



**Long Branch CAT Meeting**  
**Oak View Elementary - 400 East Wayne Avenue**  
**Silver Spring, MD 20901**  
**January 24, 2018**

### **Traffic Issues**

**COMMENT: The left turn signal from Flower on to Piney Branch Road needs to be a little longer to accommodate the queue of cars. Also, the length of the pedestrian phase is too short.**

RESPONSE: Because these roads are both state highways this issue is the purview of the Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA). We will inform SHA of this concern, and the SHA website has a link to a form for service requests: [http://marylandsha.force.com/customer-care/request\\_for\\_service](http://marylandsha.force.com/customer-care/request_for_service).

**COMMENT: People have always used Bradford Road from Wayne Avenue as a short cut to avoid the light at Flower Avenue and Wayne Avenue. Since the construction started this has become a much bigger problem. The combination of increased cut-through traffic and construction vehicles has created an unsafe condition for the children in the area, particularly when they are waiting for the school buses which also use this street. What can be done to improve this situation?**

RESPONSE: Since these are county streets, the Purple Line Team will work with Montgomery County Department of Transportation to identify possible ways to address these problems. Contact the Montgomery County Department of Transportation about requests for changes to signage or street closures. Their email address is [MCDOT.trafficops@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:MCDOT.trafficops@montgomerycountymd.gov).

**QUESTION: There is a problem with cut-through traffic using Plymouth Street and Walden Road. This traffic often ignores the stop sign and is often speeding. Could a speed camera be installed? Are there other solutions that could be used? Could the intersection of Walden and Arliss be closed?**

RESPONSE: Since these are county streets, this is a county issue. Please contact the Montgomery County Department of Transportation about requests for changes to signage or street closures. Their email address is [MCDOT.trafficops@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:MCDOT.trafficops@montgomerycountymd.gov). Enforcement is the responsibility of Montgomery County police. This area is the 3<sup>rd</sup> District. The contact information for the Community Services Officer is 240-773-6817 or 240-773-6818, and [Community.3D@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:Community.3D@montgomerycountymd.gov). Safe Speed is the county's automated speed enforcement program, which enforces speed limits in residential areas and school zones.

## **Construction Issues**

**QUESTION: The utility companies working on Plymouth Avenue ..... parking, traffic, “abuse” of residents**

RESPONSE: PLTC has addressed all of these issues and met with residents in this area to discuss further on 03/14. There is an area that the construction team is allowed to occupy for utility work outside of the fencing closure. That utility work will wrap up in the next 6 weeks and then PLTC will only work inside of the fencing closure on Plymouth. PLTC vehicles will still access the fencing closure via Plymouth but should not be parking on the streets after this time.

**COMMENT: Residents of the Oakview Neighborhood have experienced vibration, and some have seen cracks developing in their walls and ceilings. When will these residents receive copies of the pre-construction surveys that were taken at their homes? They have made repeated requests for this information. What is the process for addressing the concerns of these residents? When will the vibration monitors be installed?**

RESPONSE: *Pre-Construction Surveys* - Purple Line Transit Partners has recently received some completed preconstruction survey reports to share with residents of the Oakview Neighborhood and in other areas near the Plymouth Tunnel. Please note that these surveys are being conducted along the entire 16 miles of the Purple Line, and surveys will be completed before digging the tunnel begins near the end of March. *Vibration Monitors* – Just to clarify, vibration monitors are not going to be installed on every property that was surveyed. The monitors are placed along the tunnel alignment area being excavated and in close proximity to the digging area. This might include some residential properties. Monitors are set up in a network array to provide information to the engineers regarding the vibrations coming from the work and are moved along the construction line as work proceeds.

**COMMENT: How will local residents and businesses be notified of any utility outages? Many residents do not have email or cell phones.**

RESPONSE: The Purple Line Project Technical Provisions requires at least 72 hours advance notice for any planned utility outages. Advance notification will be carried out by the individual utility companies in coordination with PLTP. Electric lines are often relocated “live” (without turning the power off) so there is usually no interruption of service.

**COMMENT: How and when (what time of day) will the dirt and rock from the tunnel be removed? Where will it be taken?**

RESPONSE: The trucks removing the soil and rocks will operate during the day, between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. They will travel south on Flower to Piney Branch Road, then east to University Boulevard, then north to the Beltway. They are not permitted to use Flower Avenue north of Wayne Avenue.

**QUESTION: Will the water line under University Boulevard be replaced as part of the Purple Line? It has broken repeatedly.**

RESPONSE: The water line will be replaced some time during the spring/summer 2018.

**QUESTION: What are soldier piles? And how will the soldier piles be installed?**

RESPONSE: Soldier piles are vertical piles used as part of retaining walls. The soldier piles for this project (as part of the tunnel construction) will be installed by drilling a hole with an auger and inserting the pile into the hole. This is a much less impactful method than driving the piles into the ground.

### **Design Questions**

**COMMENT: Will there be median fencing along Piney Branch Road to prevent people from crossing mid-block?**

RESPONSE: There is no median fencing along Piney Branch Road. Fencing is provided, as needed, in the station areas to direct pedestrians to station access points by using marked cross walks.

**COMMENT: Where will crosswalks be provided on University Boulevard?**

RESPONSE: Crosswalks will be provided at all existing signalized intersections which will be reconstructed and include pedestrian count down signals. Cross walks will also be provided at a number of new signalized intersections that will be built as part of the Purple Line project. These new signalized intersections along University Blvd. will be located at: Seek Lane, Merrimac Drive, 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Guilford Rd., and 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

### **General**

**COMMENT: Will there be signs to tell people that the businesses at Piney Branch Road and Arliss Street are open for business during construction?**

RESPONSE: Yes, and access to the business will always be provided.

**COMMENT: Please invite the utility companies to attend the CAT meetings.**

RESPONSE: We can certainly invite them, but we cannot promise they will attend.