



Customer Service and Operations Committee

Board Action Item III-A

May 14, 2015

Request Public Hearing For Takoma Langley Crossroads Transit Center

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

Board Action/Information Summary

☒ Action ☐ Information

MEAD Number:
201426

Resolution:
☒ Yes ☐ No

TITLE:

Public Hearing for Takoma Langley Crossroads T.C.

PRESENTATION SUMMARY:

Board authorization for a Compact Public Hearing to consider adding the Takoma Langley Crossroads Transit Center to WMATA's Adopted Regional System.

PURPOSE:

Board authorization for a Compact Public Hearing to consider adding the Takoma Langley Crossroads Transit Center to WMATA's Adopted Regional System, as well as enter negotiations with Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) and execute an agreement regarding future operations and ownership of the transit center.

DESCRIPTION:

The Takoma Langley Crossroads Transit Center is nearly complete, with expected substantial completion Fall 2015, the facility is located in the triangle created by University Boulevard, New Hampshire Avenue and Lebanon Street. The transit center will serve six Metrobus routes (K6, K9, F8, C2, C4 and J4), and five Ride-On routes (15, 16, 17, 18 and 25). The bus route 18 and the University of Maryland shuttles will also use the transit center.

MTA managed the construction of the facility and will continue to own it; following completion the MTA anticipates operations responsibility to be transferred to WMATA under a lease and operating agreement.

To add the Takoma Langley Crossroads Transit Center to the Adopted Regional System, an environmental evaluation of the proposed additions and a WMATA Compact Public Hearing must be held. A Categorical Exclusion (CE) has been approved in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to study the effects on the environment of building the Takoma Langley Crossroads Transit Center. The CE will serve as the basis for an updated environmental evaluation for the WMATA Compact, which will be completed before the public hearing. Therefore, staff is seeking Board approval to hold the requisite Compact Public Hearing that would lead to adding the Takoma Langley Crossroads Transit Center to the Adopted Regional System.

Key Highlights:

The project is designed to provide several long-term public benefits, the most significant are:

- Provide a safe and convenient bus transfer station that will serve as a principal transfer location between Metrobus, Prince George's County's The Bus, Montgomery County's Ride-On, and the future Purple Line
- Improve pedestrian safety and access to transit service
- Protect and improve the lives of people in this community

Background and History:

On June 20, 2005, the WMATA Board approved Resolution #2005-22, that allocated \$6,744,320 of WMATA TIF to the State of Maryland for the Takoma Langley Crossroads Transit Center. Subsequently, the State of Maryland was awarded a TIGER grant in 2009 providing additional funds allowing the project to advance to final design and construction. As originally conceived, MTA was to design, construct, operate and manage the transit center upon completion.

Discussion:

This action only initiates the Compact Public Hearing process to amend the Adopted Regional System, allowing eventual acceptance of the transit center into the regional system under a lease and operating agreement. Concurrently, with the submission of the staff report supplement, staff will seek Board of Directors authorization for the General Manager/Chief Executive Officer (GM/CEO), or his designee, to negotiate and execute with the MTA an agreement governing future ownership and operational responsibility for the Takoma Langley Crossroads Transit Center. Following approval of this action the next steps are as follows:

- July 2015 - Conduct public hearing
- August 2015 - Negotiate/execute an agreement for lease and operation of the facility with MTA
- September 2015 - Obtain Board:
 - Approval of Public Hearing Staff Report
 - Adoption of facility into WMATA's Adopted Regional System
 - Establishment of reimbursable project
- Fall 2015 - Opening of Takoma Langley Crossroads Transit Center

FUNDING IMPACT:

The costs associated with holding the public hearing are included in the existing FY2015 budget, so there is no immediate impact on funding. Should a future agreement on lease and operation of the facility be executed, approximately \$1.06 million would be required annually starting in FY2016 to operate and maintain the facility. These costs would be covered through a reimbursable project agreement with the State of Maryland.	
Project Manager:	James Hamre
Project Department/Office:	BPLN

TIMELINE:

Previous Actions	<p>June 2005 – WMATA Board approval of Resolution 2005-22, that allocated \$6,744,320 of WMATA TIIF to the State of Maryland for the Takoma Langley Crossroads Transit Center</p> <p>2009 – Transit center project fully funded under FTA TIGER grant and environmental clearance achieved (CE)</p> <p>September 2013 – Transit center construction begins</p>
Anticipated actions after presentation	<p>July 2015 – Public hearing to be held</p> <p>August 2015 – Negotiate with MTA an agreement for lease and operations of facility</p> <p>September 2015 - Request Board approval of Public Hearing Staff Report, adoption of facility into WMATA's Adopted Regional System, execution of lease and operating agreement with MTA and establishment of reimbursable project</p> <p>Fall 2015 – Anticipated public opening of the transit center</p>

RECOMMENDATION:

Board authorization for a Compact Public Hearing to consider adding the Takoma Langley Crossroads Transit Center to WMATA's Adopted Regional System, as well as enter negotiations with MTA and execute an agreement regarding future operations and ownership of the transit center.



Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

Takoma Langley Crossroads Transit Center Public Hearing

Customer Service and Operations Committee
May 14, 2015



Purpose

- Authorization for Public Hearing to add transit center to WMATA's Adopted Regional System
- Approval and authorization to enter negotiations with the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) and execute an agreement regarding future operations and ownership

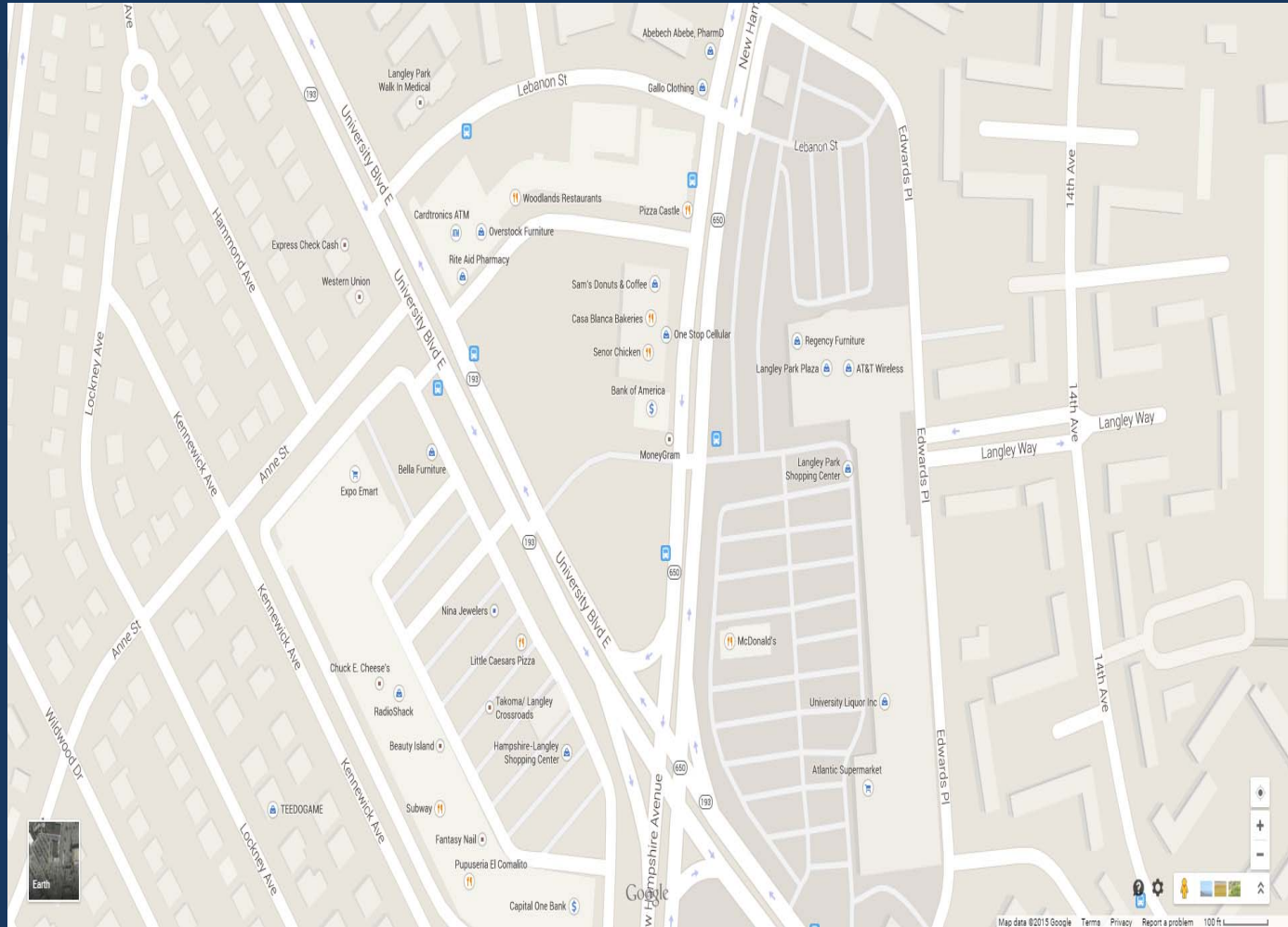


Benefits of this Facility

- Provide a safe/convenient principal transfer location between:
 - Metrobus
 - Prince George's County's The Bus
 - Montgomery County's Ride-On
 - Future Purple Line
- Improve pedestrian safety and access
- Protect and improve the lives of people



Takoma/ Langley Crossroads Transit Center Location





Background

- Board Resolution #2005-22 allocated \$6.7M for design
- MTA awarded TIGER grant to complete design and construction
- Facility completion projected Fall 2015
- Categorical Exclusion approved in accordance with National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
- WMATA will update environmental assessment



Recommendation

- Authorization for Public Hearing to add transit center to the Adopted Regional System
- Approval and authorization to enter negotiations with the MTA and execute an agreement regarding future operations and ownership



Next Steps

- July 2015 - Public Hearing
- August 2015 – Negotiate an agreement for lease and operations of facility
- September 2015
 - Approval Public hearing Staff Report
 - Adoption of facility into Adopted Regional System
 - Execution of lease and operating agreement with MTA
 - Establish a reimbursable project
- Fall 2015 – Opening of facility

SUBJECT: APPROVAL TO CONDUCT A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE TAKOMA LANGLEY CROSSROADS TRANSIT CENTER

RESOLUTION
OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE
WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, The Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) has nearly completed construction of a transit center located at University Boulevard and New Hampshire Avenue in Prince George's County, Maryland (the "Takoma Langley Crossroads Transit Center"); and

WHEREAS, Metrobus provides service adjacent to the site of the Takoma Langley Crossroads Transit Center on two priority corridor Metrobus lines; and

WHEREAS, Metrobus has a significant amount of transfer activity between Prince George's County's The Bus, and Montgomery County's RIDE-ON services at this location and moving this activity off-street will help improve pedestrian safety in the area; and

WHEREAS, The Takoma Langley Crossroads Transit Center is designed to fulfill WMATA's goals of delivering quality service to customers, and enhancing mobility by improving access to and linkages between transportation options; and

WHEREAS, The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) has previously committed \$6.7 million to the design of the Takoma Langley Crossroads Transit Center through previous actions; and

WHEREAS, The intent of MTA is for WMATA to lease and operate the Takoma Langley Crossroads Transit Center upon completion; and

WHEREAS, In order for WMATA to lease and operate the Takoma Langley Crossroads Transit Center, the Transit Center would need to be added to the Adopted Regional System, for which the WMATA Compact requires a public hearing; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That, in accordance with Sections 13-15 of the WMATA Compact, the Board of Directors authorizes the conduct of a public hearing on the Takoma Langley Crossroads Transit Center; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the General Manager/Chief Executive Officer (GM/CEO), in coordination with the Board of Directors, will establish the date, time and location of the hearing on the Takoma Langley Crossroads Transit Center; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors authorizes the GM/CEO to release the Public Hearing Staff Report regarding the Takoma Langley Crossroads Transit Center for public comment, as soon as the Staff Report is available, subject to later submission of the Staff Report Supplement, with final staff recommendations to the Board for its approval. All Board members will receive the Staff Report concurrently with its release for public review; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That this Resolution shall be effective 30 days after the adoption of this Resolution.

Reviewed as to form and legal sufficiency,



Mark R. Pohl
Acting General Counsel

WMATA File Structure Nos.:

12.7.2 Master Plans/Mass Transit Plan (including transit zone modifications)

18.8 Public Hearings & Meetings