

Sandy Creek Transit Center Dedication

On Thursday, March 15 at 2pm, Mason will celebrate the official opening of the Sandy Creek Transit Center on the Fairfax Campus. Sandy Creek serves as the primary hub of Mason Shuttles, with four of the six shuttle routes passing through.

The renovation of Sandy Creek would not have been possible without \$1 million provided by Fairfax County for the project. Prior to the renovation, Sandy Creek was configured in a circle with a grass center, and could accommodate only 1-2 shuttle buses at a time. Thanks to the renovation, Sandy Creek can now handle 6 shuttles in its two new perpendicular bays.

“Fairfax County’s support has quadrupled the capacity of Sandy Creek,” says Josh Cantor, Director of Parking and Transportation. “The County saw it as a regional transit opportunity. Part of the long range plan is to eventually bring regional transit into the core of campus. That conversation couldn’t happen until Mason had the capacity. Now we do.”

While Sandy Creek has been operational since early last year, there will be some finishing touches prior to the official opening.

“This is a celebration of the vibrant partnerships Mason has with the city, county, and the commonwealth, as well as a celebration of Mason Shuttles,” Cantor said.

Mason’s shuttle program began in 2002 with two vans transporting students between Fairfax and the Prince William campus (now SciTech). The shuttles are now responsible for approximately 600,000 passenger trips per year.

“When you add that to the roughly 300,000 Mason CUE bus riders per year, we are seeing how transit can have a significant positive impact on how our community gets to school and work,” Cantor said.

The campus community is invited to attend the celebration at the Sandy Creek Transit Center. Refreshments will be served; if you plan to attend, please RSVP at <http://shuttle.gmu.edu/pdfs/2018/Online%20Invitation.pdf>.