA) construction and paving work at the Rockville Metrorail station has been extended through at least early October 2022. All bus stops on the East Side will remain closed and temporarily relocated due to this project, which began on Tuesday, June 7. Bus stops have been moved from the east side to either the west side or on the street at MD 355. Wayfinding signs have been placed at the Metro station to help riders locate their bus stops. Ride On staff will be onsite at the station, for rider assistance.

Ride On Routes which have been Temporarily Relocated are:

| Route Property | <u>Destination</u> | Temporary Bus Stop |
|----------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| 44 | Twinbrook | F |
| 45 | Rockville Regional Transit | T6 |
| | Center & Twinbrook | |
| 46 | Montgomery College | A (westside) |
| | & Medical Center | |
| 47 | Bethesda | F |
| 48 | Wheaton | T5 |

Westside Kiss & Ride

Flex

| 49 | Glenmont | T5 |
|-----|-----------------------------|--------------|
| 52 | Montgomery General Hospital | T6 |
| 54 | Lakeforest Transit Center | E |
| 55 | Germantown | B (westside) |
| 56 | Lakeforest Transit Center | E |
| 59 | Montgomery Village | T4 |
| 63 | Shady Grove | Е |
| 81 | White Flint | F |
| 101 | Medical Center/Lakeforest | A (westside) |
| 301 | Tobytown | T6 |
| | | |

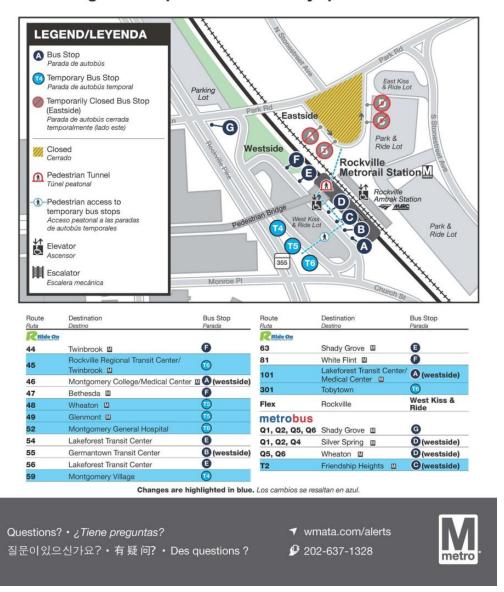
Metrobus Routes which have been Temporarily Relocated are:

Rockville

| Q1, Q2, Q5, Q6 | Shady Grove | G |
|----------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Q1, Q2, Q4 | Silver Spring | D (westside) |
| Q5, Q6 | Wheaton | D (westside) |
| T2 | Friendship Heights | C (westside) |

Temporary Bus Boarding Locations

Lugares temporales de abordaje para autobús



Ride On bus interiors will continue to be cleaned by the County's Department of General Services with hospital-grade disinfectant. Bus filter and ventilation systems are also treated with a disinfectant.

All passengers are encouraged to wear face coverings when traveling by public transportation. All MCDOT buses have a supply of face coverings for those who cannot provide their own.

Ride On bus service remains free for all riders until August 2022.

For the most up to date service information, riders should follow @RideOnMCT on <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, <u>YouTube</u>, and <u>Instagram</u>. In addition, information is available at RideOnBus.com, by subscribing to receive email alerts at <u>www.montgomerycountymd.gov/govdelivery</u>, or texting MONTGOMERY RIDEON to 468311 to receive text alerts.

For information on MCDOT programs and services visit <u>montgomerycountymd.gov/mcdot</u>, follow @MCDOTNow on <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, and <u>Instagram</u>, and <u>subscribe</u> to MCDOT's "Go Montgomery!" newsletter.

Release ID: 22-085

Media Contact: Emily DeTitta 240-372-2282



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Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

Metro Home

For immediate release: June 28, 2022

MTPD awarded DOJ grant to support implementation of body worn camera program

Program to enhance transparency and support of safety initiatives

The Metro Transit Police Department will equip officers with body worn cameras (BWC), adding a new tool to MTPD's crime fighting initiatives. The program is designed to create an additional layer of transparency for sworn officers who protect Metro customers and employees.

MTPD is in the initial stages of developing the program, supported by a <u>grant award</u> from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) of approximately \$905,000.

"This grant gives us the ability to move forward with implementing a body worn camera program similar to those of our peers in the region," said Transit Police Chief Michael Anzallo. "Our focus remains on safety, transparency and building community partnerships. I believe implementing this new program is another positive step in the right direction for the department."

After provisionally being awarded the grant in December, Metro is now officially moving forward with its intent to implement a BWC program by 2023 after necessary internal work to draft policies and procedures, which are now being reviewed by DOJ. MTPD also plans additional public outreach prior to program rollout, in addition to efforts to procure equipment and training officers.

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