



Notice of Public Hearing

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

Docket R17-02: Proposed Changes to WMATA Facilities at Bethesda, Silver Spring, and New Carrollton Metro Stations

Purpose

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority on the docket mentioned above as follows:

Hearing No. 616
Tuesday, December 5, 2017
Metro Headquarters Building
600 Fifth Street NW
Washington, DC 20001

Open House at 5:30 p.m.

Public Hearing at 6 p.m.

**Please note that this date is subject to the facility's cancellation policy.
In the event of a cancellation, Metro will post information about the new hearing on wmata.com.**

The locations for all public hearings are wheelchair accessible. Any individual who requires special assistance such as a sign language interpreter or additional accommodation to participate in the public hearing, or who requires these materials in an alternate format, should contact Danise Peña at 202-962-2511 or TTY: 202-962-2033 as soon as possible in order for Metro to make necessary arrangements. For language assistance, such as an interpreter or information in another language, please call 202-962-2582 as soon as possible prior to the public hearing date.

For more information please visit www.wmata.com/initiatives



PURPOSE OF THE PUBLIC HEARING – Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) to propose amending its Mass Transit Plan. The Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) is in the process of constructing the Purple Line, a 16-mile light rail line that will extend from Bethesda in Montgomery County to New Carrollton in Prince George’s County. The current project includes planned alterations to three transit facilities operated by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA): Bethesda, Silver Spring and New Carrollton, which are described here:

At Bethesda Metrorail Station, a mezzanine and new south entrance will be constructed. The south entrance will connect to the Purple Line Bethesda station and to street level.

At Silver Spring Metrorail Station, a new entrance from the south end of the station platform will be constructed. The entrance will connect with the upper level of the existing Silver Spring Transit Center and the Silver Spring Purple Line station.

At New Carrollton Metrorail Station, 500-600 parking spaces from the Park & Ride Surface Lot 4 on the station’s north side will be removed to make way for the New Carrollton Purple Line station facilities. The State of Maryland plans to transfer approximately 480 parking spaces to WMATA; this state-owned Park & Ride Lot is located on the south side of New Carrollton Metrorail station.

WMATA COMPACT REQUIREMENTS – WMATA’s Compact requires the Board, in amending the mass transit plan, to consider data with respect to current and prospective conditions in the Transit Zone (which includes Montgomery and Prince George’s County, Maryland), including, without limitation, land use, population, economic factors affecting development plans, existing and proposed transportation and transit facilities, any dislocation of families or businesses; preservation of the beauty and dignity of the DC Metro Area; and factors affecting environmental amenities and aesthetics and financial resources. The mass transit plan encompasses, among other things, transit facilities to be provided by WMATA, including stations and parking facilities, and the character, nature, design, location and capital and operating cost thereof. The mass transit plan, in addition to designating the design and location of transit facilities, also provides for capital and operating expenses, as well as “various other factors and considerations, which, in the opinion of the Board, justify and require the projects therein proposed” all as more particularly set forth in WMATA’s Compact.

INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC – The docket includes the proposed General Plans and this notice, which describes the proposed action. The docket is available online at www.wmata.com/initiatives. In addition, the docket is available for inspection at the following locations:

Glenarden Library
8724 Glenarden Pkwy
Glenarden, MD
301-772-5477

Little Falls Library
5501 Massachusetts Ave
Bethesda, MD
240-773-9520

Silver Spring Library
900 Wayne Ave
Silver Spring, MD
240-773-9420

WMATA's Headquarters
600 Fifth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
202-962-2511

(Available during normal business hours; please call in advance to coordinate)

The work and changes to these stations depicted in this information package constitute the proposed amendments to the mass transit plan for purposes of the WMATA Compact.

HOW TO REGISTER TO SPEAK – All organizations or individuals desiring to be heard with respect to the proposed amendment to the mass transit plan as it relates to the Stations will be afforded the opportunity to present their views, make supporting statements and offer alternative proposals. In order to establish a witness list, individuals and representatives of organizations who wish to be heard at this public hearing are requested to furnish in writing their name and organizational affiliation, if any, via email to speak@wmata.com. The request may also be mailed to the Office of the Secretary, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, 600 Fifth Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20001, or can be made by calling 202-962-2511. Please submit only one speaker's name per letter. Lists of individual speakers will not be accepted. Please note that all comments received are releasable to the public upon request, and may be posted on WMATA's website, without change, including any personal information provided. Public officials will be heard first and will be allowed five minutes each to make comments. All others will be allowed three minutes each. Relinquishing of time by one speaker to another will not be permitted.

HOW TO SUBMIT TESTIMONY NOT AT THE PUBLIC HEARING – Testimony may be submitted via a comment form on the proposal, found at wmata.com/initiatives. The comment form will open by 9 a.m. on Saturday, November 4, 2017 and will close on Friday, December 15, 2017 at 5 p.m. It will provide the opportunity to submit freeform comments and provide attachments. This option is in addition to your ability to speak at the public hearing. For those without access to computers or internet, testimony may also be mailed to the Office of the Secretary, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, 600 Fifth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001. All comments must be received by the Office of the Secretary by 5 p.m. on Friday, December 15, 2017 to be included in the public record. The comments received by the Office of the Secretary, along with the comment form results and public hearing comments, will be presented to the Board and will be part of the official public hearing record. Please note all comments are releasable to the public upon request, and may be posted on WMATA's website, without change, including any personal information provided.