

**WMATA PLATFORM CONSTRUCTION TDM WORK GROUP
MEETING MINUTES**

**Wednesday, July 15, 2020
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)	Chris Arabia (VDRPT)
Fadi Seikaly (ATP/Commute 66)	Gabe Ortiz (VDRPT)
Christy Lee (ATP)	Mosi London (VDRPT/AECOM)
Tai Mooney (ATP)	Cindy King (VRE)
Anna Nissinen (Fairfax County)	Karen Finucan Clarkson (VRE)
Leigh Anderson (GWRideConnect)	Nick Perfili (WMATA)
Judy Galen (Loudoun County)	Marc Bowman (WMATA)
Holly Morello (OmniRide)	Morgan Bassford (WMATA)
Joe Stainsby (Vanpool Alliance)	Nicholas Ramfos (COG/TPB)
Fatemeh Allahdoust (VDOT)	Daniel Sheehan (COG/TPB)

2. WMATA Updates on Platform Project Work

Nick Perfili, WMATA, informed the group of upcoming shuttle service changes. On August 16th, the Silver Line is expected to resume service through Wiehle. Once service resumes, the Silver Line shuttle will cease operations. Shuttle routes will be restructured into three different routes: (1) Between West Falls Church and Vienna; (2) Between West Falls Church & Dunn Loring (local service); and (3) Between East Falls Church and Ballston. Mr. Perfili noted that current shuttle service is modest. Stations previously closed due to COVID-19 have re-opened.

Marc Bowman, WMATA, explained communications are being created for the August 16th service change for restore Silver Line service. WMATA will have kiosks at stations with information and will post communications to the to the wmata.com/platforms webpage and social media platforms. Updates are posted to the WMATA platform improvement project blog (“Project Updates”) periodically. Test trains are scheduled to run along I-66 on August 8th and 9th.

3. Fairfax County Update

Anna Nissinen, Fairfax County, updated the group on Fairfax County’s efforts. The County is in communications with employers in the affected shutdown area. There appears to be a trend that employers do not plan on re-opening offices until after Labor Day. The County will support/distribute WMATA communications as they are updated.

4. 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. The Guaranteed Ride Home program has also been promoted in order to let essential workers know that it is still in operation. An email alert will likely be sent to affected registered commuters when full service is restored in September.

b. Other Jurisdictions

Pinky Advani, ATP, stated that Arlington County ATP successfully held employer webinars educating employers about the impending shutdown and available alternatives. ATP continues to update their website as new information about the shutdown becomes available.

Holly Morello, OmniRide, reported that a telework webinar that was held in conjunction with the Chamber of Commerce; the webinar was intended to broaden/offer support for telework for county employers. OmniRide is currently running a "Friday Service" service level of transit.

Joe Stainsby, Vanpool Alliance, shared that vanpool ridership was down 80% in May but is beginning to tick back up as of June. A massive hand sanitizer and mask distribution is currently in process for vans.

Judy Galen, Loudoun County Commuter Services, shared that commuter bus service has somewhat restarted with select service into the Pentagon and D.C. Ridership is creeping back. In general, employers in the county are considering a September re-opening.

Gabe Ortiz, VDRPT, informed the group that VDRPT is meeting with jurisdictional/commute assistance programs to better understand how each locality is handling the coronavirus pandemic. Information regarding employer statuses is being compiled into a database.

Karen Finucan Clarkson, VRE, shared that updates to service continue to be posted to the website, along with advice on social distancing and responsibilities for riders.

Leigh Anderson, GWRideConnect, stated that GWRideConnect continues to share info via social media and their website when approved.

5. Other Business

Marc Bowman, WMATA, informed the group that platform construction work at National Airport has been tentatively scheduled for August 7 – December 25. There will be minimal service impacts; perhaps some weekend delays. Platform

construction work in 2021 will likely continue at four Green Line stations in Prince George's County, likely Memorial Day through Labor Day.

Nicholas Ramfos stated that this would be the final meeting for the group for this calendar year and the group would begin to meet again next spring in anticipation of the platform construction work in Prince George's County.

Next Meeting Date: TBD