

SILVER SPRING REGIONAL AREA

Monthly Report SEPTEMBER 2019 *Reemberto Rodriguez, Director*

Please review archive of reports from links at <https://montgomerycountymd.gov/silverspring/boardscommittees/cab/index.html>

[1] COMMUNITY ISSUES - Living Under Construction

The **construction for the Purple Line** is picking up all throughout the Line and in all 9 stations in the Silver Spring Regional Area.

- Lyttonsville: The Lyttonsville Way Bridge remains two lanes as work continues on the bridge.
- 16th Street: The area is being used for staging still. There is no firm date yet for when the Spring Street bridge will be temporarily closed.
- Silver Spring Metro: Pedestrian traffic is now rerouted. The pilons for the bridges to go across Colesville are being built. Bus traffic into the station will be rerouted in the near future. Information dissemination is being handled both via on-line and by ambassadors in the area.
- Library: Work on Bonifant Street has begun. Limited number of parking spaces are being disrupted. Work on Fenton Street and Wayne Avenue will be a major disruption; but no date is yet set for when work will begin there. Tree clearing is ongoing along Wayne Avenue.
- Dale Avenue: Major work at the International School to rearrange parking has been going on all summer. That work will go on hold during the school year. Tree cutting along Wayne Avenue is continuing.
- Manchester: Most of the tunnel work is done, but heavy work continues in the egress/regress points.
- Long Branch: The current visible work for the station at Arliss and Piney Branch is more on the detours. Improvements to these detours – particularly for pedestrian access – will be done before the Fall.
- University Ave: The Southeast corner of the intersection of Piney Branch and University are being used as staging area.
- Takoma Langley: The line work is most intense at the moment in the Prince George's County side of University Boulevard. This work is progressing towards Takoma Langley.

For more updates: www.purplelinemd.com

Street 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 working on line replacement along Colesville, south of the Beltway.
- Washington Gas is doing line replacements in various neighborhoods, including the Flower Branch apartments in Long Branch.
- State Highway Administration has recently done work on Colesville, near downtown. The work at times have been at night.

We list these projects – and provide links to more info - in our regular eNewsletters as we are made aware of them. However, the utilities and agencies are responsible for doing the primary notices.

Major private developments also routinely disrupt sidewalks and streets. For example:

- The Studio Plaza project is not yet finished. Mayor Lane remains a work zone; Silver Spring Avenue is not yet repaved.
- The HOC Project on Fenton and Thayer is still under construction, necessitating sidewalk rerouting and protection.
- The ArtSpace project (at the old Police Station) has begun construction.

[2] ADVISORY GROUPS

The [Silver Spring Citizens Advisory Board](#) and the [Silver Spring Urban District Advisory Committee](#) will resume their regular monthly meetings in September.

The [Silver Spring Citizens Advisory Board](#) will next meet Monday, September 9th (second Monday of the month) at 6:45 p.m. in the Silver Spring Civic Building, their regular meeting location (but note earlier meeting time.) The key Agenda items include a conversation with Al Roshdieh, Director of the County's Department of Transportation; and with Councilmember at Large Evan Glass. The SSCAB is composed of 18 individuals that either live or work in the Silver Spring Regional Area. The SSCAB has three committees: Transportation, Energy, and Environment Committee; Neighborhoods Committee; and Community Economic Development Committee. Committee meetings are the fourth Monday of the month - except December and May when the Committees do not meet.

The [Silver Spring Urban District Advisory Committee](#) will next meet Thursday, September 19th (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 Gary Erenrich, Special Assistant at the County's Department of Transportation regarding scooters; and a presentation by Peterson Company regarding the proposed refresher of the stores along Ellsworth St., by the Fountain. The SSUDAC is composed of representatives from small and large businesses and residents in the downtown area of Silver Spring.

[3] OTHER ISSUES WE ARE FOLLOWING &/OR INVOLVED WITH

- Other advisory groups that meet regularly in Silver Spring and will start meeting again soon include, but are not limited to: The Silver Spring Transportation Management District Advisory Committee; Purple Line Community Advisory Teams; BRT Community Advisory Committees; Long Branch Partners; Montgomery College Work Sessions for the Science Building; African Advisory Committee.
- Neighborhood Mini Grants – recently announced the recipients of a total of \$5K among 10 applicants; four other applicants were able to be matched with other sources of funding.
- Census (recently held a workshop for the SS Census Complete County Committee.)
- Budget Forum in October.
- Beltway widening.
- Walking Silver Spring efforts with the Y – including a scheduled walk of the Purple Line path in October.
- Community celebrations in the Civic Building, Veterans Plaza, Takoma Park and throughout the Region – including recent Jazz Festival and Ethiopian Festival; and upcoming Takoma Folk Festival, FutureFest, Africa Fest, neighborhood festivals in Long Branch and Montgomery Hills, and the Thanksgiving Parade.
- Adventist Hospital move to White Oaks and the physical plant left in Takoma Park (now a 24-hour urgent care facility.)
- Pedestrian safety and speeding through neighborhoods – including the new Pedestrian Master Plan.
- New developments being proposed throughout the Regional Area, including various housing developments – and the upcoming process for the General Plan.
- New major investments downtown (change of ownership at Ellsworth Place; Refresh of Peterson Company/Foulger Pratt 'downtown' shopping center.)
- SHA plans for Montgomery Hills.
- Bus Rapid Transit System implementation.
- Bike paths in and around downtown.
- Scooters pilot project.
- Night-time economy impact on quality of life (noise and late night / early morning activities.)
- Oakview Neighborhood Action Team.
- Progress Place and Environs Neighborhood Action Team.
- Quebec Terrace issues re lighting, broken sidewalks, trash (and possible Action Team.)