



Faces of Transit

How Modern Public Transportation is Good for All of Us

Tuesday May 3, 2016
6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

Co-hosted by CASA and the Coalition for Smarter Growth

Community Member Panelists:

Jonathan Hernandez , Felix Kala, Laura Pinto,
Lidia Rivas, and Partap Varma

Transit Expert Panelists:

Dan Reed | Associate | Nelson\Nygaard
Willow Lung-Amam | Urban Studies Professor
University of Maryland
Aaron Overman | Metrobus Customer Facilities | WMATA
J Walter Tejada | Former Arlington County Board Member



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conversation on Twitter with the hashtag [#TransitMatters](https://twitter.com/TransitMatters)

Community Member Panelists

Jonathan Hernandez attends High Point High School in Prince George's County. Jonathan is active in Get Out The Vote campaigns and in the University Landing Residents Association.

Felix Kala has been a constant presence at CASA's Prince George's Welcome Center. He is a leader in the West African community and is an outspoken advocate for worker rights.

Laura Pinto is a University Landing Residents Association leader. Laura has lived in Langley Park for over 25 years. She was a leader in the campaign to renovate the University Landing apartment complex.

Lidia Rivas Lidia Rivas is a parent and community leader in Langley Park. She's led campaigns focusing on renter rights, access to quality education, and public safety.

Partap Varma is an attorney and a civic activist from Forest Glen. He currently writes his own blog Finding Forest Glen (findingforestglen.wordpress.com). Partap is also the founder of the Forest Glen Civic Association and a Montgomery County native.

Transit Expert Panelists

Dan Reed is an urban planner at Nelson\Nygaard Consulting Associates, a transportation planning firm. He also writes about planning and design issues in Montgomery County, both on his own blog (justupthepike.com) and in publications including the New York Times, the Atlantic, Washingtonian, Architect Magazine, and Greater Greater Washington. Dan sits on the board of Action Committee for Transit, a 30-year-old transit advocacy group in Montgomery County. He lives in downtown Silver Spring.

Willow Lung-Amam is an Assistant Professor with University of Maryland's School of Architecture, Planning & Preservation. Her scholarship focuses on the link between social inequality and the built environment. She has worked professionally on master-planning projects in low-income communities, and with non-profits, public agencies, and private firms on issues of public housing and community development.

Aaron Overman has fifteen years of experience in the transportation field, and currently manages Metrobuses Customer Facilities. His past experience includes management and oversight of the DC Circulator and TheBus. He has thorough experience in transportation operations, transportation planning, and project management.

J Walter Tejada served on the Arlington County Board from 2003 to 2015, and is a distinguished leader and community advocate. His numerous leadership roles have included Chairman of the Virginia Latino Advisory Commission, Chairman of the National Association of Counties 2009-2010 and 2012-2013 Immigration Task Force. Mr. Tejada's work has earned him many awards, including one from the Coalition for Smarter Growth. His work has earned the respect of local, state, regional, and national leadership.



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