

Naval Support Activity Bethesda Commuter News

Important Events

February 2012

February 8

Transit Benefit Workshop

Building 5 Room 1015

1300

MD 355 Crossing Update

In order to create a safer environment for pedestrians crossing MD 355, a study was initiated in 2010 by Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT), to analyze what should be done for pedestrian safety.

The study had several goals, to include:

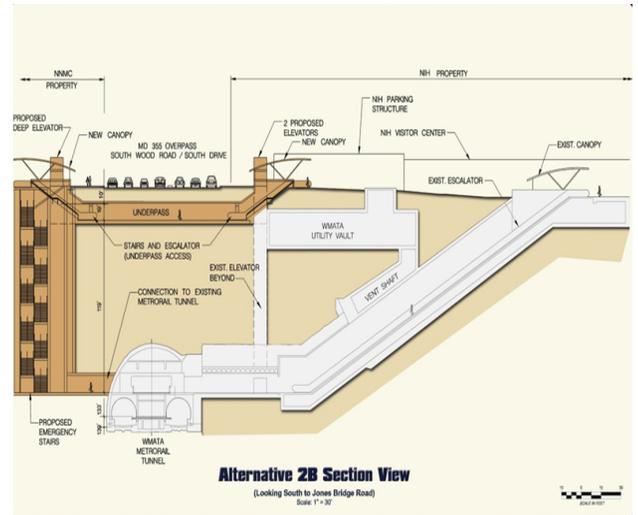
- Improving pedestrian mobility across MD 355.
- Improving pedestrian safety by minimizing conflicts with vehicles.
- Improving traffic operations along MD 355.

Various alternatives were considered to address these goals and ultimately the project that best addressed all goals, alternate 2B, was selected.

Alternate 2B includes both a shallow tunnel under MD 355 (Rockville Pike) and a high speed deep elevator on the East side of MD355. The elevator will

be accessible via a connection to the metro Mezzanine level.

MCDOT will take the lead on construction which will likely begin in early 2013.



Every Choice Counts—Off Site Parking Experience

This is part of the 'Every Choice Counts' series that details transit experiences in the National Capital Area.

For this month's edition, I will detail my experience in trying out the off-site parking facility at 6720 Rockledge Dr. in Bethesda.

At 0623 I pulled off I-270 onto Rockledge Blvd. After making an immediate right onto Rockledge Dr I turn left onto the access road for the garage and pull into the parking lot.

I am able to find parking immediately on the ground floor. The garage is well lit and clean and is located in a business park setting.

After parking, I walk to the bus stop on the southern side Fernwood Rd and board the J2 Metrobus towards Silver Spring at 0647. At 0700, the J2 pulls into the Medical Center Metro Station and I am at my desk by 0707. On the way home, I board the J2 at the Medi-

cal Center Metro Station at 1621. I arrive at the bus stop at 1651 and am at my car by 1655. On the way out of the garage, I have to swipe the key fob to exit the parking garage. The total commute time was roughly 30 minutes door to door.

Have you tried an alternative commuting method? Email me and I will include your experience in an upcoming issue.



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Commuter News

Gate 4

*(Grier Rd/Navy Lodge)
will close on February 1.*

- On Tue Jan 24, Perimeter Rd will open to service commercial and passenger vehicles. The commercial vehicle inspection station at Gate 5 (University Gate) will open on Wed, Feb 1. These actions will allow Gate 4 (Navy Lodge/Grier Rd Gate) to close temporarily for construction on Wed, Feb 1. For those who use Gate 4 in the evening, Gate 3 and 5 provide an alternate exit onto Jones Bridge Road.
- If you are commuting from Northern Virginia, the I-495 Express Lanes project will be complete in late 2012. The project will add two new lanes in each direction from the Springfield Interchange to just north of the Dulles Toll Road. The toll road will improve travel times on I-495. If you have a carpool of 3 or more people, you will be able to ride the express lanes for free. Toll booths will not be used for the lane as EZ Pass will be the only payment option. For more information please click [here](#).
- Helpful information has been posted to the NSA Bethesda CNIC webpage to assist commuters. Click [here](#) to view Shower and Locker locations, Bicycle Rack Locations and past issues of the Commuter Solutions Newsletter.

Gate Hours

Gate 1 (North Gate)

Mon-Fri, 0500-0530 & 0800-1400 Two lanes inbound, one lane outbound

Mon-Fri, 0530-0800 Three lanes inbound, one lane outbound

Mon-Fri, 1401-1800 One lane inbound, three lanes outbound

Mon-Fri, 1800-1900 Two lanes inbound, one lane outbound

Sat-Sun & Holidays, closed

Pedestrians have 0500-1900, Mon-Fri, inbound/outbound access

Gate 2 (South Gate)

Mon-Fri 0500-1400 Two Lanes inbound, one lane outbound

Mon-Fri 1401-1900 One lane inbound, two lanes outbound

Mon-Fri 1901-0459 One lane inbound, one lane outbound

Sat-Sun 0500-0459 Two lanes inbound, one lane outbound

Pedestrians have 24/7 inbound/outbound access

Gate 4 (NEX Gate)

Closed for Construction (Feb 1)

Gate 3 (NEX Gate)

Mon-Fri 0500-1900 One lane

inbound, one lane outbound

Pedestrians have 0500-1900

access

Gate 5 (University Gate)

Mon-Fri 0500-1800 One lane

inbound, one lane outbound.

Commuter Solutions Service Center



Are you new to the NSA Bethesda installation and need advice on transportation options available to you? Would you like assistance in registering for the Mass Transit Benefit Program? Do you need a carpool partner or would you like to join a carpool?

The Commuter Solutions group has created the Commuter Solutions Service Center for all staff members onboard NSA Bethesda installation in Building 11, Room 230. At the Service Center, you can:

- Receive information on off-site parking opportunities.
- Receive information on and register for the Mass Transit Benefit Program
- Register for the program if you need assistance.
- Receive a transportation plan customized to your commute.

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Commuter Questions? Please email me at ryan.emery@med.navy.mil

