**Purple Line and Capital Crescent Trail Construction to Necessitate Temporary Bus Stop Location Changes in Response to Road Disruptions Around Silver Spring Transit Center Starting Sunday, Jan. 5**

Event:Orientation and Mobility assistance provided to pedestrians who are blind and visually impaired. Orientation and Mobility specialists will offer appropriate guidance for navigating the temporary bus and pedestrian changes. Prior to January 11th, and a few days following January 11th, there will be additional County staff stationed around the Silver Spring Transit Center/ Metro Station to help direct people to the locations of the temporary bus stops.

Who: This event is for pedestrians who are blind or visually impaired, and is an orientation of the bus stop changes in Silver Spring

When: January 11, 2020 from 10am – 1pm Please arrive early, as we will walk away from the station at 10 am

Where to Meet: We will start and end at the Silver Spring Metro Station, south entrance in downtown Silver Spring. Metro access drop off remains unchanged; if traveling by Metro, please use the red line, Silver Spring Station.

RSVP: to Marybeth Cleveland, O&M Specialist at mbcleveland@fastmail.net, subject line JANUARY 11 or call 301-412-4224.

**Why attend on January 11th?**

You will have dedicated O&M Specialists available on-site to highlight the temporary bus stop locations and pedestrian detours, indicate the best routes around construction, and highlight signage location.

The walk will be a generalized orientation but will include ways to make the temporary bus locations easier to recognize. It will also include orientation to unusual, unique or more difficult to identify areas. Although, sighted participants are available for assistance on the walk, blind participants are expected to use safe O&M skills.

Once you RSVP, you will be sent an electronic “preview” of the walking directions to the temporary stops. Please it look over to find what is relevant to you before January 11th and to be more familiar with the area. These directions will be updated after the walk to make them clearer if necessary.

**Which bus routes and bus stops will be temporarily affected?**

The Purple Line and Capital Crescent Trail are on their way, but construction of the 16-mile east-west light rail line that will connect the Bethesda and New Carrollton Metro stations will necessitate temporary bus route modifications in response to construction in and around the Paul S. Sarbanes Transit Center in downtown Silver Spring. Starting Sunday, January 5, those temporary changes will impact some Ride On bus passengers.

Several Ride On bus stops in the transit center will be temporarily relocated to the street to safely accommodate Purple Line work, which is expected to continue in this area through spring. Temporary bus stop locations will be along northbound Colesville Road (between Wayne Avenue and Georgia Avenue), on the second floor of the transit center, and on East-West Highway and Colesville Road.

Ride On routes that will be affected by the changes include 1, 2, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 21, 22, 28 and 129.

Detailed maps showing pedestrian detours and temporary Ride On bus stop locations can be viewed at https://bit.ly/2PB4RaL (Transit Center map) and https://bit.ly/2LHXZHq (area street map). Some Ride On bus stops will be temporarily eliminated. These locations can be viewed at https://bit.ly/2siJcw2.

Ride On routes that will have schedule changes include the 2, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, and 22.

During the opening weeks of the temporary bus route modifications, there will be additional personnel stationed around the transit center to help direct Ride On users to and from the bus stops and the transit center. There also will be updated signage and maps placed around the center and available in the TRiPS transit services store on the second level.

Google Map bus stop locations and directions will be updated on January 5th to reflect the temporary changes.

For information on changes to Metrobus in and around the transit center, go to https://www.wmata.com.

For more information about planned road closures and general project information for the Purple Line and metropolitan branch trail, go to www.purplelinemd.com. Construction updates are available directly at https://purplelinemd.com/construction/construction-updates.

These temporary modifications are necessary while the Purple Line construction team builds the Purple Line and Capital Crescent Trail bridges across Colesville Road.

The Purple Line will provide a direct connection to the Metrorail Red, Green and Orange Lines. It also will connect to MARC, Amtrak and local bus services.

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