

**Transportation Services Advisory Council**  
**Minutes of April 16, 2021 Meeting**  
**Via Web Ex**

**Members/Ex-Officio Present:** Jaime McKay, Tim Davis, Maria Lorenzana-Castro, Alan Feinberg, Councilman Steve McKay, Alderman Kelly Russell, David Edmondson, Carol Sepe, and Roman Steichen.

**Staff and Guests:** Denila Deliallisi, Jon Mayer, Kandese Holford, Darren Bean, Denis Superczynski, Shayne Boucher, Mark Mishler, Monica Bearden, Joey Celtnieks, Scott Hegelson, Dan Hardy, Emilee Blackburn, Joe Ortega, Kendall Tiffany, and Sandy Ruark.

**Call to Order:** Jaime McKay called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Jaime mentioned that TSAC will be voting on potential new members in a Closed Session and requested that voting members remain in the meeting in order to maintain a quorum.

**Introductions:** Attendees confirmed their attendance in the meeting.

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from the January meeting were approved as presented.

**Elected Officials Report:** Alderman Russell reported that the City of Frederick Comprehensive Plan was approved by the Board of Alderman at its recent meeting. Alderman Russell urged everyone to review the approved plan.

Alderman Russell also reported that The City of Frederick has begun working on a streetscape study with the Downtown Partnership. Work includes conducting a survey of businesses and pedestrians to determine how pedestrians can better interact with businesses in the area.

Alderman Russell reported that the comment period on the National Capital Region's Visualize 2045 plan is open until May 3<sup>rd</sup>. The plan can be found at Visualize2045.org.

Alderman Russell also reported that The City of Frederick is conducting a series of budget hearings at 9:00 am and 1:00 pm on May 26<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> and 7:00 pm on May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Councilman McKay reported that the County Council has received the FY22 budget and is conducting a public hearing on the proposed budget on Tuesday, April 20, 2021, at 6:00 pm.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:**

**Mobility Fee District Proposal for Downtown Frederick:** Scott Hegelson presented a slideshow on the Mobility Fee District Proposal. The goal of study is to redirect resources from conducting studies to improve development review, generate funds for approximately \$9 million of needed multimodal projects to accommodate growth, promote private sector investments in downtown, and to enhance public-private partnerships in downtown. Highlights of the presentation included:

- Mobility Fee Purpose/Objectives

- Summary of Study Process
- Mobility Fee Approach
- Staff Findings
- Mayor/Board of Alderman Dialogue
- Next Steps

The presentation can be viewed in its entirety at:

<https://www.frederickcountymd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/331585/202103-Context-Driven-Update>.

**Frederick County Transit Development Plan Update:** Joey Celtnieks reviewed Technical Memo #2 that was presented at January's TSAC meeting. Technical Memo #2 addressed existing transit services as well as TransIT Services of Frederick County and its ridership. Currently, KFH is reviewing alternatives to existing transportation options and is also conducting a comparison between 2019 and 2020 to show the impact the pandemic had on ridership and funding.

Technical Memo #3 will include a community and rider survey for inclusion in the final TDP.

The entire slideshow can be viewed at:

<https://www.frederickcountymd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/331907/Frederick-TransIT-TDP-TSAC-Meeting-4-16-21>.

**Planning Commission Update:** Carol Sepe reported that the Planning Division is currently working on small area plans and invited Denis Supercynski to provide additional details. Denis reported that the charrette process for the South Frederick Corridor has just been completed. The County is now looking at ways to integrate local transit and bicycle/pedestrian connections. Work will now begin on creating a planning document this spring.

**Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) Update:** Jaime McKay provided updates on several MTA items:

- MARC Train and Commuter Bus are operating on R&S Schedules respectively and will continue to do so for the time being.
- The evolution of TIGER and BUILD grants from USDOT continues with the newest funding source named Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE). There is an effort to award projects across both rural and urban areas more equitably with at least \$10 million to areas of persistent poverty. MDOT is actively identifying funding sources for local agencies.
- MTA is currently working with Potomac Edison to install more electric vehicle charging stations at select MARC and Park & Ride facilities.

**SHA Update:** Darren Bean provided an update on a couple Frederick County projects:

- MD 85 Phase I – Work is 72% complete. Overnight water and storm drain work continues at exit ramps. Guardrails are being installed on the south side of the northbound I-270 bridge.
- US 15 Mt. Zion Park & Ride – Construction has begun in March with anticipated completion in the summer of 2022.

**FCPS Update:** Fred Punturiero not present; no report.

**Ft. Detrick Update:** Wilfred Plumley not present; no report.

**MML Update:** Councilman Ripley was not present; however, he provided an update via email on Highway User Revenue. Vaughn reported that the restoration of the Highway User Revenue bills did not pass by the deadline of midnight on April 12, 2021. Senate Bill 362 (also House Bill 649) proposed to strip the FY2024 sunset provision and increase the Highway User Revenue funding back to pre-2009 levels. The Senate version was amended to remove the funding increase but maintain the removal of the sunset provision. Neither version passed. Vaughn remains hopeful the measure will be passed next year.

**TransIT Update:** Roman Steichen reported:

- TransIT's Deputy Director position is now posted on the County website and closes on April 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Carrie Anderson-Watters announced her retirement from TransIT Services. Her last day at TransIT Services will be April 23, 2021.
- A bus shelter will be installed in North Frederick at Riverside and River Run. A donated shelter from Taney Village will be used and TransIT is awaiting approval from MTA to complete the installation.
- Roman is currently in discussion with the City of Frederick to provide an election shuttle to the voting center on New Design Road for the primary and general elections this fall.
- The TransIT facility renovation work is ongoing with anticipated completion in mid-late fall 2021.
- Two new diesel buses will be purchased in the coming year.
- Driver barriers have been installed in 80% of the fleet.
- TransIT continues to operate with COVID-19 protocols in place, including zero fares. TransIT anticipates to begin charging fares on July 1, 2021.
- Ridership is currently at 70% of pre-pandemic levels.

Next Meeting: The next TSAC Meeting will be July 16, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. via Web Ex.

**Adjourn** - The meeting adjourned at 11:03 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,



Administrative Coordinator