



Silver Spring CAT Meeting #7
Online presentation – November 17, 2020
Questions & Responses

Below is the list of questions and responses discussed during the November 17, 2020, online CAT presentation.

Question: Do you expect any portions of the project design to change now that the P3 agreement has ended?

Response: Based on recent events, the P3 agreement is intact. The Purple Line does not expect any significant design changes.

Question: Is MDOT definitely pursuing another P3 or only another design-build contract?

Response: Our intent right now is to continue in a P3 configuration. We believe that the P3 has benefits to the State both in its financing option and its ability to extend into the operations and maintenance period; so, for now our plan is to absolutely stay with a P3.

Question: If the current P3 agreement is unsuccessful will it make the chances of entering another P3 unlikely?

Response: We fully expect the current P3 agreement to be successful. If we are unsuccessful in reestablishing a relationship with our existing Concessionaire, PLTP, we are prepared to go out with a re-solicitation for a new Concessionaire. We believe there is interest throughout the market in taking this project not only to completion for construction, but through operations and maintenance as well.

Question: What new general timelines can we expect for completion of various aspects of the project from what PLTC planned?

Response: The State will manage Purple Line construction until the new design-build contractor is on board. We do not yet have a new timeline.

Question: Is there a contingency plan for if funding runs out to finish the project? How would the work sites be closed down/restored so they don't remain an open sore in our community?

Response: The State fully intends to complete the Purple Line project.

Question: What is the prospect for seeking additional federal assistance, should there be a change in executive leadership at the federal level?

Response: Federal participation in the Purple Line project includes the \$900 million Full Funding Grant Agreement (FFGA) and access to Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) loans. The State is not anticipating additional Federal assistance for the Purple Line project.

Question: Kenwood House parking is on the 3-6 month timeframe. Does this mean you will start construction in three to six months? Could we make an appointment to walk the property in mid-December?

Response: Community input has helped us reprioritize. If there are opportunities to make a difference in the short-term, we want to try to do it; and the Kenwood House parking is one of those areas. We don't know exactly when the work will finish because we are making sure we understand completely the work that needs to be done, but we intend to be there in December to start the work. In the meantime, we are scheduling a site visit with residents and representatives.

Question: Is the Purple Line coordinating with the school system regarding schedule and work taking place around Silver Spring International Middle School and Sligo Creek Elementary?

Response: The Purple Line has construction activities near Rosemary Hills Elementary in Lyttonsville and at Silver Spring International Middle and Sligo Creek Elementary schools in Silver Spring. We are working with the school system; and we have an agreement with the school system that we will not conduct loud, disruptive construction activities while students are at the schools.

Question: Will SHA plow the snow on Wayne Avenue and Bonifant Street this winter or does it make more sense to contract with the County?

Response: Yes, MDOT SHA will conduct all maintenance including snow removal on Wayne Avenue and Bonifant Street along the Purple Line corridor. There was a road transfer agreement in association with the Purple Line, making MDOT SHA responsible for Bonifant (west), Bonifant (east), and Wayne Avenue.

Please contact:

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Question: If utility relocation on Bonifant is scheduled for 6-12 months, why can't Bonifant (west) reopen to traffic to avoid ATV activity?

Response: In the short-term, utility relocations will occur; and in the long-term, utility work will continue. For the next 12 months while the state is managing construction, that entire period will include utility relocations. Our intent is to begin work on the west side of Bonifant and to do it as soon as possible under the short-term plan.

Question: When can we see the final design of Bonifant (east) between Fenton Street and Georgia Avenue?

Response: The final design is made up of numerous drawings, some representing traffic directions and some representing civil directions or other elements. Those interested in seeing engineering drawings can reach out to outreach@purplelinemd. See the cross section for the basic design below:



Question: Do you plan to continue occasional Saturday work on Bonifant Street?

Response: During this ongoing MDOT MTA managed construction period, the State will make every effort to avoid Saturday construction work along Bonifant Street. If weather or other events impact the construction schedule, the State will endeavor to use Sundays as the bad weather make-up day.

Question: When will Bonifant Street (west) be reopened?

Response: Bonifant Street west of Georgia Avenue has significant utilities that still need to be relocated. We do not yet have a reopening date, but we want to remind everyone that the west segment of Bonifant Street in its final configuration will be one-way westbound between Georgia Avenue and Fenton Street and will be closed between Dixon Avenue and Ramsey Avenue.

Question: The west side of Bonifant street while closed to traffic has been misused by ATV racers and as a gathering place. What can you do to control access and safety in this area?

Response: Montgomery County Police have investigated this issue and have reported it under control. They encourage those who see the activity to report it to the Police, so authorities can address and document the practice. As a precaution, the project has placed additional barriers in the area to discourage some of this activity.

Question: Has the design progressed enough to discuss how the traffic signal at Georgia Avenue and Bonifant Street (east) will be relocated on this very tight corner? Can we see the plans?

Response: Yes, the intersection in its final condition will have full pedestrian mobility, ADA compliance, sidewalks, ramps, and detectable warning surfaces. The signal plan is complicated but available for review upon request. Please send a request to outreach@purplelinemd.

Question: How are you handling the removal of graffiti along the corridor?

Response: If you are aware of graffiti that is taking place within the Purple Line construction areas and you can take a picture or provide details, we would like to take care of that as soon as possible. If we are not aware, we appreciate anything you can do to bring it to our attention.

Question: Will the bus stops along Dale Drive be restored?

Response: Typically, there will be a scaling back of duplicate service, if there is a bus that is running a route that the Purple Line will serve. The planning has not been finalized and it is likely that Montgomery County is still planning out the final configuration as well.

The Purple Line continues to coordinate with the operators of local and regional bus services. If bus routes/stops are altered, notification will be publicized through those operators.