



HOWARD COUNTY OFFICE OF TRANSPORTATION

3430 Court House Drive ■ Ellicott City, Maryland 21043 ■ 410-313-0702

Chris Eatough, Acting Administrator

ceatough@howardcountymd.gov

FAX 410-313-1655

TDD 410-313-2323

TRANSIT AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY GROUP (TPAG) MINUTES

September 20, 2018 4:00 p.m.

Members Present: Astamay Curtis
Marian Vessels
Jackie Eng
Bob McLaughlin
David Ramsey
Jeff Specht
Hannah Witkin
Jen Terrasa
Marlene Hendler

Staff: Clive Graham, Office of Transportation
Rashidi Jackson, Office of Transportation
Jason Quan, Office of Transportation

1. **Public Comment** (minute :01)

There was no public comment.

2. **Announcements** (minute :01)

- **Bus Updates:** (minute :01) Clive Graham announced the arrival of six new transit buses, two of which are now in service. There are a total of 13 new buses this year. Jason Quan added that two more are expected next year.
- **Statewide Transit Innovation Grant:** (minute :05) Clive stated that the OoT has received a \$50,000 grant from the State to buy a program to display bus tickets on mobile devices.

3. **Approval of the July 10, 2018 Minutes** (minute :10)

Bob McLaughlin moved to approve the minutes of the July 10, 2018 meeting, Councilwoman Terrasa seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

4. **Old Business** (minute :11)

- **Bus stop improvements update** (minute :12): Jason Quan announced that 66 bus stop improvements have been completed, 20 bus stops are in process of improvements and an

additional 20 are being evaluated for improvement. Jason went on to explain the different types of improvements.

Marlene Hendler expressed concerns about bus drivers not stopping in front of the ramps or shelters. Jason Quan brought up the idea of requesting the RTA training policy to see if any changes need to be made.

Bob McLaughlin asked if there is going to be a way to get the master plan funded rather than asking for the money every year? Jason said there is money in the budget for this fiscal year. Clive added that the capital project goes until 2028.

Astamy Curtis asked if there was ever a consideration to post “no smoking” signs in the bus shelters. It was agreed that research needs to be done.

5. **New Business** (minute :40)

Clive stated there was no new business but asked if the board wanted to meet before the public hearing for the RTA proposed fixed route changes in December or have the board meet in January. The board decided to meet in January.

Councilwoman Terrasa asked if the TPAG was going to have input on recommendations to the county executive regarding the capital & operating budget? Clive believed that the TPAG would be informed and that they could testify at the hearings that will take place in the Spring.

Jason Quan stated OoT will hopefully be able to present the bus stop improvement prioritization plan in January’s meeting. Jason discussed the shelter installation criteria. Astamay asked if there was a national guideline to be followed. Jason said no. As a request from a member, Jason explained the primary goal of a knee wall which prevents people, especially in wheelchairs, from accidentally rolling off the landing plan.

Jen Terrasa expressed concerns with the bus stop next to Hammond High School. Jason said they will look into it.

Clive stated that the Transit Development Plan (TDP) public hearing is tentatively scheduled for December 11th but the date needs to be run by the RTA commission. Clive also announced that the paratransit group has meet once and Jason believes the next meeting is scheduled for Oct 17th. A member asked if OoT will be reporting what is happening in the paratransit group to the TPAG group. Clive said there was not time today, but will happen in January’s meeting.

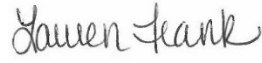
6. **Adjournment** (minute :56)

The meeting was adjourned at 4:56 pm. The next Transportation and Pedestrian Advisory Group meeting is scheduled for **February 12 at 2:00 pm.**



1/25/19

Jason Quan Date
Executive Secretary



1/25/19

Lauren Frank Date