

**Silver Spring
Transportation Management District
Advisory Committee
May 13, 2021**

Item 1,2 – Introductions/Minute Review: Chair Valerie Spencer called the meeting to order; members and guests introduced themselves. April minutes were tabled.

Item 3 – Purple Line Update: Project Manager Maricela Cordova briefed the committee on the Purple Line project, reporting that Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) is still looking for a design builder and it has come down to three highly qualified teams. A site visit was conducted as a means and methods overview. A new builder should be on board by the end of the year. Also reported:

- Starting MTA – Community Advisory Team (CAT) meetings for the Spring season- Silver Spring is May 25th (virtual)
- Construction continues in New York of the light rail vehicles
- Construction is continuing to prepare for the new contractor
- Utility relocation in segment 3 – Silver Spring; and segment 4 – Piney Branch. Erosion & sediment control measures in place to maintain site
- Completion of Kenwood House parking expected in the next 3 to 6 months
- Underground utility relocation to prepare for the new contractor – closing Bonifant Street for sewer relocation

Q & A discussion:

- As far as project completion, waiting for the new contractor to develop a work schedule. There is no date currently
- The CAT meetings are led by MTA
- Tree planting legislation along the alignment discussed – not a cost issue but technical requirements

Item 4 – Metro Update: Gary Erenrich reported that Metro has solved its operating budget deficit with Covid relief funds, expanding bus service. There are more bus riders than rail ,and efforts to get back to normal. Also reported:

- How to get people back on Metro - provide some sort of incentive
- An increased level of comfort riding Metro due to vaccines - Metro cleaning protocols
- Telecommuting preventing increase ridership – please provide feedback
- Not charging sponsor to extend rail service hours during events and special rates to increase ridership
- Ride On fares remain free until June 30th
- All public transportation still requires masks
- Occupancy limits continue to be monitored as Ride On ridership operates at 85 percent pre covid
- Telecommuting currently hinders transit service due to the inability to predict service peak
- Federal workforce a contributing factor to ridership, as they are not back to work yet
- Commuters discouraged to use rail due to cost
- Make transit free as a method to rebound Metro ridership
- Crime and public safety issues when riding transit

- Bus redesign studies for more efficient service – MCDOT is coordinating for Montgomery County & Request For Proposal for scope of work in the Fall
- Provide coupons for riding as a partnership with Metro and area businesses
- Figuring out how to talk to those who do not currently use Metro
- Now is the opportunity to do something different to find ridership solutions
- Commuters cannot get off Metrorail as you can with a bus, which may contribute to hesitancy due to Covid contamination

The Committee approved March minutes

Item 5 – Employer TDM Plans: Jim Carlson reported that the 10 companies up for recommendation of approval meet requirements.

The Committee recommends the MCDOT Director approve the TDM Plans

Item 6 – Employer Outreach Update: Jennifer Bolick reported:

- TMD Outreach Team is conducting general outreach to employers and asking their plans regarding returning to the workplace
- Teleworking more likely w/ hoteling – providing information and webinars for employers readjusting after Covid
- FareShare promotion to employers while funds last
- Promoting Bike To Work Day & t-shirt registration – May 21st (bike shops giving out t shirts)

Item 7 – Updates:

- County is moving closer to finalizing the NextGen TDM, which will greatly expand transportation management districts throughout the County. The law has been passed; now finalizing implementation with Executive Regulations
- Work continuing on the County’s Climate Action Plan – close to being finalized; goals for reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the County
- BTWD pit stops listed on website
- Ride On bus changes – May 9, 2021 (see attached Info Item)
- Metro extending night service and for sporting events
- Escalator replacement project coming up for Metro
- Park & Planning Visioning sessions have been completed

Item 8 – Around the Room:

- Currently, no notice to neighborhoods regarding construction plans along Colesville Road; residents fear being awakened by construction noise
- Noise from modified mufflers – catch violators during emissions inspections and make them fix
- As the Police concentrate their efforts during the volatile environment, traffic violations are not being as enforced as normal
- SS Citizens Advisory Board is trying to reduce speeds to 15 mph on neighborhood streets
- Chair Valery Spencer is leaving the Committee finishing her tenure – Committee vote on replacement tabled till next meeting

Adjourn/ Next Meeting: July 8, 2021

Silver Spring Transportation Management District Advisory Committee Attendance Sheet

May 13, 2021

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)			
Valerie Spencer	MayaTech	X	
Dar Maxwell	Panagora Group	X	
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	
Iftin Thompson	M-NCPPC	X	
Reemberto Rodriguez	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			
Jennifer Bolick	Van Eperen & Co.	X	
Maricela Cordova	MCDOT Purple Line Manager	X	
Jay Elvove	SS Citizens Advisory Board	X	
Gary Erenrich	MCDOT	X	