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# PULSE

Your guide to Purple Line news,  
information and events

FEBRUARY 2023



Matthew Pollack, PE, PMP

## Message from Matt

Community Advisory Team (CAT) meetings are back this month, and we are holding them virtually to make it easier for you to attend and participate. Our project team is looking forward to hearing from our neighbors and businesses as we provide

detailed updates on our progress and upcoming construction activities.

There will be a total of seven meetings in February, beginning with the University Boulevard community and wrapping up with the Lyttonsville and Woodside communities. All meetings will be held from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on the following dates:

- University Boulevard, Feb. 2;
- Bethesda/Chevy Chase, Feb. 7;
- Silver Spring, Feb. 9;
- College Park, Feb. 16;
- Long Branch, Feb. 21;
- Riverdale Park-Glenridge/New Carrollton, Feb. 23; and
- Greater Lyttonsville/Woodside, Feb. 28.

Links to the individual meetings have been provided to CAT members and may be found on the Purple Line [website](#). Each meeting will feature presentations from our design-build contractor, Maryland Transit Solutions (MTS), and other project team members. We will present project accomplishments and timelines and answer your questions. The meetings will be offered with a live captioning option available in English, Spanish, and other languages. Instructions on how to enable captions through Microsoft Teams will be available on the website and at the beginning of each meeting.

The CAT meetings are an opportunity for the project team to connect directly with residents, businesses, community groups, and elected officials at the neighborhood level. These smaller groups are a great way to provide a more focused report on construction and engage in a meaningful dialogue.

Throughout Prince George's and Montgomery Counties, there are many active construction areas to discuss. We hope you will join us for the CAT meetings to learn more.

If you have questions on how to access the meetings, or have additional your concerns, please reach out to our Outreach Team at 443-451-3706 or 443-451-3705 (Español) or email [outreach@purplelinemd.com](mailto:outreach@purplelinemd.com).

Sign up to receive construction notifications at [purplelinemd.com](https://purplelinemd.com)

# Construction Photo/Update:



From left to right: Temporary supports are being removed to make room for the Wayne Avenue entrance to the future Manchester Place Station. Crews embedded track and cleaned the paint shop walls at the Purple Line OMF (Operation Maintenance Facility) in Lanham recently. Twenty-eight light rail vehicles will use the OMF as home base.

## Business Spotlight: Danny Hair Studio

Danny Gedamu began cutting hair at a young age in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. After moving to the United States in 2006, he honed his hair care skills in barber school. In 2010, with the help of his wife, Elizabeth, he fulfilled his dream of opening his own salon.

Danny Hair Studio is located at 959 Bonifant St. in downtown Silver Spring. The salon is one of the more than 800 businesses that line the 16.2-mile Purple Line corridor and is located steps away from the future Silver Spring Library Station. The Gedamus look forward to the potential customers the light rail line will deliver.



Left: Danny Hair Studio serves customers in downtown Silver Spring on Bonifant Street. Right: Owner Danny Gedamu cuts a client's hair.

Elizabeth helped to run the salon until they decided to expand and now manages their second business, Silver Spring Beauty Supply. The couple opened the beauty supply store on Bonifant Street in 2017. The shop recently relocated less than a quarter mile away to 8237 Fenton St., providing the community an array of hair products and accessories.

Danny Hair Studio is a full-service salon offering everything from hair coloring and highlighting to braiding and make-up application, and more. Danny's five professional stylists are available by appointment only. Danny Hair Studio is open 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday - Wednesday and 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday - Saturday. For more information, call 240-839-7988.

Silver Spring Beauty Supply is open 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday - Saturday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday. For more information, call 301-328-7933.

Additional information about these and other businesses on the Purple Line alignment may be found in our [business directory](#).



# Purple Line Fast Fact:



**HANGING STORAGE FOR EIGHT BICYCLES**

## People Behind the Purple Line: Genesis Baez

Genesis Baez is our Prince George's County Community Outreach Liaison and has a flair for public service.

A New York native, she moved to Maryland as a child and grew up in Beltsville graduating from High Point High School and Montgomery College. Genesis has a strong background in community outreach having worked for Prince George's County Councilman Tom Dernoga as the Latinx Community Liaison and Special Assistant and Volunteer Coordinator in addition to interning for the Maryland Legislative Latino Caucus. She has been a member of the Police Explorer Program since 2011.

At the Purple Line, Genesis interacts with county representatives assigned to the project. She maintains the Purple Line's Spanish hotline for the Outreach Team.

"I'm committed to making sure the community understands what is happening with the project; that their questions are addressed promptly and comprehensively," she says. "It is an honor to be a Latina woman working on a project that is vital to the community."

Away from work, Genesis likes to hike, visit museums and explore with her two-year-old son, Gunner.



*Genesis Baez is our Prince George's County Community Outreach Liaison*