

Purple Line Mitigation Advisory Group Meeting
Tuesday March 8, 2011
Minutes by Andy Hill

Present: Mary Anne Hoffman, Chair; Pat Burda, Town Council Liaison; Joan Rood, John Burnes, Rich Brancato and Andy Hill; Absent: Jacob Bardin, Leslie Hill and David Saltzman

The meeting began at 7:00 p.m.

Discussion of new noise study to be conducted by Maryland Transit Administration: Beginning in the coming weeks, MTA will be leaving noise meters for 24 hours on six properties that back up to the Capital Crescent Trail to establish existing ambient noise levels at the Town's northern border. The results will inform what mitigation measures will be needed to retain those noise levels if the Purple Line project is built.

Lynn Drive Crossing: MAG members reviewed and discussed an article on human factors at light rail at-grade crossings written by Professor Najmedin Meshkati, Sonny Astani Department of Civil/Environmental Engineering, University of Southern California. After a thorough discussion of MTA's three proposals for a grade-separated crossing at Lynn Drive, MAG concluded that the alternative crossings are problematic because they all would place pedestrians onto East-West Highway, a road with a high volume of fast-moving traffic.

MAG's Recommendation

- MAG will recommend to the Town Council that Mayor Lublin write MTA stating our belief that the alternative crossings are unsatisfactory, that a crossing at Lynn Drive remains an essential element of the Trail; and that MTA should proceed with design of the safest possible at-grade crossing for MAG's consideration.
- MAG would also like a more detailed explanation from MTA of its proposal to undertake a Pedestrian Study at Lynn Drive and what it would entail.

There were no resident comments. The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

