

**Silver Spring  
Transportation Management District  
Advisory Committee  
July 16, 2020**

**Item 1 & 2 – Introductions/ Minute review:** Members and guest introduced themselves. The May minute review were tabled to allow for presentations.

**Item 3 – Montgomery County “Complete Streets”:** Andrew Bossi and Stephen Aldrich reported on the “Complete Streets” program, implemented by the County to create roadway design that provides safe and accessible travel for pedestrians, cyclist and motorist using the Vision Zero principals to eliminate traffic fatalities and serious injuries. Once approved, the Complete Streets guidelines will be used to set design standards and supplement masterplans for the County. The 240 page guidelines consist of 10 chapters of technical information for use by County staff, developers and design consultants. Some discussion areas:

- Safety, sustainability and vitality are the three core principals of the Complete Streets project
- Street types are identified based on land use and transportation function, also providing flexibility to accommodate the changing landscape - 12 primary street types have the same classifications but differing design details
- Speed management consist of equalizing posted & target speeds with actual & master plan speeds using optional features that slow down traffic such as road narrowing, speed humps and surface treatments
- Since Federal & County road classifications differ, the guidelines focus on land use when referring to streets-GIS identifies how to apply the 12 street types to County roads
- Arterial roadways are the most difficult in controlling speeds due to wide roadways, and most are under State jurisdiction, making County changes a challenge - master plans offer a good starting point in utilizing guidelines
- Chapter 10 deals with implementation and agency roles and responsibilities such as who maintains what on County roads and showing project development process from start to finish including permit approvals, design exceptions

The next steps of the approval process:

- Public hearing with MNCPPC July 23<sup>rd</sup> @5pm-testimony submissions submitted to Casey Anderson via letter or email till July 30<sup>th</sup>
- Recommendations from testimony will be compiled and resubmitted to the Planning Board starting September 10<sup>th</sup> for five work sessions - recommended changes sent to County Executive and County Council
- County Council will review recommendations this winter and adopt changes for the County code-living document to be reviewed and updated

Committee Q & A continued with how the guidelines applying to private streets the same as public roadways. Roadways with residential areas are classified depending on the land use in the surrounding areas, such as Boulevard if roadway is a mix of residential and commercial or neighborhood connector if the street is all residential.

**Item 4 – WMATA update: Gary Erenrich** reported to the Committee that the M-NCPPC is having its final work session on the general plan which will have an impact on the Silver Spring Master Plan. Also announced:

- Metro & Ride On are in the same position due to Covid such as station closings
- Ride On was the first to have free trips with rear door entry to protect bus operators-Metro 1<sup>st</sup> & last car off limits to passengers to protect operators
- Ride On Flex Service currently suspended due to Covid
- Over 6,000 masks dispensed during shut-down
- Ridership is slowly increasing on both Metrobus and Ride On, with Ride On service increasing on all routes - 15 people max allowed on 40 ft Ride On bus to maintain social distancing
- Alternating workers to service routes
- Metro is discontinuing budget cuts and changes due to Covid
- Metro closes at 9pm
- The CARES Act provided Federal funding to Metro-\$700 million & Ride On-\$30 million although funds are not sufficient for Ride On
- The Silver line due to open in 2021 requiring training for new workers cost adding \$75 million to its operating budget, of which Maryland pays 35 percent
- No rail shut down due to summer construction- Rockville pedestrian bridge will need to close station for construction
- Question regarding the status of changes to Route 29 for the *Flash* (BRT) construction- Metro postponed changes to the route due to Covid as the Z line still remains

**Item 5 – Employer TDM Reports: Jim Carlson** discussed the Silver Spring companies up for review of their TDM plans which are now filled out online with help from Van Eperen team. The companies up for review meet the requirements with the exception of Easter Seals, which is having issues with their Guaranteed Ride Home program and will require follow up.

**The Committee recommended the TDM plans for approval.** Also discussed:

- **Chris Perry** requested details of Metrorail ridership on weekends such as the origins and destination

**Item 6 – Employer Outreach Update:** Also discussed:

- Ride On expanded service
- Roadwork on I 270
- 10 new Capital Bikeshare stations
- Bike match program is underway helping with area bike shortage

**Item 7 – Updates:**

- Three Montgomery County employers won COG Employer Recognition Awards, two of which are based in Silver Spring
- Spin is a new vendor supplying Dockless vehicles

- Dockless e-bikes are extending to City of Gaithersburg and establishing Parking Corrals- the size of a parking space however spaces will not take away parking spaces
- Bike Match program is running well with over 300 applications received so far- program matches (no contact) donated bikes with people who need them swaps take place mostly at police stations
- Working with other County agencies on Shared/Open streets program
- The County's Covid Core program is hiring teens and young adults for community & County Covid related projects
- CSS is discussing whether to continue with Car Free Day and Walk & Ride events taking place this fall
- Climate Change work is continuing with consulting team and a big emphasis on Racial Equity Components headed up by **Tiffany Ward** in the County Executive's Office-Virtual office hours are at [montgomerycountymd.gov/climate](http://montgomerycountymd.gov/climate)

The Committee also discussed :

- The opening date for the Purple Line which is stated on the PL website to open Spring 2023 however there is uncertainty due to legal issues

**Reemberto Rodriguez** reported:

- The Shared Streets program is such a success that there are issues when they are not in effect- SHA's participation in road closures is beneficial
- Dealing with food distribution in light of 10% - 12% unemployment
- Dealing with homeless issues in downtown Silver Spring with mass evictions looming due to Covid related job loss
- Living under construction can be used to conduct construction walks like Art walks educating the public

**Iftin Thompson** reported that the downtown Silver Spring Master Plan has been improved and the boarders have been expanded to include some of the surrounding residential areas.

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

**July 16, 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>			
Stephen Aldrich	M-NCPPC	X	
Jennifer Bolick	Van Eperen	X	
Andrew Bossi	MCDOT	X	
Jay Elvove	SS Citizens Advisory Board	X	
Gary Erenrich	MCDOT	X	
Desiree Halpern	for Dar Maxwell	X	
Mel Tull	Lee Development	X	
Hillarie Turner	SS Resident	X	