

SILVER SPRING REGIONAL AREA

Monthly Report NOVEMBER 2019 *Reemberto Rodriguez, Director*

Please review archive of reports from links at

<https://montgomerycountymd.gov/silverspring/boardscommittees/cab/index.html>

NOTE: These past reports include much more information on many of the other issues on which we are working.

[1] COMMUNITY ISSUES

Purple Line Updates

Greater Lyttonsville / Woodside Area

Utility work continues throughout, including: Stewart Ave., 16th Street, Georgetown Branch Trail, and Lyttonsville Place Bridge. Some of the work may include temporary sidewalk closure, clearing trees, and utility relocation. Work may take place from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. seven days a week. The new Talbot Bridget construction will take approximately another twelve months.

Downtown

The Purple Line has implemented phase I and II of the long-term work zones adjacent to the Paul S. Sarbanes Transit Center. Wayfinding signage has been posted around the work zones. Work will take place during two shifts from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 7 a.m. on weekdays and weekends. The work zones can be viewed here: <http://rebrand.ly/68yfsv>

Beginning Dec. 2, Colesville Rd will close periodically between Wayne Ave and E/W Hwy during the hours of 10 p.m. and 5 a.m., weekdays – and as needed on weekends.. This work will last through April, 2020. During this time Colesville Rd will have two lanes open in each direction with PL work in a center lane from E/W Hwy to Wayne Ave.

There will be temporary parking restrictions on Apple Ave.

Night work will also be evident on Bonifant St., at the Silver Spring Metro Plaza. Daytime work will be evident on Bonifant St.; and weekend work will be evident along CSX tracks.

East of downtown on Wayne

During the month of November, crews will be working along Wayne Avenue between Fenton Street and Flower Avenue. Work will take place from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays and weekends. Temporary lane and sidewalk closures will occur.

Beginning on or about November 1, 2019 and during the month of November, crews will continue working at the Silver Spring International Middle School. Work will occur from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 7 a.m. on weekdays and weekends.

Long Branch

Crews will be working along Piney Branch between Flower Ave and University Blvd at night; and work will continue at the Plymouth Street Tunnel and Manchester Place Station

University Blvd

In place already: The Purple Line implemented a long-term closure of the eastbound right hand lane on University Boulevard between New Hampshire Avenue and Riggs Road. Pedestrians and bicyclists are required to stay outside of the construction zone at all times. Long-term closure of the left-most lanes on the east and westbound sides of University Boulevard between Piney Branch Road and Guilford Road.

During the month of November, temporary lane closures will occur on West Park Drive between University Boulevard and Judson Street; crews will be working along Guilford Road between Riggs Road and 23rd Avenue; and crews will be relocating utilities along University Boulevard between Riggs Road and Adelphi Road. Work will take place in two shifts from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 7 a.m. on weekdays and weekends. Temporary lane closures will occur.

Beginning on or about December 02, 2019, the Purple Line will implement a long-term lane closure of the westbound righthand lane on University Boulevard between Riggs Road and West Park Drive.

Other public R.O.W. disruptions

Disruptions by PEPCO, WSSC, WAG, and SHA continue throughout the Region:

- PEPCO is working on Fenton Street in downtown and on Georgia Avenue through Linden. This work is part of the major upgrade to the line that runs through Takoma Park and into D.C. The work on Fenton Street is more intense than originally expected, leading to additional disruptions.
- WSSC is continuing work on line replacement along Colesville, south of the Beltway, including work in the downtown area.
- Washington Gas is doing line replacements in various neighborhoods, including the Flower Branch apartments in Long Branch.

Silver Spring Safety, Security, and Placemaking Efforts

Downtown Silver Spring is a vibrant, lively place. However, with success come related complex issues that merit attention. We are coordinating a multi-agency, inter-disciplinary effort to address the various issues regarding safety, security, and placemaking in Silver Spring's downtown. While we are addressing many of the issues already, we want to better coordinate the efforts and 'turn the curve' on key indicators. Some of these issues include homelessness, noise, busking, pan-handling, late-late night activities, and general and perceived safety. We will be approaching this effort by setting up three teams to focus on distinct – but interrelated -

components (i.e.: Environment (noise and quality of life); Safety and Policing; and People In Need.)

New Signs and Banners

You may have noticed that we have installed new directional signs to ensure that the community and passer-bys know that businesses on Bonifant Street in downtown and in Long Branch are 'Open for Business' during the Purple Line construction.

There are also new "brown" signs from the State Office of Tourism directing traffic to appropriate parking garages throughout downtown as you approach the area.

We also have installed the Holiday Banners early to welcome all to the Thanksgiving Parade Saturday, November 23rd.

[2] ADVISORY GROUPS

The [Silver Spring Citizens Advisory Board](#) will next meet Tuesday, November 12th. This is a special meeting date since the second Monday is Veterans Day. The meeting will incorporate a Census Work-session in collaboration with District 20 State Delegates. The work-session will be facilitated by District 20 Del. Wilkins. At this meeting, the SSCAB will also welcome four new members recently confirmed by County Council. The SSCAB's three committees (Transportation, Energy, and Environment Committee; Neighborhoods Committee; and Community Economic Development Committee) are scheduled to meet as usual the fourth Monday of the month.

The [Silver Spring Urban District Advisory Committee](#) will next meet Thursday, November 21st (the third Thursday of the month) at 3:30 p.m. in the Urban District Operations Conference Room, on the 3rd floor of the Silver Spring Fire Station #1. (This is their regular meeting time and location.) Key items on the Agenda include a conversation with Andrew Kleine, Chief Administrative Office for Montgomery County.

The [Silver Spring Transportation Management District](#) will join the other TMDs in a general meeting with the County Executive Wednesday, November 20th.