Open Forum: Local Municipalities

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Data Collection Method

1) **Surveys** *(sent with an intro letter from the DOTS Director)*
   - A letter with a survey attached was sent to 11 local municipalities within a 2.5 mile radius from campus: 9 incorporated municipalities, and 2 County council districts (D1 and D2). The letter clarified that the survey was from DOTS, not UMD.
   - Low initial response <20% - completed surveys received to date are from New Carrollton and Edmonston.
   - College Park discussed the survey at a recent televised town council meeting, but has yet to submit a formal response.

Data Topics

1) Perceived current impact of our department
2) Concerns
3) Thoughts, wishes, desires for the future of our department’s services

TRENDS

- No survey or discussion made mention of concerns regarding parking or alternative transportation initiatives.
- **Perceived current impact of our department** — Edmonston cited no impact at all, New Carrollton cited minimal impact, and College Park cited a significant impact.
- **Concerns** — Edmonston cited lack of current Shuttle-UM service in their town, New Carrollton listed “None”, and College Park expressed minimal concern over size of Shuttle-UM vehicles late at night through the Old Town neighborhood.
- **Thoughts, wishes, desires for the future of DOTS services** — Edmonston and New Carrollton wished for increased Shuttle-UM service, as well as being preliminarily interested in partnering with DOTS to provide bus service to their non-university affiliated residents. College Park suggested possible modifications for existing bus routes.