



**College Park CAT Meeting #7
Online presentation – November 10, 2020
Questions & Responses**

Below is the list of questions and responses discussed during the November 10, 2020, online CAT presentation.

Question: Do you expect any portions of the project design to change now that the P3 agreement has ended?

Response: The status of the P3 agreement is in dispute and a part of pending litigation. Regardless of the outcome of litigation, the Purple Line does not expect any design changes.

Question: Is it possible to accelerate completion of certain infrastructure in and around the project that is disruptive to the community?

Response: The state is evaluating construction across the alignment, including areas of local community priority. MDOT MTA is actively working with design, construction and manufacturing contractors to keep the project moving forward. Our focus is on completing the design, permitting and unfinished work such as paving, stormwater drainage and other utility projects now underway along the Purple Line corridor. We remain committed to working with the community and local businesses to collaborate and find opportunities to minimize impacts to the best of our ability. If the state is able to reasonably advance work beyond utilities using the available pool of contractors, the state will do so.

Question: What new general timelines can we expect for completion of various aspects of the project from what PLTC planned?

Response: The state will manage Purple Line construction until a new design-build contractor is on board. We do not yet have a new timeline.

Question: Is there a contingency plan for if funding runs out to finish the project? How would the work sites be closed down/restored so they don't remain an open sore in our community?

Response: The state fully intends to complete the Purple Line project.

Question: What is the prospect for seeking additional federal assistance, should there be a change in executive leadership at the federal level?

Response: Federal participation in the Purple Line project includes a \$900 million Full Funding Grant Agreement (FFGA) and access to Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) loans. The state is not anticipating additional federal assistance for the Purple Line project.

Question: Will the short-term construction of the bus loop allow for full drop-off and pick-up of passengers on the east side of the Metro station? When is that expected to be finished?

Response: Following construction of the underground work such as storm drain installation and the construction of walls at the College Park-UMD Metro bus loop, "flat work" -- that is, the curb, gutter, sidewalks, railings, and fencing -- remains to be completed before the loop can be reopened. If we can undertake that work in the near future, we will do so. We are very interested in being able to open the bus loop as soon as possible if conditions permit us to achieve that level of progress.

Question: When will Campus Drive be finished?

Response: Campus Drive is a long stretch of road, essentially the entire alignment through the University of Maryland. We are committed in the short-term to work on the underground utilities -- steam and electrical utilities -- on the campus portion of the roadway. Closer to the bus loop, we are working on the underpass in order to remove lane constrictions; however, we do not know, at this time, when we will be able to bring all of Campus Drive to full embedded track and complete its status. We will most likely need our new design-build contractor onboard to take that work to its completion.

Question: How is the project protecting workers in terms of COVID 19?

Response: We are following CDC guidelines and mandating proper protective gear for all our workers and encouraging social distancing as much as possible. We are working diligently to keep them all safe. The contractors are taking additional protective measures such as reducing occupancy in vehicles as they move around the facilities or construction sites, and they are just as concerned about their workers as the workers are concerned about themselves.

Question: What is the schedule for further down River Road from UMD-College Park Station including signal and crossing at River Tech Court?

Response: The detailed schedule is still being developed with this level of information. Where River Road connects with Kenilworth Avenue, we are doing utility relocations as well as much needed milling and paving down Kenilworth Avenue.

Question: Can the light pollution from the huge lights on River Road be reduced while construction is paused?

Response: Yes, if we have construction lighting that is up and being directed in ways that are affecting residences or businesses when we are not doing construction, please let us know the details so we can address it. Reach out to outreach@purplelinemd.com.

Question: What is the status of the settlement negotiations?

Response: Settlement negotiations are confidential, but they are currently continuing. Lenders have provided an extension of the forbearance agreement, essentially giving the Concessionaire PLTP access to capital so they can continue to function. We are using the current period to talk with PLTP daily. These discussions are taking place at the Secretary's and Administrator's levels, and we remain hopeful that there is a fair and reasonable settlement out there.