

Riverdale Park CATs Questions & Responses 1/16/18

Question: Are there going to be sidewalks on the eastside of Kenilworth Ave?

Response: Yes, there will be continuous sidewalks on both sides of Kenilworth Avenue, from River Road to East West Highway. There will also be bike lanes.

Question: Will there be on-street parking on east side of Kenilworth Ave as it is today?

Response: North of Rittenhouse Street, there will no longer be on-street parking. South of Rittenhouse Street where the houses do not have driveways, on-street parking will remain.

Question: On Kenilworth Avenue, at what point does the transit way become elevated?

Response: The tracks will start to rise south of Rittenhouse Street.

Question: Will the gymnasium at St. Barnard remain?

Response: Yes. We come close to the gymnasium but do not displace it.

Question: Will there be sidewalks on both sides of the new 64th Ave?

Response: Yes, as well as on the realigned portion of Mustang Drive from Riverdale Road to Patterson Street.

Question: How many access points (driveways) to Eastpines Shopping Center?

Response: There will be three driveways to enter/exit the shopping center. The existing entrances from 66th Avenue and Patterson Street will remain, and a new entrance will be built from 67th Avenue. This new entrance will be at the location of the former Exxon gas station.

Question: Will construction take place at night?

Response: Yes, there will be occasional night work. This will be done to reduce traffic impacts during rush hours. Night shift work hours are 8pm – 4:30am, Monday – Friday.

Question: What are the landscaping plans for the area where the houses were demolished on Riverdale Road?

Response: At a future CAT meeting, the landscaping plans will be presented and discussed as the main topic.

Question: Do we anticipate outages during the utility relocations?

Response: Yes, but minimally. Utility outages require 72-hour public notification and are issued by the utility company.

Question: How will the right turn lanes on River Road on to Kenilworth Avenue work?

Response: The light rail will run along the south side of River Road. It will have its own signal phase to turn into the median of Kenilworth Avenue. Cars will have two right turn lanes from River Road on to Kenilworth Avenue (where there is only one today). At the intersection, there will still be three southbound lanes on Kenilworth Avenue. South of the the intersection the three lanes will merge down to two. MTA worked closely with SHA to determine the future needs for this road width and two southbound lanes will be sufficient.

Question: In operation, will there be a drop-off area/"Kiss & Ride" for each station?

Response: The four Purple Line stations that will have passenger loading/unloading areas are those located at existing Metro stations – New Carrollton, College Park, Silver Spring Transit Center and Bethesda. Passenger loading/unloading areas would cause greater impacts to the surrounding communities. It is anticipated that most Purple Line riders will walk, bike or use another form of transit to get to the stations.

Question: How will residents be able to identify Purple Line, construction and utility workers with in-person notifications?

Response: All Purple Line contractors/subcontractors are required to carry Purple Line badges while working on the project. Also, generally personnel accomplishing door-to-door notification will have information fliers describing Purple Line construction that includes the construction contact information. If a question ever arises about a Purple Line worker in your area, please call the Construction Hotline at 240-424-5325.

Question: How are the cul-de-sacs going to be phased in relative to the creation of the new access roads?

Response: The roads will not be closed until the replacements are built.

Question: When will the left turns be prohibited on to Kenilworth Avenue from Quintana Street and Quesada Road?

Response: Left turns in and from Quintana and Quesada Rd will be allowed until the implementation of the Phase 2 MOT of Kenilworth Road in approximately spring 2019. At that time left turns will be possible thru the Quesada Connector (opening at that time).

Question: Has the Purple Line Team studied the impact of increased traffic on 67th Avenue due to the closure of 67th Place and the changes to 66th Avenue? Has mitigation been identified?

Response: The project is adding both left turn and right turn lanes on MD 410 at 67th Avenue. As a result, the left turn restriction in the afternoon will be lifted. Today there is no place for cars entering the neighborhood to queue without blocking thru traffic. There will also be a left turn signal phase to accommodate the left turns into Beacon Heights. The traffic studies indicate that while there will be more traffic at the intersection of 67th Avenue and Patterson Street, the analysis does not show any capacity or congestion issues. The projected intersection operation will remain comparable to existing and well within the acceptable range prescribed by both Prince Georges County and the Maryland State Highway Administration.

Question: Where will the construction staging areas be located?

Response: Staging for this segment of the Purple Line will be at the following four locations:

- o The former Shell Station at Kenilworth Avenue and MD 410
- An undeveloped parcel on River Road
- The Glenridge Facility on Veterans Parkway
- On the Baltimore Washington Parkway (for work on the Parkway)

Question: If issues are discovered with Maintenance of Traffic plans once they are in place, can they be changed?

Response: If you have concerns about Purple Line Maintenance of Traffic (MOT), please call the 24/7 construction hotline at 240-424-5325.

Question: Sidewalks in the neighborhoods need to be improved or built. Does the Purple Line Project include this work?

Response: No. The Purple Line will be building sidewalks on the roads where it runs, but sidewalks back in the neighborhoods are not in the project budget. That is a county responsibility.

Question: During construction, will there be "do not block intersection" signs so that people are able to get in/out of their neighborhoods.

Response: The State Highway Administration (SHA) is responsible for signage on MD 201 and MD 410. Residents can make specific requests through their online portal: http://marylandsha.force.com/customercare/request for service

Question: Concern expressed about MDOT/MTA taking into account the redevelopment of Refreshing Springs Church located at 6200 Riverdale Road.

Response: MDOT/MTA agreed to revisit traffic studies for the area and report back if any additional accommodations can be made. However, in general, future development plans are not included in the Purple Line scope and budget.