

December 9, 2021 Community Meeting Q&A

Metro has prepared the below Questions and Answers (Q&A) addressing comments raised at the December 9, 2021 community engagement meeting on the Bladensburg Bus Garage Reconstruction Project. Several of these topics also have been addressed at prior community meetings for this Project.

Bladensburg Bus Garage Design

Q: What is the status of the court closure at Douglas Street?

A: We are in continued discussions with the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) on arrangements for the closure of the circle at the end of Douglas Street NE. In an effort to minimize disruptions to local businesses, we are designing a hammerhead configuration to help larger vehicles maintain the ability to navigate that section of Douglas Street.

Construction Updates

Q: How will the construction vehicles enter the property? Will they enter via Bladensburg Road or Douglas Street?

A: A primary construction entrance has been created on 25th Place NE. A new secondary entrance on Bladensburg Road NE will be used for all oversized deliveries and will also be used as a back-up entrance for construction vehicles when the primary entrance on 25th Place NE is temporarily closed due to construction operations. Oversized deliveries through the secondary entrance will occur outside of peak traffic hours with flaggers.

Q: What are the construction hours of operation?

A: Construction activities will occur primarily between 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Metro will provide advanced notice of any planned changes to these working hours to community members.

Q: Have you coordinated with entities along 25th Place to ensure them of the safety and efficacy of the primary construction entrance?

A: Metro's contractor is coordinating with the various local business owners located on 25th Place NE regarding potential efforts to help limit the impact of construction entrance traffic.

Metro located the primary construction entrance off Bladensburg Road NE, at a signalized intersection, in part, to decrease the project's traffic impact.

Construction Logistics: Addressing Community Concerns

Q: Will there be dedicated off-street parking for construction personnel?

A: We have secured two temporary off-street parking lots for contractors. In addition to these lots, the properties recently acquired along 28th Street NE will also be available for contractor parking.

Q: Have you reached out to other local organizations regarding leasing parking spaces?

A: We are actively seeking arrangements with additional local lot owners for contractor parking.

Q: What noise control strategies will be in place to reduce disruption within the community?

A: Within the area of the garage, Metro and its contractors will strive to operate within the established noise constraints and do not expect there to be any related noise impacts to the community.

Q: What strategies will be employed for trash cleanup?

A: There will be waste receptacles positioned throughout the Phase 1 construction site and contractors, as required, will clean construction debris from adjacent streets and sidewalks. Bladensburg Bus Garage employees and contractors have been advised of the available trash receptacles and directed to utilize them when discarding waste.

Q: What strategies will be employed to reduce the impact of dirt and debris from vehicles, and water from the construction site impacting the community?

A: During pre-construction activities, Metro implemented several measures to reduce the impact of water and sediment runoff from the construction site. Metro installed sediment fences, improved drainage, and erosion control measures to help prevent runoff from the site does not impact the surrounding community. Additionally, Metro installed a tire wash to clean vehicles before exiting the construction site. Metro will continue to implement best practices in an effort to limit construction-related impacts to the community.