

**Maryland Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee
August Meeting Minutes
Friday, August 12, 2011
Maryland Department of Transportation
Hanover, Maryland**

Members Present

Vincent J. Browne, Jr.
Steve Carr
Erin S. Penniston
Kevin Racine
Carl Rebele
Patrick Sheehan
Michael Jackson for Beverley Swaim-Staley
Jim Swift
John Z. Wetmore

Members Absent

Steven H. Allan
Richard Cushwa
Greg Hinchliffe
Beverly Malone
Michael Mason
Marci Ross
Fred Shaffer
Jeff Springer
Sgt. Michael R. Tagliaferri
James G. Titus
Cari Watrous

Visitors Present

Russ Anderson, State Highway Administration
Gregory Billing, Washington Area Bicyclist Association
Robert Herstein, State Highway Administration
Dustin Kuzan, State Highway Administration

MBPAC Chairperson Jim Swift began the meeting at 9:30 AM.

1. Approval of June Meeting Minutes

Vincent Browne moved and Patrick Sheehan seconded the motion to approve the June meeting minutes. The minutes were unanimously approved.

2. Subcommittee Reports

A. Tourism and Product Development Subcommittee – T&PD Subcommittee
Chair Dick Cushwa submitted in advance a review of their 2010-11 work plans, their current subcommittee report and their draft 2011-12 work plans. New member Steve Carr, representing the Department of Natural Resources, was recently hired by that agency as their Lands Trail Planner. Steve discussed his background in bicycling, professional and business endeavors. He stated that his focus would be on identifying and closing trail gaps as part of a strategy of providing connectivity. Steve expressed a desire to improve DNR's interactive trail map and to promote the creation of a common GIS trail base map that would be shared by all State agencies that show trail information.

B. Commuting & Transportation Subcommittee – No reports submitted. Kevin Racine reported that he had spoken with all of the mayors of Cecil County urging that their citizens be made aware about non-motorized transportation options. He said that transit service across the Hatem Bridge had not begun on July 1st as previously anticipated. John Wetmore discussed the Bradley Boulevard bicycle and pedestrian facility design issue in Bethesda that was settled to provide on-road bicyclists with 5-foot wide marked bike lanes as some advocates wanted.

C. Education & Awareness Subcommittee – E&A Subcommittee Chair Vincent Browne described the E&A's 2010-11 work plan initiatives and their progress including participating in the development and completion of the Maryland Statewide Student Travel Policy Survey last spring. The subcommittee intends to continue to monitor the MBPAC website, the Safe Routes to Schools program, police education regarding bicycle issues and MDOT's bicycle safety outreach to motorists, including efforts to work with auto insurance companies.

D. Legislative and Government Affairs Subcommittee – L&GA Subcommittee Chair Patrick Sheehan submitted L&GA's review of their 2010-11 activities. He noted the legislative successes of HB 363, Manslaughter By Vehicle and SB 226, which eliminated the requirement that at least one MBPAC meeting occur in Annapolis annually. Patrick noted that the Legislature did not reinstate the Maryland Quiet Car Task Force. However many of this task force's recommendations will be included in the recommendations of the federal Quiet Car Task Force. Patrick noted that similar Quiet Car recommendations have been rejected by European legislatures.

The L&GA Subcommittee will drop tracking Quiet Car developments from their 2011-12 work plan and will monitor developments in the recommendations of the federal Public Right-of-Way Access Committee (PROWAC) that have been debated for the past 10 years. The subcommittee will also track the impact of possible budget cuts on policies.

3. R4-11/Bicycles May Use Full Lane Presentation

Robert Herstein of the Maryland State Highway Administration gave a presentation on plans to develop draft appropriate guidelines for the use of the R4-11/Bicycles May Use Full Lane signs per the direction of MDOT Secretary Beverley Swaim-Staley. After these draft guidelines are approved by SHA and MDOT the public will be allowed an opportunity to provide comment and MDOT will evaluate the comments and subsequent issue final guidelines.

4. Other Business

Michael Jackson provided an update on responses regarding potential legislation to require certain bicycle paths to provide 24 hour public access and information regarding a proposed extension of the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal bicycle path that will be built in Delaware across the Maryland state line to terminate in Chesapeake City. On August 11 officials from Maryland DNR, MDOT and SHA joined legislative and other

government officials from the federal government, Maryland and Delaware to review the status, merits and obstacles regarding extending the planned C&D Canal bicycle path into Maryland.

John discussed possible federal transportation related budget cuts and urged that if such budget cuts occur that non-motorized transportation projects and programs not suffer disproportionately.

5. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 11:58 AM