



**Long Branch CAT Meeting #12
Virtual Meeting – November 23, 2024
Questions & Responses**

Below is a summary of questions and responses discussed during the November 23, 2024, virtual Community Advisory Team (CAT) presentation.

Question: Where exactly will The Long Branch station be?

Response: The Long Branch station will be located at the intersection between Piney Branch Road and Arliss Street.

Question: How are community members supposed to reach the pool?

Response: For this summer the access is to remain as is as far as access to the community center. In 2 to 3 months, our intention is to open the new access proposed for this intersection.

Question: How will the bus lines be affected by these closures?

Response: We are working to have detailed information about how the Purple Line will work with all the bus routes.

Question: How will the #14 Ride on bus route change? It normally turns left onto University from Piney Branch.

Response: We are currently working with Montgomery County and ride on having ongoing discussions about this. We will follow up when the information is available.

Question: Am still very confused where the actual tracks will be-above ground? below ground? In the middle of Piney Branch and University and surrounding roads?

Response: On Piney Branch and University Blvd. the tracks are above ground. We are going to have the tracks on the median, which means we are going to have the traffic lanes on one side, including one bike lane. The two tracks in the middle and same on the other side. Everything in above ground in this area and the tracks are in the median in this area.

Question: Will the Purple Line do anything in the design phase to improve the inconveniences caused by construction at the Flower Branch Apartment parking lot?

Response: We are coordinating closely with the managers at Flower Branch Apartments. We are improving the systems along with stormwater management and sidewalks. Weather dependent, our plan is to pave that area next week and have one additional week to clean everything and be able to reopen the area and restore all the parking lots.

Question: Why are left turns being permanently disallowed on westbound Piney Branch between University Blvd and Arliss Street? There's a traffic light now (appreciated), so why not have a green arrow so as not to disrupt the trains?

Response: That is part of the design to ensure safety and efficiency along the alignment.

Question: Is there a plan to reduce the impact of traffic build up on University Blvd heading east towards Piney Branch during construction and additional closures? It's nearly impossible to turn from Glenville to University in the evenings now. Perhaps a painted "don't block the box" like what's at Langley and University?

Response: We will take that suggestion into consideration.

Question: What will be done to provide adequate guidance to pedestrians to ensure safety while navigating around the construction activity?

Response: As of now we have two active crossings in the intersection between Piney Branch and University Blvd, the one on the east side of the intersection on University Blvd. and the north on Piney Branch. The other two are closed and protected by concrete barriers and a string wall in the inside. In addition to that, in response to hearing concerns, extra signage has been added, showing all the detours in that area to ensure everything is fully accessible.

Question: Is there any plan to improve the traffic movements to get around the stopped buses?

Response: We are working with our partners analyzing the impact of the busses, as of now we don't believe there is an impact on the WMATA lines. We are currently working to minimize any potential impact there. All lines are planned to remain active.

Question: Is PL/MTA coordinating with the County?

Response: Yes, and we have had onsite meetings with the Long Branch Community Center. We are open to ideas on how we can coordinate further.

Question: Are the traffic changes going to be distributed through other Montgomery County communications - the council members, the county executive newsletter, the regional center newsletters?

Response: We do share information with them, and Montgomery County does well in using their outlets, we will continue working with them.

Question: Is there going to be another station on Piney and University?

Response: Yes, 55th east of the intersection at University Blvd and it is going to be in the median.

Question: Are you aware of any plans to create a paved lighted pedestrian path from the Long Branch Arliss station through parkland to Wayne Ave?

Response: No, that is not in our current project scope.

Question: Are the bike lanes on Piney Branch that are overseen by the state unprotected? Is there a rendering?

Response: *This question was not noted in the Teams chat and did not receive a response.*

Question: Why isn't the detour going up Carroll Ave to make a left onto Piney Branch? Can 'Local Traffic Only' signs be posted at neighborhood entrances? And what can be done to keep eastbound Piney Branch traffic from blocking the box at Barron St as frequently happens in the evening?

Response: We are currently working with the county, SHA and the bus system, looking at the option of mitigating these issues for local busses and traffic, we hope to have a final decision next week.

Question: Will the Purple Line require parking permits?

Response: There will be no parking lots associated with Purple Line stations.

Question: How can you access the CAT meeting recording and Q+A after the meeting?

Response: You can find all the videos, presentations, and once the Q+Rs are processed they will also be posted. If you have any questions, you can use our hotline or email us.