Charles County Commissioner
Gary V. Hodge

Strategic Growth Management Initiatives

Light Rail Transit & Waldorf Urban Design

April 17, 2010
MARYLAND POPULATION GROWTH

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009 Population Estimates, Census 2000,
CHARLES COUNTY & REGIONAL POPULATION GROWTH

To focus future growth in the urban core of Waldorf and discourage sprawl into the rural areas of Charles County
Number of Persons Commuting to Metropolitan Washington DC

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008 American Community Survey
Passenger Rail Service in Maryland

Existing Rail Transit Lines
- MARC Camden Line
- MARC Penn Line / AMTRAK
- MARC Brunswick Line
- MTA Metro
- MTA Light Rail Line
- WMATA Metro Red Line
- WMATA Metro Orange Line
- WMATA Metro Blue Line
- WMATA Metro Yellow Line
- WMATA Metro Green Line

Terminal Points
Proposed New Rail Projects

Purple Line

Baltimore Red Line

Corridor Cities Transitway

Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project
Studies Of Southern Maryland Transit Needs

- Southern Maryland Transit Corridor Preservation Study, 2010


- MD 5/US 301 Transit Services Staging Plan, 2004

- Southern Maryland Mass Transportation Alternatives Study, 1996
Alternative Transit Modes: Bus Rapid Transit and Light Rail Transit

Photo credit: Bob Voets

LRT

BRT
Bus Rapid Transit Examples
Light Rail Transit Examples
Light Rail Transit
Preferred Alternative
Transit Route
18.8 Miles

- In Charles County, alignment is adjacent to west side of existing CSX Railroad R.O.W
- In Prince George’s County alignment is adjacent to east side of MD 5
- Is supportive of land use and economic development goals of Charles and Prince George’s County

Source: MTA Maryland, Southern Maryland Transit Corridor Preservation Study
11 Proposed Transit Station Locations

- DeMarr Road (White Plains – Southern Terminus)
- Smallwood Drive (Waldorf)
- Leonardtown Road (Waldorf)
- Acton Lane (Waldorf)
- Substation Road (Waldorf)
- Timothy Branch (Prince George's County)
- Brandywine Road (Prince George's County)
11 Proposed Transit Station Locations continued

- Surratts Road (So. MD Hospital, Prince George's County)
- Woodyard Road (Clinton, Prince George's County)
- Coventry Way / Allentown Road (Andrews AFB, Prince George's County)
- Branch Avenue Metrorail Station (Prince George’s County - Northern Terminus)
Prince George’s County Subregion 5 Master Plan
Future Transitway

Source: Maryland - National Capital Park & Planning Commission, Preliminary Subregion 5 Master Plan and Proposed Sectional Map Amendment
LRT Typical Section: Ballasted Track Adjacent to existing CSX Rail right of way (Pope’s Creek RR)

Source: MTA Maryland, Southern Maryland Transit Corridor Preservation Study, Sept 22, 2009
**Prince George’s County Segment**

**LRT Typical Section: Ballasted Track Adjacent to Roadways**

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Source: MTA Maryland, Southern Maryland Transit Corridor Preservation Study, Sept 22, 2009
Vision for Downtown Waldorf

1. Create a vibrant, attractive new urban center in Waldorf
   A mix of uses, services, and public amenities in a higher-density, walkable downtown with a unique sense of place

2. Envisioned as a hub for future regional light rail transit

3. A dynamic center for new employment opportunities with a diverse mix of residential housing options

4. Attractive and functional streets, public parks and open spaces, pedestrian and bicycle friendly
Waldorf Urban Design Study Area
Downtown Waldorf Implementing The Vision

Four Key Components:

- **Vision Plan**
- **Design Guidelines**
- **Zoning Text Amendments**
- **Rezoning of Project Sites (Map Amendments)**

Source: Charles County Dept of Planning and Growth Management, Waldorf Urban Design Study, February, 2010
Examples of the Vision for Downtown Waldorf
Fostering Environmental Sensitivity & Stewardship
The Next Steps

- MTA Delineation of a Southern Maryland Transit Corridor Alignment
- Completion of Waldorf Urban Design Study and adoption of implementing legislation by Charles County, April 13, 2010
- Adoption of the MD 5/US 301 transit corridor in the Subregion 5 Master Plan by Prince George's County
  - Begin reservation of right-of-way for transit line and proposed stations
The Next Steps continued

- Complete analysis of infrastructure needs in Waldorf urban center (FY 2011 CIP)

- Secure federal funding for pre-engineering studies required by Federal Transit Administration (Alternatives Analysis, DEIS, Selection of Locally Preferred Alternative, New Starts Application)

- Continue close coordination with Prince George's County as key project partner
The Next Steps continued

- Initiate coordination with other agency partners (State Highway Administration, WMATA, Andrews AFB)
- Build and sustain local and regional support for State and federal investment in high-capacity fixed-route transit service from Waldorf and White Plains to the Branch Avenue Metro Station
The Reward for our Sustained and Relentless Perseverance:

A Sustainable Future that Protects Charles County’s Unique Character and Identity, Economic Vitality, Competitiveness, Natural Resources and Quality of Life