

**Silver Spring  
Transportation Management District  
Advisory Committee  
May 9, 2019**

**Item 1 – Introductions/Chair Comments:** Members and guests introduced themselves.

**Item 2 – Review of Letter re: Bicycle Master Plan:** The Committee discussed the draft letter regarding the Bicycle Master Plan, citing safety issues associated with traffic and pedestrian mobility. **Sandra Brecher** suggested that the MCDOT Director should have a chance to rectify the issues raised in the letter poses before sending to the County Executive. The Committee discussed the following:

- Impact on traffic circulation on Spring Street and loss of on-street parking on Fenton, impacting small business – on-street parking is crucial for businesses and loading/unloading
- Suggestion that a study be done on Spring Street and Cameron to analyze traffic delays due to the addition of a dedicated bike lane and other infrastructure changes.
- How to make the Bike Plan better for all in the community such as seniors and disabled residents
- Letter should give specific suggestions for traffic flow and pedestrian safety
- Establishment of an interdisciplinary coordinating committee (similar to the Inter-Agency Operating Site (IOS) Committee during transit center construction) for all long-term projects in Silver Spring, composed of individuals involved in planning or traffic and affecting the flow of vehicles and bicycles.
- WSSC & Pepco send out notices for when and where work will be conducted; however, there seems to be a lack of coordination with MCDOT – SHA has made improvements, such as sending out notices of work to be done
- Discussion regarding expenses associated with dockless vehicles program – although the County doesn't pay to run the program, there are associated charges such as biking infrastructure construction

**Item 3 – Minutes Approval:** March minutes were approved

**Item 4 – Dockless e-Bike and e-Scooter Pilot Expansion:** **Sandra Brecher** briefed the Committee the expansion of the dockless pilot for e-bikes and e-scooters. Commuter Services has been working on dockless vehicles for some time starting with pedal-assist bikes pilot in downtown Silver Spring. The pilot supports the County Executive goals of providing a greener community, easier commute and safer neighborhoods. It also serves the TMD mission of greater transit connectivity and reducing single occupant vehicle (SOV) use. Features of the program:

- Provides first and last mile connections to transit
- Offers broader transit options for underserved communities
- In respect to senior and disabled individuals, alternatives are being created to accommodate these communities
- Supports TDM mode share goals, reduces carbon footprint and parking demand
- Participation from Takoma Park, Rockville and Gaithersburg municipalities
- Survey results from Baltimore and Portland show most use is for commuting and users would have driven if dockless option was not available

Phases:

- Phase 1 of the pilot as evaluated in Silver Spring & Takoma Park showed an increase in dockless & docked vehicles
- Surveys conducted online and on the ground with riders and non-riders showed that 84 percent want pilot to continue but need more parking
- Phase 2 extended the pilot area to North Bethesda, with some vendors dropping out of the program
- Phase 3 extended 6-month pilot with potential for another 6-month extension. Request sent for letters of interest to companies – there were eight replies; however, there is a reluctance to continue investment in e-bikes, as e-scooters are proving more popular

Also discussed:

- Some non-participating jurisdictions: Town of Garret Park & Washington Grove; and not expanding into Bethesda due to construction
- Of the four fatalities attributed to scooters, three have taken place after dark; most accidents occur with first time users - need to provide safe environment to try them
- The need for driver & pedestrian/rider education due to rapid & constantly evolving technology
- State law requires helmets for 16 years and under, but strongly encouraged for all drivers - impulse usage is a major issue
- The Parks Department is adopting separate policies for dockless usage on some trails
- No e-vehicles currently allowed on sidewalks
- Scooters show an injury rate nationally of 20 accidents per 100,000 trips
- As part of the Memoranda of Understanding with companies, vendors are required to provide monthly training sessions
- Some Committee members concerned with scooters slowing traffic on major roads

**Item 5 – New Employer Traffic Mitigation Plans:** Mr. Carlson reviewed with the employer traffic mitigation plans (TMPs) and TMP annual reports to recommend to the Director of MCDOT for approval. Committee recommended approval for three newly submitted TMPs, and 12 TMP Annual Reports.

**Item 6 – Employer Outreach Update:** Announced:

- TMD staff has been assisting companies with updating TMP annual reports and getting new TMPs submitted
- Bike to Work Day - May 17<sup>th</sup> – Discovery Communications donating bike for raffle
- Scooters and bikes are now allowed on Metro
- Conducting commuter information events at area businesses

**Item 7 – Updates:** Sgt. Kerry Moore reported:

- April was High-Visibility enforcement on New Hampshire Avenue, and Rt. 29 – tickets and warnings for aggressive and distracted driving
- Pedestrian enforcement at Georgia Avenue and RT. 29
- State safety campaign for distracted driving – 50 hours of enforcement for cell phone use
- May High-Visibility enforcement on Georgia Ave
- May is “Click-it or Ticket” month for seatbelt enforcement & distracted driving
- Ped enforcement at Colesville & East - West and Georgia Avenue

**Around the Room:**

- SHA study on Beltway project is proposing the only entrance in Silver Spring for toll lanes to be on Colesville road (proposed six toll lanes), comments are due June 13<sup>th</sup>
- Sending out the call for new members as the Committee needs more large & small employer reps

**Adjourn/Next Meeting: July 11, 2019**

**Silver Spring Transportation Management District Advisory Committee Attendance Sheet**

**May 9, 2019**

<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	
Vacant			
Vacant			
<b>Employers with 50 or more employees (3)</b>			
G. Michael Price	Discovery Communications		X
Adenia Bradley	Southern Management		X
Vacant			
<b>Non-Voting Members (3)</b>			
Sandra Brecher, DOT-Commuter Services	MCDOT Director or Designee	X	
Katie Mencarini	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	X	
Zach Deshaies	Van Eperen		X
Jay Elvove	SS Citizens Advisory Board	X	
Christine McGrew	M-NCPPC	X	
Mel Tull	Lee Development	X	
Laura Van Eperen	Van Eperen & Co.		X