



COMMUTER CONNECTIONS SAFETRACK WORK GROUP CONFERENCE CALL MEETING NOTES

November 16, 2016

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments

Staff Contact: Nicholas Ramfos 202/962-3313

1. Introductions:

Conference call participants introduced themselves. Participants included:

Jamaica Arnold
Julie Hershorn
Meredith Hill
Marina Budimir
Nicholas Ramfos

2. WMATA Review of initial observations from SafeTrack Surge #10 (October 29 – November 22) NoMa Gallaudet U – Fort Totten Closure and Upcoming Surge #11 (November 28 – December 21) – East Falls Church – West Falls Church – Single Tracking

Julie Hershorn stated that Surge #10 has been going much more smoothly than anticipated. The work is being completed. Ridership on the Metro shuttles is carrying approximately 47,000 people a day and the RideOn Shuttles are carrying about 9,700 riders a day. The additional services are also being used somewhat. Many riders are either telecommuting or using the Green Line. Anecdotally, the Green Line has been more a bit more crowded.

With regards to Surge #11, Julie Hershorn stated that Metro staff was considering additional trains which could be added into downtown from East Falls Church or from Ballston. After further review, it was determined that this will not be able to be completed because of the nature of the work that will need to be done during the Surge. Trains will be leaving on the Orange and Silver line every 18 minutes and there would be 30% less availability on the lines. Trains will be crowded. A series of shuttle buses will be used to encourage individuals to use instead of getting on the train. Rosslyn will have additional train service. Ballston will be connected by a bus shuttle to Rosslyn. Once trains get to East Falls Church, there will be no room. A second shuttle will run from West Falls Church to Ballston

with a stop in East Falls Church. Two additional shuttles will be from McLean to West Falls Church for those starting on the West end of the service and the other will be an Express shuttle between Ballston and the Pentagon where you can get on to the Blue and Yellow lines. Staffing and equipment needs are still being worked out. Supplemental services will be on 5A connecting to the Herndon Monroe Park and Ride. The 3Y will also have supplemental service as well as the 2A and the 38B. These were the same as in Surges #1 and #5.

Marina Budimir asked about the screens on the new trains and asked whether or not Bikeshare information could be placed on those screens as well as carsharing and/or the CarPoolNow mobile app. Donna Murray with Metro may be the best contact due to her role in advertising (202)962-1188.

Ms. Budimir also asked whether or not WMATA would be surveying any riders on what they did during SafeTrack. Ms. Hershorn was not aware of any plans to survey riders, but this may be something that Metro staff may be taking a look at.

3. SafeTrack Surge 11 (November 28 – December 21)

a. Fairfax County Plan:

There were no representatives on the conference call from Fairfax County. Julie Hershorn stated that there would be a shuttle from Vienna to the Pentagon and another from Reston to the Pentagon.

Fairfax County plans for SafeTrack could be found at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/safetrack/>

b. Commuter Connections Plan:

Nicholas Ramfos stated that geo-targeted messages to employers and employees surrounding the impacted Metrorail stations for Surge #11 will be developed and would be sent to commuters and employers in affected area. The messages will also promote the new mobile app from Commuter Connections called CarpoolNow which allows drivers and riders to connect for carpools free. Social media will be used to promote the various alternatives during the surge.

c. Other Jurisdictional TDM Plans:

Ms. Hershorn stated that it looked like a weekend shutdown may be occurring between NoMa and Brookland during December 3rd and 4th and the Rhode Island Avenue station would be closed. A bus bridge will be available between NoMa and Brookland.

Mr. Ramfos asked when an announcement would be made on the timeline for Surge #12. Ms. Hershorn stated that the announcement would more than likely be made in mid-December. She also stated that there would be no SafeTrack work occurring during the Presidential Inauguration.

4. Other Business

Next Meeting Date: December 19, 2016 10 a.m. (Note: *This meeting was cancelled due to the change in the SafeTrack Schedule*)