

WMATA PLATFORM IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM TDM WORK GROUP MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, April 28, 2021 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Staff Contact: Nicholas Ramfos 202/962-3313

1. Introductions

Conference call participants introduced themselves. Participants included:

Pinky Advani (ATP)
Tai Mooney (ATP)
Danelle Carey (goDCgo)
Leigh Anderson (GWRideConnect)
Holly Morello (OmniRide)
Joe Stainsby (OmniRide)

Natasha Khan (OmniRide) Stacey King (PGC DPWT) Nicholas Ramfos (COG/TPB) James Li (COG/TPB) Daniel Sheehan (COG/TPB)

2. WMATA Updates on Platform Project Work at the Addison Rd & Arlington Cemetery stations and on the upcoming work at the West Hyattsville, Prince George's Plaza, College Park-U of Md, and Greenbelt stations

Nicholas Ramfos, COG/TPB staff, provided a status update on behalf of WMATA. Platform improvements for Spring 2021 are progressing as anticipated. Both stations are expected to open by the end of May. Project updates can be found on wmata.com/platformsprogress.

A weekend shutdown is scheduled to occur this weekend at the four Green/Yellow line stations, which include Greenbelt, College Park – UMD, Prince George's Plaza, and West Hyattsville, to prepare for the summer work. West Hyattsville will remain closed May 3 – 9 for additional repairs; free shuttle service will be available between Prince George's Plaza, West Hyattsville, and Fort Totten. All four stations will close on May 29th and are expected to remain closed through September 6th.

Bus routes on the south side of Prince George's Plaza were relocated to Belcrest Road on April 19th. Busses will remain there through the end of the project.

During the summer shutdown, the Green Line will operate between Branch Avenue and Fort Totten; the Yellow Line will operate between Huntington and Mt. Vernon Square. There will not be any Green or Yellow Line rail service north of Fort Totten. Three free shuttle bus routes will be offered during the summer shutdown: (1) A limited-stop service between Greenbelt and Fort Totten (service between Greenbelt, College Park – UMD, and Fort Totten); (2) A limited-stop service between Prince George's Plaza and Fort Totten (service between Prince George's Plaza, West Hyattsville, and Fort Totten); and (3) Local service connecting all four stations.

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Upcoming communications strategies include pop-up events at the stations, paid mobile and geotargeted advertisements around the stations, notification signage in stations across they system, outreach teams along the Green and Yellow Lines, and extensive signage directing riders to shuttle busses and handing out "take ones" with project information. Stacey King, PGC DPWT, asked for more information on pop up events at Prince George's Mall; Mr. Ramfos stated that he would reach out to Morgan Bassford at WMATA regarding any plans for this type of promotion.

3. Arlington County Updates

Pinky Advani, ATP, noted that their website will be updated to include information regarding the upcoming summer shutdown. A new blog post is being developed. Alert emails will be drafted and sent to clients informing them of the summer project and offering guidance on transportation alternatives

4. Prince George's County Update

Stacey King, PGC DPWT, noted that a bus line Route 23 will be reactivated prior to the summer shutdown. A new bus route, Route 19, is also being launched and will serve the West Hyattsville and Prince George's Plaza Metrorail stations. The County is currently working on a full communications plan for the summer shutdown; the campaign will likely include ads on buses, social media posts, newsletter article(s), etc. Ms. King also anticipates participating in upcoming employer roundtables to help identify alternative travel options for employees who may be affected by the shutdown.

5. Outreach Activity Updates

a. Commuter Connections

Nicholas Ramfos, COG/TPB staff, shared that Commuter Connections will update the WMATA project page on the CommuterConnections.org website with the summer shutdown information. A targeted effort to alert commuters registered in the Commuter Connections database is anticipated to occur in late May as well as employers. Social media messaging will also be developed.

b. Other Jurisdictions

No discussion occurred under this item.

6. Other Business

No discussion occurred under this item.

Next Meeting Date: May 26, 2021, 10:30 – 11:30 am