

SSCAB Meeting Summary – March 10, 2014

1. *Welcome & Introductions:* Chair Evan Glass called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.
2. *Acceptance of last meeting summary:* February 10, 2014 meeting minutes accepted.
3. *Updates on Transportation projects: Purple Line (PL) with Monica Mead of MTA*
 - PL short-listed by FTA with a recommendation of \$100M funding to be approved by Congress
 - Record of Decision (ROD) expected very soon. FTA must review MTA's responses to more than 3000 public comments
 - The Public Private Partnership (P3) to build/operate/maintain a light rail system is uncommon in this country. (Denver has the Eagle P3 which awarded contracts in 2010)
 - Four Private sector teams are being considered for PL P3 partner. Contract to be awarded late 2014 or early 2015. PL construction, scheduled over 5 years, to begin late 2015
 - MTA's Economic Empowerment Program (EEP)-trains small, local firms to meet guidelines for Small Business and Disadvantaged Business contracts. EEP also facilitates loans.
 - Right of Way interviews with property owners who may be displaced are scheduled to begin soon. Acquisition will wait until engineers fine tune plans
 - Workforce Development: Iron Workers Union will offer training to small construction firms
 - MTA coming back to look again at contentious Wayne Street Traction Power Substation (TPSS). Residents want MTA to consider moving or burying
 - Concerns expressed over the caliber and experience of MTA's small business outreach team
 - Concerns expressed over financing supported by higher taxes for communities near/next to PL. In general, transit systems seen as an enhancement that will raise property values.
4. *Updates on Transportation projects: Langley Park Transit Center with Monica Mead of MTA*
 - Bringing 16 bus lines together with a focus on pedestrian safety improvements
 - Will be completed this spring with additional phases continuing through end of 2015
 - See <http://mta.maryland.gov/takoma-langley>
5. *Updates on Transportation projects: DC Streetcar with*
 - 22-mile proposed system 'connecting neighborhoods to neighborhoods'
 - 'Main Line' – H street/Benning – 2.5 miles – recognized as a success
 - MoveDC.org has long range goal that 75% of all trips will be multi-modal (walk, bike or transit)
 - The North-South line will be 9 miles long and will take riders to the MD line – potentially crossing into Silver Spring or Takoma Park
 - Now is the time for SSCAB, supportive MoCo residents to express support for DC streetcar

6. *Silver Spring Green with John Brill, Executive Director*
 - Brings together diverse partners to accomplish shared goals
 - Provides collaborative activities that make Silver Spring greener and cleaner
 - Hosts popular happy hours to create local environmental hub

7. *SSCAB Committee Reports:*
 - *TREE*: Recap of discussion on traffic signalization meeting that generated discussion on pedestrian access and safety
 - *CED*: Focus on promotions phase of TTWFV. Washington Post may provide listing in Weekend Section
 - *Neighborhoods*: met with leaders of Silver Spring Civic Associations to discuss how to maximize benefits and minimize challenges associated with PL

8. *Councilmember(s) Updates*: None Present.

9. *Chair's Report*: Based on presentation by DC Streetcar, Board voted to draft a letter to encourage Montgomery County leadership to support interconnectivity with this system.

10. *Director's Report*: terms are expiring for ten members of the board. Chair, Evan Glass will not be returning to the board after his term expires.

11. *Adjourn*: 9:05 pm