

## SSCAB Meeting Summary – September 9, 2019- v01

### Attendance

	Matthew Losak–Chair	X	John Seelke		Katherine McKay
X	Edward Levy –Vice-Chair		Uri Pasternak		
X	Mark Mendez -Secretary		Jay Elvove		
	Lysette House Parliamentarian		Patricia Germann		
	Michelle Foster- TREE	X	Delia Aguilar		
R	Abdurahman Mohammed- Nbrhd		Don Slater		
	Mulegeta Habteselassie- CED		Melanie Fonder Kaye		

Present: Absent: X Resigned: R

1. 6:45 Welcome and Introductions: Chair **Matt Losak** led self-introductions
2. 6:50 *Acceptance of previous meeting summary:* June minutes were approved.
3. *Public Safety/Fire & Rescue:* **Lt. Eric Bunting** (?) of Third District reported that there has been a significant increase in theft from vehicles, which is the #1 crime in Montgomery County. Police have seized 17 handguns in recent weeks, if you see something, please say something.
4. *Conversation with **Al Roshdieh** retiring director of Department of Transportation.* Mr. Roshdieh recently announced his retirement, no announcement yet on the incoming director. A powerpoint presentation was provided showing the county priorities of a balanced transportation system to support the community. The first BRT bus is scheduled for November with busses currently under construction as well as most bus stops. Recently, metro service was improved by stopping the turnback at Silver Spring. DoT utilizes 12% of the county capital budget and has on staff approximately 1,400 workers. At this time, focus is geared towards electric busses (Silver Spring will have 14 within the next year), the Purple Line Construction, protected pedestrian area, seven resurfacing/sidewalk projects. DoT staff praised SHA and acknowledged funding challenges. Vision Zero has had progress and it is felt that serious accident numbers have gone down, and staff have inventoried sidewalks and where the gaps are with a priority of those near schools and those communities asking for them. Safety is being improved with more signage, lights, and separating cars and bikes, but no report is posted for the public.
  - *How does DoT advocate for Montgomery County? By being active legislatively and approaching the topics holistically.*
  - *How can nighttime work be made more bearable? Currently work is being conducted at 91 decibels between 12-3am. It appears that several people were unaware of this ongoing issue, but the state does have an obligation to finish projects, making this an issue of traffic vs people. The SSCAB notes that traffic can be rerouted, but people cannot.*
  - *Scooters are considered motorized vehicles. County police will be citing users who do not comply with relevant laws starting October 1 and are working with the companies to ensure users are educated about the laws.*

- *Bike safety – related to driver confusion and anger. Being first in the nation to do something is not always best as this can cause an increase in these two areas.*
  - *Removing poles from sidewalks – MCDOT will work with permitting services?*
  - *Roadwork – utility companies need to return roads to previous condition. Permitting services is in charge, but MDoT relies on community feedback and need specific location to be useful.*
5. *Neighborhood Highlight: **Karen Roper** discusses Fenton Village and the challenging time the businesses are currently undergoing due to utility work and Purple Line construction. Everyone is urged to attend Taste the World Fenton in May to support the locally owned small businesses. Ms. Roper advocated for reimbursement of lost revenue and local control over Pepco and other utility work which is currently under the state Public Service Commission.*
  6. *Board Chair's Report. **Matt Losak** reminds board members to submit nominees for board officer positions. These nominations are due to Jay Elvove by September 30.*
  7. *Regional Director's report. **Reemberto Rodriguez** draws attention to the 2020 Census and reminds county residents to ensure they and their neighbors are counted.*
  8. *Committee Meetings Report: No committee meetings this month due to Memorial Day holiday.*
    - **Neighborhoods** –is planning to discuss aging in Silver Spring
    - **TREE** –will discuss the Purple Line.
    - **CED** - will have a dialogue with minority businesses
  9. *New Business: Montgomery County Councilmember **Gabe Albornoz** has introduced legislation to reduce youth vaping in Montgomery County.*
  10. *Adjourn: 9 PM*

*Upcoming meetings: The next full board meeting will be held on Monday, October 14, 2019.*