

**Town of Chevy Chase
Purple Line Mitigation Advisory Group Meeting
Tuesday, October 4, 2011
Minutes by John Burnes**

Group Members Present: Mary Anne Hoffman, Chair; Pat Burda, Council Liaison; Jacob Bardin, Rich Brancato, John Burnes, Andy Hill, Leslie Hill, and Joan Rood.

Absent: David Salzman

Guests: Thomas Clark, Bethesda light rail advocate

Summary of Meeting

1. Review of MTA Preliminary Analysis of Noise Impact of Purple Line

The Mitigation Advisory Group (“MAG”) reviewed the preliminary noise impact analysis and the “Sounds of Transit” demonstration that was presented by representatives of the Maryland Transit Administration (“MTA”) to MAG on September 19, 2011. MAG members discussed the results of the analysis which compared existing noise levels to future noise levels from the proposed Purple Line Project (“Project”), and showed that the Project-generated noise levels would have a high moderate impact on the Town as calculated under federal guidelines established by the Federal Transit Administration (“FTA”). MAG agreed that the Town has a legitimate concern with the noise impacts of the Project which will need to be mitigated to the maximum extent possible. MAG also agreed to request additional information from MTA to better understand the noise impact on the Town.

2. Next Steps

- a.** MAG will continue to meet with MTA to discuss and agree upon specific, necessary measures to mitigate the noise impacts of the Project.
- b.** MAG will request MTA to provide additional noise impact demonstrations in the Sounds of Transit presentation to facilitate comparisons of actual, current ambient noise levels with projected noise levels shown in MTA’s preliminary analysis during operation of the trains at four (4) specific times: 10 am, 12 pm (midnight), 2 am, and 5 am.
- c.** MAG will also ask MTA to provide projected noise levels that could be heard at different points in the Town This will enable MAG to better understand the potential impacts of the Project farther away from the right-of-way when the trains are running, particularly at sensitive time periods during the evening and early morning

- d. MAG will also ask MTA to propose mitigation options for minimizing the impact of the Purple Line project when it presents its findings on (b) and (c) above at a future MAG meeting.
- e. MAG will also recommend that a letter be sent from the Town Mayor to MTA, expressing the serious concerns of the Town with the projected noise impacts of the Project, and the need for the consideration and adoption of all reasonable mitigation measures.

Because MTA will hold a public meeting on Wednesday, November 2, at the National 4-H Center to explain the upcoming Preliminary Engineering phase of the Purple Line project, MAG will not meet on Tuesday, November 1, as scheduled. MAG's next meeting will be Tuesday, December 6, at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall. All MAG meetings are open to community residents.