

# SILVER SPRING REGIONAL AREA

Monthly Report    OCTOBER 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

Ensuring residents, businesses, and people passing through the Purple Line route know what is going on remains a major challenge. While there are email notices and robust web-sites, many of those along the route remain oblivious to the information and/or where to get it. The **construction for the Purple Line** is picking up all throughout the Line and in all 9 stations in the Silver Spring Regional Area. Some key construction points include:

### Lyttonsville/Woodside Area

- **Lyttonsville Place Bridge:** crews continue work in the Lyttonsville Place Bridge area
- **Utility Work along Stewart Avenue:** crews relocating utilities along Stewart Avenue between Brookville Road and Kansas Avenue. Temporary lane and sidewalk closures with flagging operations will occur. Parking is now on southbound Stewart Avenue.
- **Talbot Avenue Long-Term Bridge Closure:** Bridge closed since June 4, 2019, closure will last for 12 months approx. for demolition and construction of new bridge will be limited.
- **Long-Term Closure on 4th Avenue:** On August 1, 2019, crews closed 4th Avenue long-term between Hanover Street and Grace Church Road. Night work will be included on an as-needed basis. Access to residential driveways will be maintained.

### Silver Spring Area

- **Night work in the Silver Spring Metro Plaza:** crews working in the Silver Spring Metro Plaza adjacent to Colesville Road. Long-term closure of the right-hand southbound lane on Colesville Road between 2nd Avenue and East-West Highway continues through next year.
- **Transit Center, Long-Term Work Zone Pedestrian Detour:** The Purple Line has implemented phase I and II of the long-term work zones adjacent to the 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>
- **Lane Closures along Bonifant Street:** crews working along Bonifant Street between Ramsey Avenue and Fenton Street. Temporary lane closures.
- **Utility Relocations on Wayne Avenue:** crews will be relocating utilities along Wayne Avenue between Fenton Street and Bradford Road. Temporary lane closures will occur.
- **Weekend Work along Wayne Avenue:** crews working along Wayne Avenue between Fenton Street and Flower Avenue. Temporary lane and sidewalk closures will occur.

### Long Branch Area

- **Weekend work at the Plymouth Tunnel:** crews will continue work at the Plymouth Street Tunnel and Manchester Place Station.
- **Night Work on Piney Branch Road:** crews working along Piney Branch Road between Flower Avenue and University Boulevard. Temporary lane closures will occur.

### University Boulevard Area

- **Utility Relocation along University Boulevard:** crews relocating utilities along University Boulevard between Riggs Road and Adelphi Road. Temporary lane closures will occur.
- **Weekend Work and Lane Closures along University Boulevard:** crews will be demolishing, grading and paving medians along University Boulevard between Riggs Road and Adelphi Road.

### 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. (A community meeting is set for Monday, October 21<sup>st</sup>.)
- WSSC is continuing work 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.

## [2] ADVISORY GROUPS

The [Silver Spring Citizens Advisory Board](#) will next meet Monday, October 14<sup>th</sup> (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 Councilmember Evan Glass and discussion on the FY20 Budget. The SSCAB has three committees: Transportation, Energy, and Environment Committee; Neighborhoods Committee; and Community Economic Development Committee. The TREE Committee will meet Monday, October 21<sup>st</sup> in a joint meeting with Councilmember Hucker to discuss the tree canopy in Silver Spring. The Neighborhoods Committee will meet on Monday, October 28<sup>th</sup>. The SSCAB Interview Committee has completed its interviews of candidates to the Board. The next step is to recommend to the County Executive their choice. Then the County Executive will recommend to County Council, who will make the final decision on who is appointed to the Board. We expect the new members to be seated by the first meeting in 2020.

The [Silver Spring Urban District Advisory Committee](#) will next meet Thursday, October 17<sup>th</sup> (the third Thursday of the month) at 3:30 p.m. in the Urban District Operations Conference Room, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 various non-profits that use Progress Place to serve the community, including Interfaith Works and Shepherd's Table; and an update on the Purple Line.

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

- Other advisory groups that meet regularly in Silver Spring have already begun their Fall schedule, including: 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; and the African Advisory Committee. (Dates are listed on the Civic Engagement Opportunities eNewsletter.)
- Census (working with the District 20 State Delegation and Takoma Park to do a joint meeting of the SS Census Complete County Committee in November.)
- Budget Forum is set for Wednesday, October 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Beltway widening.
- Walking Silver Spring efforts with the Y – including a recent walk of the Purple Line path in October.
- Community celebrations in the Civic Building, Veterans Plaza, Takoma Park and throughout the Region – including recent Takoma Park Street Festival; and the upcoming opening of the ice skating rink at Veterans Plaza.)
- 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.
- Bike paths in and around downtown.
- Scooters pilot project.
- On-going and possible Neighborhood Action Teams, including: Night-time economy impact on quality of life (noise and late night / early morning activities); Oakview Neighborhood (including a work session with the community); Progress Place and Environs (now focused on policy issues as well); Quebec Terrace issues re lighting, broken sidewalks, rats, and trash.