

SUBJECT: Greenbelt Station Metro Shuttle Proposal

BACKGROUND: In January 2014, the Maryland National Capitol Park and Planning Commission (MNCPPC) reviewed and approved Conceptual Site Plan (CSP – 01008-02) for the Greenbelt Station South Core development project. A condition of this approval requires Woodlawn Development Group (WDG) to establish a direct connection between their development and the Greenbelt Metro Station. The condition reads as follows:

Prior to the issuance of the 200th residential building permit...the applicant shall provide a pedestrian and service vehicle connection from the terminus of the north/south connector road to connect with the WMATA Metrorail platform. In the event the applicant provides a shuttle service from the south core to the WMATA Metrorail platform or another service is provided, the condition ...is waived, subject to approval of a schedule for shuttle operations is approved by the City of Greenbelt and the County.

WDG anticipates that the pedestrian trail connection will not be established by issuance of the 200th building permit, projected for May to early June 2015. WDG has prepared a shuttle service proposal to satisfy MNCPPC's condition. WDG has selected Reston Limousine to operate the proposed shuttle service.

ANALYSIS: The Board finds that there is considerable challenge in evaluating how this proposal will serve a future population whose needs are unknown. For this reason, the Board discussed with representatives of Reston Limousine and WDG how the schedule was developed and how the service may change over time. The Board was also interested in how Reston Limousine would respond to user input and handle daily operations.

The shuttle service was evaluated in context of other planned transit services and transportation infrastructure. Continuation of this service in relation to completion of the WMATA access trail and long term bus services were discussed.

The Board considered how the shuttle relates to pedestrian access and safety. It was suggested that stops be located so as not to interfere with pedestrian paths and that traffic calming measures may be necessary along residential streets. The Board also supports the use of an ADA accessible bus.

The Board finds that the Metro shuttle service proposed by Woodlawn Development Group (WDG) and Reston Limousine satisfies conditions set forth in MNCPPC's approval of Conceptual Site Plan CSP – 01008-02. The Board recommends Council consider the following in providing their approval:

- o The shuttle service is not intended to replace the trail.
- o The shuttle service should respond to user need and adjustments to its schedule and operations should be built into approval conditions.
- o Siting of shuttle stop locations should consider in-field conditions and prioritize pedestrian safety.

RECOMMENDATION: The Board recommends City Council approve the WDG Metro Shuttle proposal with the following conditions:

1. Reston Limousine and WDG should provide to the city periodic reports on customer service instances and resolutions.
2. Reston Limousine and WDG should provide the city with periodic usage reports.
3. Reston Limousine and WDG should take measures to guarantee pedestrian safety through its siting of stop locations and operations.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Gibbons
Chair

This report was adopted by a vote of 5, with 2 Board members absent.