



## **COMMUTER CONNECTIONS SAFETRACK WORK GROUP CONFERENCE CALL MEETING NOTES**

**Friday, May 5, 2017**

**10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon**

**Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments**

**Staff Contact: Nicholas Ramfos 202/962-3313**

### **1. Introductions:**

Conference call participants introduced themselves. Participants included:

Holly Morello  
Eric Smith  
Nicholas Ramfos

### **2. WMATA Review of initial observations from SafeTrack Surge #14 (April 15 – May 14) Continuous Single Tracking – Greenbelt to College Park/Prince George's Plaza and Upcoming Surge #15 (May 16 – June 15) – Line Segment Shutdown – New Carrollton to Stadium-Armory**

Eric Smith stated the Surge #14 has been running smoothly there are lots of buses and passenger reductions. 13 buses are being run. There are several surge shutdowns for Surge #15. There is a multi-shuttle map that has been produced. Eric will send the map to Nicholas Ramfos for distribution to the Work Group; however, the map is not for public distribution just yet. There will be five shuttles for Surge 15 which would mimic the rail line. Minnesota Avenue to Stadium-Armory shuttle buses will be running about 6 buses during the peak every five minutes. Deanwood to Capitol Heights shuttle to the Blue Line will allow travelers to catch the Orange line. Three buses will be run every 10 minutes. Another shuttle will run from Cheverly to Morgan and will include two buses that will run every 20 minutes. A Landover bus to new Carrollton to Morgan will also run and will have the largest amount of customers (approximately 2,700 in the peak). 26 Buses will run every five minutes given the volume. The last bus will be a local shuttle every 30 minutes with four buses that will go from New Carrollton to Landover to Cheverly to Deanwood to Minnesota to Stadium-Armory. This will be a safety-net bus for those wishing to use it within these legs. The current issue is that the way fares are calculated for rail is based on the length of the trip so work is being

conducted on what the fares for the shuttles bus costs will be. Staff is working on a plan to provide a rebate on the fare differential.

3. SafeTrack Surge #15 (May 16 – June 15)

a. Prince Georges County Plan

There were no representatives from Prince George's County on the call. Eric Smith with WMATA reported that Prince George's County would be running a bus between Landover and Morgan and will arrive every 15 minutes from 6-10 a.m. and 3 – 7 p.m. and will be free of charge.

b. DDOT Plan

There were no representatives on the call from DDOT.

c. Commuter Connections Plan:

Nicholas Ramfos stated that geo-targeted messages to employers and employees surrounding the impacted Orange Line Metrorail stations for Surge #15 will be developed and would be sent to commuters and employers in the affected area next week. The messages will also promote the CarpoolNow mobile app. Social media will be used to promote the various alternatives during the surge.

4. Other Business

WMATA's Marketing efforts will encourage commuters to use another Metrorail station such as Greenbelt, Largo or Morgan rather than New Carrollton or find another way to travel. Parking at Largo may be limited.

Surge #16 will encompass Shady Grove and Rockville and is tentatively set to occur from June 17<sup>th</sup> to the 24<sup>th</sup>. This will be a complete line shutdown. More details to follow.

**Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2017, 1:30 p.m. for SafeTrack Surge #16.**