



University Boulevard CAT Meeting – Questions and Responses
Langley Park Community Center
05/01/18

Question: Who is considered a CAT member?

Response: Community Advisory Team (CAT) members are representatives of community associations, neighborhood and business groups, as well as broader civic organizations, adjacent to the Purple Line. All known community associations and groups near the alignment were sent notifications requesting that they designate one representative and an alternate to represent them on the CAT. CAT members have received Purple Line correspondence and a binder of related information. If you have any questions about what organizations were notified or think that your neighborhood or community association should be represented on the CAT, please contact the MTA's Purple Line outreach team at 443-451-3706, 443-451-3705 (Español) or by email at outreach@purplelinemd.com.

Question: Can you describe how the bike lanes are going to look and be constructed?

Response: The bike lanes will be 4-5 feet wide along the outside lanes in each direction of University Blvd. from Piney Branch Road to the University of Maryland. The bike lanes are not separated from traffic by any barriers. The design of the bike lane has been completed according to the Maryland State Highway Administration's (SHA) requirements.

Question: Will these be the only additional intersections added?

Response: Yes, the five intersections identified in the CAT presentation will be the only new intersections added to the University Boulevard portion of the Purple Line. Crosswalks and pedestrian signals will be provided at all intersections. Just like a bus, Purple Line trains will be stopping at all traffic signals; there will be no train crossing gates blocking traffic along University Blvd.

Question: How far is University Boulevard going to be extending in width?

Response: The University Boulevard extension will vary from block to block. The locations of the Purple Line stations will require additional widening to accommodate station platforms and the safe loading and unloading of passengers. For information about the University Boulevard's extension in a specific area, please contact the Purple Line Transit Partners at 240-424-5325 or by email at outreach@pltcllc.com.

Question: Are you going to be blocking the access to the Adelphi Manor Archery Range?

Response: No, the construction will not be blocking access to the archery ranger or any of the nearby parks. The Purple Line team will be coordinating construction with the range and parks to ensure that the public will always be able to access park facilities.

Question: Will there be a barrier between car traffic and the train?

Response: There will be a curb separating car traffic and the train.

Question: In the future can you provide square footage to the slide 23 diagram of University Boulevard 's final configuration (at the bridge over the Northwest Branch)? Resident is concerned about the bike lane's width in relation to having to share the space with traffic and the train.

Response: The plans call for 5' bike lanes and 11' traffic lanes over the bridge. The lane widths are specified by the Maryland State Highway Administration.

Question: Has the Maryland State Highway Administration been contacted about changing the speed limit from 45 MPH?

Response: All construction is coordinated with the Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) and all signage within the project area will be replaced or updated. We are not aware of any discussions or current consideration by SHA regarding a change to the existing speed limit along University Boulevard.

Question: Will there be fencing separating the train for the sake of pedestrian safety? The University Boulevard area is the most densely populated in the entire corridor and the long blocks increase the likelihood of a pedestrian jaywalking through traffic.

Response: Plans currently call for "intertrack" or median fencing from Takoma/Langley platform to West Park Dr. Fencing is a PVC-coated, welded wire fence with anti-climber. Plans are not final and this is subject to change. Fences also will be located at Purple Line stations and at other locations identified as being particularly difficult for pedestrians.

Question: Will pedestrian signs and signs about the construction be in Spanish as well as English?

Response: Construction and pedestrian signage will be in English, but signage also will include universally used icons that the industry considers to be understandable by all of the community.

Question: Once construction is completed will there be a way for a car to cut across the traffic to Temple Street?

Response: The middle lane outside of Temple Lane will be designated for the train so the cut through at this specific location will be eliminated.

Question: Are all stations going to have the same ADA signage?

Response: Yes.

Question: Can a Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) representative appear at the next meeting?

Response: An MTA representative who works on the Purple Line has attended all CAT meetings. However, if you have a specific question regarding any of the bus services which operate along the University Boulevard corridor, please reach out to a member of our Purple Line team, and we will coordinate with the relevant County or Metrobus operator regarding your bus service question or issue.

Question: Coming down from campus is there a way to make sure west park and 23rd would not be interrupted at the same time? It would be difficult to get out if both were shutdown.

Response: Traffic studies have been performed to analyze long term traffic changes throughout construction and in the permanent condition. These traffic studies are reviewed by SHA. Currently, long term traffic plans do not call for reducing lanes on 23rd and West Park concurrently. However, during Purple Line construction there will be times when both of these intersections are impacted temporarily by construction. This impact is expected to be primarily limited to off-peak hours.

Question: This area is known as the deadliest area for pedestrians in the state, will you be adding any additional crosswalks to increase pedestrian safety?

Response: The Purple Line will be adding 5 new signalized intersections with crosswalks along University Blvd. to the already large number of signalized intersections that exist today. The Purple Line

understands the serious pedestrian safety concerns that exist along this corridor; and we are taking every opportunity to make sure this project will operate safely within the community.

Question: Is the Purple Line working to mitigate any noise or light pollution that may occur near homes during the night shift?

Response: Yes, the Purple Line will continue to pay close attention to excess noise and light close to homes.

Question: Will Maintenance/Makeup Day be every Saturday?

Response: No, maintenance/makeup days will be held only on an as needed basis so that Purple Line construction can continue on schedule. If there is a maintenance/makeup day scheduled, notifications will be distributed to all residents and businesses who are registered with the project's construction notification system through the project website at: purplelinemd.com

Question: Will there be a sidewalk added on the west side of University Boulevard?

Response: Yes, there will be a new sidewalk on both sides.

Question: Will there be any changes to the bus stops and their placement after construction?

Response: Any changes needed during construction to existing bus stops will be coordinated with the respective bus operators. Once the Purple Line has specific information about a bus stop from the bus operator, we will share that information, and we would expect that the bus operators also will distribute this information to their riders.

Question: Purple Line has mentioned that they are creating new intersections; they are not new physical intersections so what does that mean?

Response: The Purple Line will be adding signals at five existing intersections which are not currently signalized. The Purple Line will be stopping at these new signalized intersections as the train will be stopping at all traffic signals.

Question: Will there be new crosswalks between Adelphi and University?

Response: Yes, there will be new crosswalks added to that intersection which will extend across to the residential neighborhood.

Question: What month or season will the work start on the East End?

Response: Utility work at the east end of University Blvd. is already underway. In the next 6 months, utility relocations will continue and bridge work at the Northwest Branch will begin in about 6 months.

Will there be a new crosswalk from Adelphi Road to the University Blvd. Bridge over Northwest Branch? It's a long block.

Response: No, there will be a temporary crosswalk during reconstruction of the bridge located between Adelphi and the bridge, but it will not be permanent.

Will there be any residential outreach to citizens affected?

Response: Unless residents' homes are expected to be directly affected, they may not be contacted on a one on one basis. The need for direct outreach to a resident or business is determined on a case by case basis. All residents and businesses are encouraged to register on the project website to receive construction notifications. Additionally, please contact the PLTP outreach staff for specific construction related questions or concerns. The public is also encouraged to attend the CAT meetings held in your community where updated information on construction is provided, as well as the opportunity to express concerns or questions about the Purple Line.

When the utility poles are placed underground, will businesses lose power or telecom services during the transition?

Response: Overhead utility poles affected by Purple Line construction will be relocated, not placed underground. Existing underground utilities impacted by Purple Line construction will be relocated. Any utility outages required should last only an hour or less. Businesses within the area of a utility relocation where an outage is required will be contacted by the utility company prior to the expected outage.

Where will the construction equipment be located once construction starts?

Response: After construction ends for that day's work shift, the equipment will be moved to locations off of the roadway. When traffic lane shifting begins the equipment will be stored in that same fenced in construction space.

Is the access road on the east side of University between 23rd and West Park going to be disrupted?

Response: No.

Are you going to work on better lighting between 23rd and West Park?

Response: Additional lighting is not in the scope of the project.

Are multifamily complexes along the Boulevard being contacted?

Response: Yes, the Purple Line is contacting the property owner or managers of the complexes directly along the alignment.

Is there a plan to hold a community meeting in Spanish?

Response: For CAT meetings in communities where Spanish speaking residents or businesses are known to be located within, Spanish translators are normally in attendance. In addition, we encourage you to contact MTA's outreach staff or your appointed CAT member, and MTA and PLTP will work with you to provide specific targeted outreach to the Spanish speaking community. Further, you can contact us at 443-451-3705 (Espanol).

If a person observes any Purple Line traffic or spillover traffic issues who should they contact?

Response: They may contact the PLTP via 240-424-5325 or email outreach@pltlc.com.

If any neighborhood associations have concerns about traffic impacts further from the alignment who can they contact?

Response: They may contact the PLTP via 240-424-5325 or email outreach@ptllc.com or MTA at outreach@purplelinemd.com.