

Glenmont Exchange, Inc.
GlenmontExchange.org
Minutes of the November 24, 2014 meeting

Attendees: Tony Fracasso, Dorinda Danneman, Rich Burnes, David Shaw, John Bogasky, Stu Carlow, Larry Campbell, Arquilla Ridgell, Peg Beck.

The Agenda was approved. The Minutes were approved.

Treasury balance is \$467.50. The draft budget for 2015 was approved.

The Zoning Committee will report at the January meeting.

David Shaw is nominated to serve on the Bus Rapid Transit Citizen Advisory Committee for the area south of Connecticut Avenue, Max Bronstein is representing Strathmore-Bel Pre.

SHA projects in the Glenmont area include the Randolph/Georgia interchange. There was discussion of traffic backups caused by the constructions. Other projects in the area, information provided by Roger Manno:

MO1595277 Layhill Road from Park Vista Drive to Chester Mill Road
Patch, grind, and resurface the existing roadway within the limit of the project
In Design . Candidate for 2016
Cost: \$2,280,000. (Engineer's Construction Estimate)

MO1715176 Norbeck Road (MD 28) from Georgia Avenue (MD97) to Bailey's Lane
Install new concrete sidewalk on eastbound Norbeck Road
Funded for concepts and preliminary engineering
Cost: To be determined

MO1685187 Georgia Avenue and Norbeck Road (MD 28)
Provide second left turn lane on northbound Georgia Avenue and extend right turn lane on westbound Norbeck Road to northbound Georgia Avenue.
In Design, Funded for preliminary engineering.
Cost: \$1,425,688. (Engineering Cost Estimate)

MO5985187 Layhill Road (MD 182) from Georgia Ave (MD 97) to Longmead Road
Patch, grind, and resurface the existing roadway.
Anticipated Completion – Summer 2015
Cost: \$3,625,122. (Bid Amount)

Discussion of neighborhood paving projects – there are to be 30 paving projects this year.

Montgomery311 – Members have used it with mixed results.

The light at Middlevale Road and Layhill Road should be retimed – not working well for Layhill Road traffic.

Guest: Barry Wides, President, White Oak Civic Association.
BRT on US29 and the White Oak Science Gateway Master Plan.

The White Oak Science Gateway Master Plan: Many properties will be rezoned in White Oak and Hillandale, with 25M square feet of new commercial and residential space. Plan was for development to happen in stages in conjunction with BRT, but a Master Plan must be in balance, so the staging component was removed.

Development for the area was approved in the 1980's based on having a bus-way, and there still is no Bus.

BRT on the US29 corridor to be looked at after BRT on the Georgia Avenue corridor. The Council is forming a Transportation Management district for White Oak: involves a Bus Commission, Business Improvement District and Transportation Management.

BRT on US29 is expected to reduce express bus time from 30 minutes to 24 minutes to Silver Spring. Rapid transit fares will not be cheap, will they be cost-effective? Will they make economic sense based on comparison with driving a car?

The Purple line is currently allocated most of Montgomery County's Transportation funding, with the Corridor Cities Transitway [from Shady Grove Metro, past the Shady Grove Life Sciences Center and ending at the Metropolitan Grove MARC station in Gaithersburg] next in line.

Life Sci Village – A Mixed Use community on 300 acres of County and Percontee land between FDA site and Cherry Hill Road. A public-private partnership between Percontee and Montgomery County. Office and conference space for companies doing business with the FDA. 13M square feet of commercial and residential development. Percontee expects to begin construction in 2 years.

The FDA has not transferred all its employees to the White Oak site yet.

Will there be a demand for the new space provided by LifeSci Village above FDA related demands? Space is not convenient to Metro in any direction. Transit options could include

BRT to Silver Spring, or BRT to Glenmont. Another idea under consideration is transit to run down Cherry Hill to a new interchange on I-95 to the Beltway/Greenbelt Metro.

Washington Adventist Hospital (Takoma Park) will be moving to White Oak, a 49 acre site on Plum Orchard Drive, close to the LifeSci Village.

Doctors at the FDA would like to have privileges at the Adventist Hospital after it moves to Cherry Hill.

John Hopkins is also interested in the LifeSci Village.

Trails in Montgomery County: some are paved; many are not, because of environmental concerns. Bicycles are not allowed on many foot trails. Bicycles as an alternative to cars – bicycle trails do not connect to form a network. ICC trails do not connect together, need to be connected to become a cohesive network.

The next Glenmont Exchange meeting will be held on Monday, January 26, 2015

Minutes submitted by Dorinda Danneman, Secretary.