

SSUDAC Meeting Summary
January 17th, 2019

Members Present: Mussie Betre, Diana Brown, Carmen Camacho, David Fogel, Jay Elvove, Jane Redicker, Mel Tull

Members Absent: Gus LeGrand, Thomas Kaufmann, Michael Larson. Juanita Stewart

Call to Order and Introductions:

- The meeting was called to order at 3:35 p.m.

Police Briefing & Crime Report

Lt. Eric Bunting, Montgomery County Police, Third District

- Officers from the Third District team discussed the BB&T bank robbery/bomb threat incident, noting that the suspect was shot and killed.
- Early morning robberies along Sligo Ave. and other downtown locations as well as continuing incidents of thefts from vehicles were discussed.
- The County's point-in-time homeless count operated by the Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless will take place on January 23rd.
- The officers provided an update on the ongoing noise complaints made regarding evening sound disturbances from the Society lounge.

South Silver Spring Events

David Fogel, SSUDAC Resident Member

- Mr. Fogel presented information regarding the possible opening of a weekly farmer's market in South Silver Spring, located along 1200 East-West Highway.
- The market would be operated by a private management company in partnership with the Urban District.

Committee Budget Forum Discussion

SSUDAC

- Members of the Advisory Committee discussed their proposed budget priorities for FY20, including an increase in garage security and assigned CBD police officers, among other items.
- A motion to write a letter of priorities to the County Executive was unanimous.

5G Communications in DTSS

Mitsuko Herrera, ultraMontgomery Program Director

- Ms. Herrera provided an update on the current status of 5G communications and small cell towers in the Central Business District. Multiple cell providers would need to install towers.
- The tower design is still in flux and could require changes prior to implementation.
- Ms. Herrera acknowledged the possibility of the towers eventually also being used to provide free wi-fi in downtown Silver Spring.
- Members of the public raised concerns regarding the health risks of public exposure to the towers and emphasized a need for the FCC to release guidelines related to public health and tower exposure.

Silver Spring Urban District Report

Richard Bingham, Silver Spring Urban District

- Mr. Bingham gave a brief Operations update, noting work done in the CSX tunnel, including lighting improvements.
- The Urban District is working to fill the vacant Program Specialist II position and reclass the division Equipment Operator as a Workforce Leader.
- Mr. Bingham continues to work with the Department of Finance to expand the OMD billing process and ensure all properties are being accurately billed.

Regional Area Director's Report

Reemberto Rodriguez, Director, Silver Spring Regional Center

- Mr. Rodriguez noted upcoming Pepco work on Fenton St.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.