

Naval Support Activity Bethesda Commuter News

Important Events

December 2011

December 14

-Transit Benefit Workshop

Building 1 Room 1643

1230

Off Site Parking Opportunity

Naval Support Activity, Bethesda (NSAB) has acquired 200 Off Site Parking spaces for staff onboard the NSAB installation through funding provided by WRNMMCB.

The parking is available at 6720 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda MD in close proximity to the Montgomery Mall. Parking is available Mon 0500–Sat 0500 with an attendant and roaming security onsite.

To park within the garage, you must receive a brown hang tag and a key fob from the Pass & ID office. Of the 200 spaces, 120 will be distributed to WRNMMCB staff and 80 will be available for staff of all other commands. The 80 spaces are available on a

first come, first service basis at the Pass & ID office. WRNMMCB will provide a list to the Pass & ID office when distribution is ready for the command.

Transportation to and from the garage can be obtained via the Metrobus J line or RideOn Route 96. The daily cost of commuting, for those with a SmarTrip card, is \$3.

For more information on the schedule of the J line or Route 96 please follow the links below: [J1,2,3](#) or [Route 96](#).

Intercounty Connector Will Open New Commuting Possibility

The second phase of the Intercounty Connector (ICC) opened on November 22, 2011 connecting I-370 in Montgomery County to I-95 in Prince George's county.

The new roadway, MD 200, was designed to aid commuters who need to travel from I-95 to I-270 and points in between. This new roadway seeks to save motorists time and ease congestion for those traveling on I-495 and I-270.

The roadway is a toll road. The fares vary to help manage the amount of traffic on the roadway. The toll is higher during peak periods and is lower during nights and weekends. The toll is only collected with an E-Z Pass.

Several commuter buses currently operate on the ICC. The first lines that started operation in March 2011 include MTA Commuter Bus 201 and 202 which run from Gaithersburg to BWI Airport and NSA/Fort Meade respectively.

There are plans to start service in January 2012 on three additional lines that will run on the ICC for a portion of their trip

- Route 203—Columbia to Medical Center Metro Station
- Route 204- Frederick to College Park
- Route 205- College Park to Germantown

The No. 203 will operate weekdays and will have three morning trips, three afternoon trips and a midday trip.

Parking is free at Park and Ride lots and the bus can be paid for with funds from the transit benefit program.

For more information on the new routes please follow this link:

<http://www.mtaiccbus.com/public.html>



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Smartbenefits

Smartbenefit Claim Information. . .

Starting, Tue, Nov 1, all transit benefits are now distributed monthly directly on to a SmarTrip card or the benefit will be routed to a non SmarTrip enabled provider such as VRE, MARC or MTA Commuter Buses.

In order for this to happen, all participants need to make a claim for their benefit at <https://mtbp.whs.mil/> between the first and fifteenth of every month for the following month. If this does not happen, you forfeit your benefit for the following month.

If you are enrolled in the transit benefit program and did not make a claim between

November 1-15, you will not receive transit benefits for December. Please contact Ryan Emery at ryan.emery@med.navy.mil for assistance in ensuring you are registered for the December benefit period.

Steps involved in registering for the Smart-Benefit program include registering a SmarTrip card at the www.wmata.com website and at the Washington Headquarter Services website. Additional steps are involved for those using the MARC, VRE or MTA Commuter buses and can be found at:

<http://www.whs.mil/DFD/Info/allocate.cfm>

Claim Schedule

Claim Period —> Benefit Period

December 1-15 —> January

January 1-15 —> February

February 1-15 —> March

March 1-15 —> April

Claim Period —> Benefit Period

April 1-15 —> May

May 1-15 —> June

June 1-15 —> July

July 1-15 —> August

August 1-15 —> September

September 1-15 —> October

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- A pedestrian detour has been set up in the America Garage on the ground level. Temporary measures are now in place that provide a walking path from the Northeast corner to the sidewalk that leads to the America Building. Permanent measures will be installed in the future. All displaced handicap spots were relocated to the second floor of the garage.
- To stay up to the minute on news that affects your commute on Metrorail or Metrobus, please visit this page regularly: http://www.wmata.com/about_metro/news/

Ryan Emery
Transportation Program Coordinator
NSA Bethesda
301-319-3818
Ryan.emery@med.navy.mil

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

