

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority  
**Board Action/Information Summary**

Action  Information

MEAD Number:  
201649

Resolution:  
 Yes  No

**TITLE:**

Approval of Takoma Langley Hearing Report

**PRESENTATION SUMMARY:**

Presentation summarizes the Public Hearing Staff Report for the Takoma Langley Crossroads Transit Center (Transit Center), and requests approval of the final staff report, amendment of the Adopted Regional System, authorization to negotiate and execute a funding agreement and lease and operating agreement with the State of Maryland, and amend the FY16 operating reimbursable budget.

**PURPOSE:**

To obtain concurrence from the Customer Service and Operations Committee, and approval from the Board of Directors, for:

- 1) Approval of the Takoma Langley Crossroads Transit Center (Transit Center) Public Hearing Staff Report and amendment of the Adopted Regional Transit System Plan to include the Transit Center
- 2) Amendment of the FY2016 operating reimbursable budget for the reimbursement of Transit Center start-up and operations costs in FY2016 - and subsequent years budgets
- 3) Authorization for the GM/CEO to negotiate and execute a lease and operating agreement and an accompanying funding agreement with the State of Maryland to fund operations and maintenance at the Transit Center

**DESCRIPTION:**

**Key Highlights:**

The project is designed to provide several long-term public benefits, the most significant are:

- Provide a safe and convenient bus transfer station that will serve as a principal transfer location between Metrobus, Prince George's County's The Bus, Montgomery County's Ride-On, and the future Purple Line
- Improve pedestrian safety and access to transit service
- Protect and improve the lives of people in this community

**Background and History:**

- In May, 2015 the Board authorized a Compact Public Hearing for the Transit Center since the new facility requires amending the Mass Transit Plan
- The Public Hearing was held on July 24, 2015
- WMATA received positive feedback from the vast majority of respondents to a survey and at the Public Hearing
- The public expressed concerns in varied areas, including bus stop relocations and concerns about cleanliness, safety and security at the Transit Center
- The draft Public Hearing Staff Report addressing the issues raised by the public was distributed on August 7, 2015
- The 10-day public hearing review period ended on August 17, 2015
- The final Public Hearing Staff Report is submitted for Board approval to close the public hearing record

**Discussion:**

The public provided input in different areas regarding the Transit Center's operations and bus stop changes proposed by staff; but the majority of feedback received was positive. Most of the specific comments focused on a proposal to eliminate a single pair of stops on New Hampshire Avenue south of the Transit Center. The southbound bus stop (#3004109) will remain in service; however, the need for buses to turn left to serve the new Transit Center requires that the northbound stop (#3004108) be eliminated. Bus planning is also considering adding a stop to Metrobus K9 at Merwood Drive to address concerns about access to the MetroExtra route in the New Hampshire Gardens community.

The public also suggested opening and closing hours for the restrooms and public areas of the Transit Center; the opening hours are proposed to be from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. daily initially but may be expanded in the future depending on the availability of budgetary resources. Several commenters focused on the need to provide security and a safe, clean facility. The proposed budget includes sufficient resources to keep the facility clean and for MTPD and Metrobus supervisors to provide a security presence.

The actions that are proposed in this resolution will allow WMATA staff to take the next necessary steps with the State of Maryland to secure a lease and operating agreement and a funding agreement. After the agreements are executed, WMATA staff will begin the process of installing equipment, hiring staff, and establishing budgets to operate and maintain the Transit Center.

**FUNDING IMPACT:**

Budget:	Operating Reimbursable Budget, Fiscal 2016
Project/Account:	new reimbursable project with the State of Maryland
Project Manager:	James Hamre

Project Department/Office:	BPLN
This Action:	\$967,909
Remarks:	<p>Annual Expense: Estimate for one year of full operation is \$1,560,327. The first year (FY16) includes \$187,746 of estimated startup costs and \$780,163 for 6 months of operating costs which include all aspects of staffing and maintaining the facility and keeping it clean, safe, and in a state of good repair.</p> <p>In future years, the costs to operate and maintain the facility will become part of the regular operating budget offset by revenue from the State of Maryland and are estimated at approximately \$1.6 million per year subject to further estimation and concurrence between WMATA and MTA.</p> <p>All costs will be covered through a funding agreement with the State of Maryland.</p>

	FY 2016	FY2017 (and beyond)
Budget:	\$0	Estimated annual operating costs are expected to be approximately \$1.6 million. This will be subject to annual adjustment based on WMATA's actual costs to operate and maintain the facility, the lease and operating agreement, and the funding agreement.
This Action:	\$967,909	
Prior Approval:	\$0	
Remaining Budget:	\$967,909	

**TIMELINE:**

<b>Previous Actions</b>	<p>May 2015 - Board Approval to hold Public Hearing</p> <p>July 2015 - Public Hearing Held</p> <p>August 2015 - Public Hearing Staff Report distributed for final public comment</p> <p>August 2015 - 10-day public review period ended</p>
<b>Anticipated actions after presentation</b>	<p>WMATA staff will execute a funding agreement and a lease and operating agreement.</p>

**RECOMMENDATION:**

To obtain concurrence from the Customer Service and Operations Committee, and approval from the Board of Directors, for:

- 1) Approval of Takoma Langley Crossroads Transit Center (Transit Center) Public Hearing Staff Report and amendment of the Adopted Regional Transit System Plan to include the Transit Center
- 2) Amendment of the FY2016 operating reimbursable budget for the reimbursement of Transit Center start-up and operations costs in FY2016 - and subsequent years budgets
- 3) Authorization for the GM/CEO to negotiate and execute a lease and operating agreement and an accompanying funding agreement with the State of Maryland to fund operations and maintenance at the Transit Center

**PRESENTED AND ADOPTED: September 25, 2015**

**SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF TAKOMA LANGLEY CROSSROADS TRANSIT CENTER STAFF REPORT, AMENDMENT OF ADOPTED REGIONAL SYSTEM, AUTHORIZATION TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE AGREEMENTS WITH MARYLAND TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION, AND AMENDMENT OF FISCAL YEAR 2016 OPERATING REIMBURSABLE BUDGET**

**2015-50**

**RESOLUTION  
OF THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE  
WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY**

WHEREAS, The Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) is completing construction of a transit center at University Boulevard and New Hampshire Avenue in Prince George's County, Maryland (Transit Center); and

WHEREAS, Metrobus provides service adjacent to the site of the Transit Center on two priority corridor Metrobus lines; and

WHEREAS, Metrobus has a significant amount of transfer activity between Prince George's County's The Bus, and Montgomery County's Ride On services at this location and moving this activity off-street will help improve pedestrian safety in the area; and

WHEREAS, The Transit Center is designed to fulfill the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority's (WMATA) goals of delivering quality service to customers, and enhancing mobility by improving access to and linkages between transportation options; and

WHEREAS, The intent of MTA and WMATA is for WMATA to lease, operate and maintain the Transit Center upon completion pursuant to a lease and operating agreement, at MTA's exclusive cost and expense; and

WHEREAS, In order for WMATA to lease and operate the Transit Center, the Transit Center must be added to the Adopted Regional System (ARS), for which the WMATA Compact requires a public hearing; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Resolution 2015-28, the Board of Directors authorized staff to conduct a Compact Public Hearing on the Transit Center; and

WHEREAS, A notice of the Public Hearing was published in the *Washington Post* on Saturday, June 13 and Saturday, June 20, 2015, and materials regarding the proposed

**Motioned by Mrs. Hudgins, seconded by Mr. Corcoran**

**Ayes: 8 – Mr. Downey, Mr. Goldman, Mrs. Hudgins, Mr. Evans, Mr. Costa, Ms. Harley, Mr. Corcoran and Mr. Price**

Transit Center were made available for public inspection at the Takoma Park Maryland Library, the Hyattsville Branch Library, the Long Branch Library, the WMATA Office of the Secretary, and online at [www.wmata.com/hearings](http://www.wmata.com/hearings); and

WHEREAS, The Public Hearing was held on July 14, 2015, and the record remained open for written comments until July 24, 2015; and

WHEREAS, WMATA also engaged in other public outreach activities, including stationing street teams at bus stops around the Transit Center to distribute flyers, answer questions and conduct surveys, and using targeted marketing and media strategies to increase awareness and encourage feedback on the Transit Center; and

WHEREAS, A report on the Public Hearing entitled *Takoma Langley Crossroads Transit Center, Public Hearing Staff Report, R15-02: Environmental Evaluation and Proposal to Lease, Operate and Maintain the Takoma Langley Crossroads Transit Center, Langley Park, Maryland, Staff Analysis of the Public Hearing and Staff Recommendations (Docket No. R15-02, Public Hearing No. 605, August 2015 (Staff Report))* was presented to the public for 10 days to allow for comment; and

WHEREAS, The public comment period closed on August 17, 2015, and the Staff Report has been supplemented with the additional comment(s) received; and

WHEREAS, The Final Public Hearing Staff Report--which includes the public hearing transcript and record of comments received, the complete public record--and the hearing notice have been made available to the Board of Directors for review, and the Board has considered this information; and

WHEREAS, WMATA and MTA must execute a lease and operating agreement governing the terms and conditions of WMATA's lease, operation, and maintenance of the Transit Center, as well as an accompanying funding agreement identifying the initial costs and funding contributions to be made by MTA to WMATA, along with procedures for annual review and adjustment of funding levels thereafter as well as other terms and conditions; and

WHEREAS, WMATA has estimated that, given a projected opening date of January 1, 2016, the costs for three months of WMATA start-up activities and six months of ongoing operations and maintenance activities for the Transit Center in Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 will be \$967,909; and

WHEREAS, WMATA has estimated that the annual cost for a full year of ongoing operations and maintenance activities in FY2017 for the Transit Center will be approximately \$1.6 million per year, subject to further estimates and agreement between WMATA and MTA; and

WHEREAS, To proceed further, the Board of Directors must authorize staff to negotiate and execute the lease and operating agreement, and the funding agreement between WMATA and MTA, as well as to amend the FY2016 Operating Reimbursable Budget to include funding for the expenses associated with the Transit Center in FY2016; now, therefore be it

*RESOLVED*, That the Board of Directors approves the Final Public Hearing Staff Report, with final staff recommendations and amends the ARS plan to include the Transit Center; and be it further

*RESOLVED*, That the Board of Directors amends and increases the FY2016 Operating Reimbursable Budget in the amount of \$967,909, to be funded by MTA, for the reimbursement of start-up and operations costs in FY2016 associated with the Transit Center; and be it further

*RESOLVED*, That the Board of Directors directs WMATA staff to incorporate all operating and maintenance costs for Transit Center into the regular proposed Operating Budget in FY2017 and subsequent years; and be it further

*RESOLVED*, That the Board of Directors directs WMATA staff to bill all operating and maintenance costs for the Transit Center solely to MTA in the proposed Operating Budget in FY2017 and subsequent years; and be it further

*RESOLVED*, That the Board of Directors authorizes the General Manager/Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute a lease and operating agreement for the Transit Center with MTA and to negotiate and execute an accompanying funding agreement governing the terms and conditions of the same; and be it finally,

*RESOLVED*, That this Resolution shall be effective 30 days after its passage by the Board of Directors in accordance with § 8(b) of the WMATA Compact.

Reviewed as to form and legal sufficiency,



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Mark R. Pohl  
Acting General Counsel