

**WMATA PLATFORM IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
TDM WORK GROUP
MEETING MINUTES**

**Wednesday, March 31, 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)	Angie Belfield-Reese (WMATA)
Fadi Seikaly (ATP/Commute 66)	Nick Perfili (WMATA)
Tai Mooney (ATP)	Marc Bowman (WMATA)
Danelle Carey (goDCgo)	Morgan Bassford (WMATA)
Korrea Johnston (goDCgo)	Nicholas Ramfos (COG/TPB)
Leigh Anderson (GWRideConnect)	Cherice Sansbury (COG/TPB)
Stacey King (PGC DPWT)	James Li (COG/TPB)
Fatemeh Allahdoust (VDOT)	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

Morgan Bassford, WMATA, gave an overview of the current platform reconstruction progress at the Addison Road and Arlington Cemetery stations. New granite and slip resistant tiles have been laid, new PA systems are installed, and wiring has been upgraded. At Arlington, the station is completely closed, so construction is occurring on both sides of the platform simultaneously. At Addison Rd, trains are still passing through; construction is occurring on one side at a time. Work is expected to complete on the first side of the platform this weekend and will then move to the other side. Ms. Bassford encouraged the group to view WMATA.com/platforms for biweekly updates and to sign-up to receive updates via email.

Nick Perfili, WMATA, briefed the group on shuttle operations at Addison Road and Arlington Cemetery. Capacity is generally meeting expectations at both locations; Arlington has seen an increase slightly above projections due to burials now being held at the cemetery.

Fatemeh Allahdoust, VDOT, asked when the stations will open. Ms. Bassford replied the scheduled opening is May 24th.

Ms. Bassford listed the green/yellow line stations that will be closed from May 29th through September 6th (Memorial Day weekend – Labor Day weekend): West Hyattsville, Prince George's Plaza, College Park-U of Md & Greenbelt. Yellow line trains will terminate

at Mt. Vernon; Green Line trains will operate between Branch Ave. – Ft. Totten. Along with platform improvements, similar customer service improvements will be made to the stations as have been made to others: Installation of new slip resistant tiles, shelters, PA system, pylons, etc.) Mr. Perfili elaborated on free shuttle services that will be available to affected riders. There will be three routes: A local route (15-minute headway) that connects all closed stations and two express routes (6 – 10-minute headway on weekdays; 7 – 10-minutes on weekends) that will operate. A listing of alternative travel options, notably WMATA and local bus service, is available on the WMATA.com/platforms webpage. The shuttle frequency/capacity will be greater than what is currently in operations at Addison Road and Arlington Cemetery. Strategic busses will also be launched to prevent crowding once/if ridership increases in higher frequency areas.

Ms. Bassford noted that 1,100 parking spaces at Greenbelt are closed and will remain closed until February 2022. 300 spaces at West Hyattsville will be closed until February 2022. The south Park & Ride lot at Prince George's will be closed until February 2022; the north lot will remain open. Parking that remains open at the affected stations will be free throughout the duration of the station closures.

Weekend shutdowns at the summer reconstruction stations are scheduled to occur on April 17 – 18 and May 1 – 2. Another short closure is expected to be announced within a couple weeks.

3. Arlington County Updates

Pinky Advani, ATP, noted that their website has been updated to reflect the Arlington closure. An alert email was sent to clients and a newsletter article was published. The plan for the summer shutdowns will be similar Fadi Seikaly, ATP, noted that webinars were available for clients.

4. Prince George's County Update

Stacey King, PGC DPWT, noted that updates will be needed on WMATA's website due to bus service changes resulting from COVID. The County is not planning on any bus service changes for the shutdown.

5. Outreach Activity Updates

a. Commuter Connections

Nicholas Ramfos, COG/TPB staff, shared that Commuter Connections continues to maintain the WMATA project page on the CommuterConnections.org website. Information on the shutdown will be included in an article in the upcoming employer newsletter. A targeted effort to alert commuters registered in the database will also take place. Social media messaging will be developed.

b. Other Jurisdictions

Danelle Carey, goDCgo, has a WMATA platforms page on their website that is regularly updated. It also includes a blog and rider/commuter toolkits.

6. Other Business

Fatemeh Allahdoust, VDOT, asked if overcrowding has been an issue on the shuttles at Arlington. Nick Perfili, WMATA, stated that it has not been an issue and that there has also been slight uptick in ridership.

Next Meeting Date: April 28, 2020, 10:30 – 11:30 am