

December 9, 2014

Buffington RE/MAX Olney Community Room
3300 Olney-Sandy Spring Road

7:30 CALL TO ORDER

1. Introductions (Name, Association, Representative/Alternate/Guest)
2. Approval of November Minutes
3. Approval of December Agenda

7:35 PUBLIC COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Call for MCCF Delegates (see page 2)

7:45 NANCY NAVARRO

Montgomery County Council, District 4

8:15 INN AT BROOKEVILLE FARMS

Michele Rosenfeld, Owner's Counsel
Robert Sheahin, Owner

8:45 ANA LOPEZ VAN BALEN

Mid-County Regional Services Director

9:05 OFFICERS/COMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS

1. Mid-County Citizen's Advisory Board
2. Transportation Report (see page 3)
3. Olney Town Center Advisory Committee
4. Library Advisory Committee
5. Legislative Update
6. 2015 Membership Renewals
7. Correspondence Report
8. 2015 Budget
9. Chamber of Commerce Report (www.olneymd.org)

Greg Intoccia
Barbara Falcigno
Kathy Curtis
Della Dorsey
Bob Reel
Greg Intoccia
Jackie Benn
Kathy Curtis
Joe Buffington

9:25 NEW BUSINESS

9:30 ADJOURNMENT

Next Meeting: **January 13, 2015**

GOCA Delegates to Montgomery County Civic Federation

GOCA has four delegate seats with the Montgomery County Civic Federation (MCCF). At this time, GOCA is seeking volunteers to fill those seats and report at the regular monthly GOCA meetings. Here is more information about MCCF:

The mission of the MCCF is to preserve and improve the quality of life for all current and future residents of Montgomery County, Maryland. Since its founding in 1925, the volunteers of the MCCF have committed themselves to providing an effective citizen voice to government policy makers, both elected and appointed.

The Civic Federation is a not-for-profit, county-wide umbrella group designed to promote cooperation, education and effectiveness of civic and community associations in Montgomery County. It addresses a wide range of concerns in transportation, land use, environment, education, budget and finance, health and human services, public safety, and ethics. With its strength of numbers and thoroughness of its deliberations, the Federation influences county policy and balances the activities of vested county pressure groups.

The MCCF membership consists of neighborhood associations, as well as homeowner and condominium associations, which appoint voting delegates to the Federation. In addition, individuals may join as non-voting Individual Associates. The membership year runs from July 1 through the following June 30.

The Federation meets monthly, on the second Monday evening of each month (except July and August), in the first floor auditorium of the County Council Building in Rockville. Most monthly delegate assemblies include an informational program, on a timely topic of interest, followed by the business portion of the meeting. The public is welcome to attend.

The MCCF monitors county and state policies and legislation affecting our communities and quality of life. It also conducts in-depth studies of critical issues, and often adopts Resolutions or positions on them which are communicated to government. Recognized as the primary voice of residents, the Federation is given representation on several county boards, commissions, advisory committees and working groups.

*The monthly MCCF newsletter keeps our members and the public informed on issues. To view the current issue and past issues, click on the **Newsletters** tab in the navigation bar to the left.*

MCCF's web site is: www.montgomerycivic.org.

If you are interested in volunteering to represent GOCA at the MCCF, please email gocapresident@gmail.com.

GOCA Transportation Committee Highlights of December 2, 2014 Meeting

Two new committee members: Stanley Elswick & Meg Pease-Fye
Perry Buckberg has left the committee.

John Riehl & Chris Light from Traffic Operations at MCDOT described signal timings. Signal timing can only fix some problems. Once roadways are at capacity, there is little signal timing can fix. Real fix is more lanes or less cars. Phantom traffic can trigger a light because dirt, fog, lighting (headlights, sunrise/sunset) can fool the detection camera.

Timings for each signal are set - can't have one skip a cycle. Any changes to one intersection will upset the entire corridor out of sync. No matter what timings they do for the 97 signals between 108 and 28, they cannot make Emory and Emory Church Road in sync with the others. When signal timings change from peak to nonpeak hours, it takes several cycles to readjust.

Specific intersections were discussed:

- In order to provide a gap on SB97 traffic at Queen Mary Dr during school hours, the NB 97 left turn arrow onto Morningwood is extended. This was done years ago at the request of the school, MCPS Bus Depot, and MCPD. This contributes to the traffic backup north of 108. There are conflicting goals here – safety vs traffic flow.
- Emory Church Rd/97 cycles even when traffic is not there. MCDOT will check cameras. Configuration of intersection is odd. SHA will look into going back to loops in the pavement. Whenever a pedestrian pushes the walk button, the 97 traffic is stopped long enough for a person to cross over.

Dave Murnan and Anyesha Mookherjee from SHA walked through the 2015 Issues document GOCA approved in November. TC will follow up on progress on each issue quarterly. A few highlights:

- No new study is being done on the 97/28 grade separated interchange. There is a study to create a second left turn lane from NB97 to WB 28. No construction money is budgeted yet for the second turn lane.
- Restriping SB97 in front of the Roots Shopping Center to create 3 through will be done in the spring when weather permits. A work order was issued.
- Protected Turns: each will be studied. Adding a protected turn lane will create delays for through traffic on 108.
- Second turn lane on NB97 to WB Emory was discussed. SHA will take a look at this intersection with a second turn lane as an option. One question to answer is the effect on the SB97 to Batchellors Forest Rd movement.
- The lane markings from EB28 to NB97 directs traffic to the left two lanes. There is 2000 ft before the left lane becomes a turn lane onto the ICC. SHA standards state this is adequate space to merge over and there is no justification for restriping the guidelines. Even though there have been no accidents, the committee disagrees strongly. The majority of the traffic making this movement continues north. Merging left is a safer movement than merging right so it makes more sense to restripe the intersection.
- Dr Bird and Batchellors Forest Rd was studied and no back up was found at peak hours. No further studies will be done in order to see the effect of opening Old Vic Blvd will have on this intersection. Resurfacing damaged the road sensors so the Dr. Bird/108 light is cycling on a timer, not on a sensor.

Emmet Tydings reviewed the Regional Transportation Planning & how COG works
www.transportationplanninghub.org is a great resource

University of Pittsburg senior engineering students do a Capstone Project. Daniel Rubenstein contacted them as they may be interested in modeling Olney's 108/97 intersection. The report will likely include a presentation including simulations of various intersection configurations along with different percent increases from current traffic levels.