

Past CAC Meeting Topics (2015-2017)

Meeting 1: February 2015

- Introductions
- CAC roles and ground rules
- Map Exercise: How do CAC members use transit? How can BRT improve the corridor?

Meeting 2: April 2015

- Review of ground rules
- Local planning process
 - Functional Master Plan
 - BRT Corridor Study
- Project development timeline
 - Schedule and milestones
 - Preview of future CAC meeting topics
- Existing Conditions
 - Land use and proposed development
 - Existing commute patterns
 - Existing transit service
 - Existing roadway features
 - Environmental resources
- BRT Corridor Study process
 - Purpose and need
- Roundup of community feedback
- Categories of transportation needs
 - Connectivity
 - Livability
 - Mobility
 - Transit Appeal
- Needs, Values, Concerns exercise

Meeting 3: June 2015

- Project updates
 - BRT Corridor Study
 - Open Houses
- Regional Demand Projections
 - Population
 - Employment
 - Travel patterns
 - Transit ridership
- Traffic Operations

- Existing traffic volumes
 - Projected no-build level of service
 - Average vehicle speed and travel time
 - Traffic safety
- Draft purpose and need language
- BRT right-of-way options
 - BRT in Mixed Traffic
 - BRT Queue Jump Lanes
 - One-Way, Reversible, Dedicated BRT Lane
 - Bi-directional, Dedicated BRT Lane
 - Dedicated BRT Median Lanes
 - Dedicated BRT Curb Lanes

Meeting 4: August 2015

- Ridership Forecasts
 - Why a process?
 - Why forecasts?
 - The process
- Existing and historical traffic volumes on 355
- Regional travel demand model and forecasts
 - Four-step model
 - Inputs and assumptions
 - Outputs: Level of service, travel times, intersection delay

Meeting 5: December 2015

- Project management transfer from SHA to MTA
- Planning process update
 - Start of Conceptual Alternatives Development phase
 - End of this phase is Alternatives Retained for Detailed Study (ARDS) [Document title later changed to Conceptual Alternatives Report]
- Development of goals and objectives
 - Review of previous work on goals and objectives
 - Synthesis of CAC input into goals and objectives
 - Preliminary purpose and need update
- Conceptual alternative development process
 - Review of prior work
 - Components of conceptual alternative
 - Request for CAC member input

Open House – February 2016

- Draft Preliminary Purpose and Need Statement made available for public comment
- FAQ document distributed
 - Clarifies role of CACs
 - Describes additional opportunities for public input

- Explains travel forecasting
- Clarifies how transit operations and traffic operations are accounted for at this stage of the planning process

Meeting 6: March 2016

- Follow up on Draft Preliminary Purpose and Need document
- Preview of public open house
- Conceptual Alternatives Analysis
 - Response to CAC comments
 - Preliminary station location modifications
 - Preliminary station locations
 - Preliminary service plan
- Tabletop discussion:
 - Station locations
 - Service planning

Meeting 7: June 2016

- Public open houses summary
- Alternatives screening criteria
 - Selection process
 - Criteria
- Conceptual Alternatives Analysis
 - Running way
 - Challenging sections
 - Alternatives under consideration
 - Alternative 1: No build
 - Alternative 2: Transportation System Management
 - Alternatives 3A and 3B: dedicated median lane variations
 - Alternatives 4A and 4B: dedicated curb lane variations
 - Next steps
- Tabletop discussion:
 - Screening criteria
 - Running way alternatives

Meeting 8: October 2016

- Review of conceptual alternatives and alternatives screening process
 - Includes modifications made after release of Functional Master Plan
- Preliminary service plan
- Preliminary analysis of conceptual alternatives
 - Qualitative analysis: high, medium, and low rankings
 - Comparison of two different northern alignments
 - MD 355
 - Observation Drive
 - Comparison of two different southern termini

- Grosvenor
 - Bethesda
- Other major considerations:
 - Ridership differences
 - Effects of lane repurposing
 - Bi-directional lane operations
 - Median-running versus curb-running
- Tabletop discussion:
 - Findings of preliminary analysis
 - Transit ridership
 - Travel times
 - Throughput
 - Accessibility

Meeting 9: November 2016

- Review of conceptual alternatives
- Preliminary analysis of conceptual alternatives
 - Review of analysis presented at previous CAC meeting
 - Review of methodology
 - Major considerations:
 - Property impacts
 - Operational costs
 - Construction costs
- Breakout session:
 - Discussion of preliminary analysis
 - Input on improvements to BRT alternatives

Meeting 10: May 2017

- Public open house summary
 - Review of topics covered
 - Summary of feedback received
- Release of Conceptual Alternatives Report
 - Presentation of advanced alternatives
 - Review of selection and screening process
- Station Design
 - Goals
 - Best practices
 - Platform types
 - Amenities and features
- Next Steps
 - Transfer of project from MTA to MCDOT for Phase 2