

Minutes
Planning, Development and Real Estate Committee
May 22, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 9:20 a.m. Present were:

Committee members:

Mrs. Catherine Hudgins, Chair
Mr. Emeka Moneme, Vice Chair
Mr. Christopher Zimmerman
Mr. Peter Benjamin
Ms. Elizabeth Hewlett
Mr. Jeff McKay
Mr. Marcell Solomon

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved.

Information Item

A. Bus Priority Corridor Plan

The Regional Bus Priority Corridor Plan was presented to provide an integrated, multi-year program to improve bus services throughout the region and to discuss the associated Board policy and implementation considerations. The Plan reflects a strategy for improving bus service travel times, reliability, capacity, productivity and system access. The included service and capital projects would constitute a six-year implementation program affecting 24 corridors across the region and impacting half of all bus riders in the current Metrobus system. A focus on priority corridors would benefit the most riders in the shortest time frame; improve customer service, reliability, quality and performance; build transit markets; and, influence development patterns.

Acknowledgments were made on the thoroughness of the presentation, and the recognition of the demand for Metro Rapid Service. The presentation conveyed that Metro is a transit organization and that transit is not just rail. The Bus Study Plan had been presented to the Jurisdictional Coordinating Committee (JCC) and it was suggested that additional growth corridors be incorporated. Individual meetings have been held with the three heads of the Departments of Transportation in the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia to discuss the concept. Some of the jurisdictions have appointed staff to work with WMATA.

Follow-up Items:

- Review proposal with the Riders Advisory Council, the Jurisdictional Coordinating Committee and the public.
- Prepare final Bus Priority Corridor Program to reflect stakeholder and public comments.
- Request Board accept the Bus Network Evaluation findings, approve the annual implementation of the bus service recommendations, and authorize initiation of the capital projects.
- Develop a vocabulary or way of representing the level of bus service to create a better picture of the network.

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.