

**Maryland Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee  
Draft December Meeting Minutes  
Friday, December 10, 2010  
Maryland Department of Transportation  
Hanover, Maryland**

**Members Present**

Steven H. Allan  
Vincent J. Browne, Jr.  
Richard Cushwa  
Sgt. Janet Harrison  
Beverly Malone  
Kevin Racine  
Carl Rebele  
Fred Shaffer  
Patrick Sheehan  
Jeff Springer  
Jim Swift  
James G. Titus  
Stephen Trageser  
Cari Watrous  
Neal Welch  
John Z. Wetmore  
Michael Jackson (staff)

**Members Absent**

Judith Grillo  
Greg Hinchliffe  
Michael Mason  
Marci Ross  
Beverly Swaim-Staley  
Missie Wakefield

**Visitors Present**

Carol Silldorff, Bike Maryland  
Sandi Trent, Maryland Department of Natural Resources

MBPAC Chair Jim Swift called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM.

**1. Approval of the October Meeting Minutes**

Jim Titus moved to approve the October meeting minutes and Cari Watrous seconded the motion. The October meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

**2. Ratification of Comments Made to the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA)**

Jim Titus moved and Cari seconded his motion to ratify comments sent by MBPAC to MVA regarding recommended revisions on the rights and duties of motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists toward each other for the upcoming version of MVA's Drivers' Manual. The motion was unanimously approved.

### **3. Bike Maryland's Legislative Concepts**

Carol Silldorff, Executive Director of Bike Maryland (*formerly known as One Less Car*), distributed a list of 17 issues under consideration as legislative proposals to be introduced in the upcoming 2011 Maryland legislative session. These issues generated comments at a Bike Maryland Legislative Task Force meeting held on December 8<sup>th</sup>, attended by several Bike Maryland and MBPAC members, concerned citizens and MDOT staff. Carol compiled the comments with the issues onto the list and urged MBPAC to review and make recommendations.

### **4. Subcommittee Reports**

**A. Legislative and Government Affairs** – L&GA subcommittee chair Patrick Sheehan asked Michael Jackson for his professional opinion on these issues which were provided. Following discussion a resolution was passed that reads, “*MBPAC recommends that MDOT work to support the 17 legislative objectives as enumerated in the summary report from Bike Maryland.*” An L&GA subcommittee meeting would be scheduled in the near future to review legislative proposals in the near future.

**B. Tourism and Product Development** – A written T&PD subcommittee report prepared by subcommittee chair Marci Ross was submitted and distributed to the members prior to the meeting. Neal Welch summarized the status of the Department Natural Resources statewide trail map development and that Department's Trails Summit held in October.

**C. Commuting and Transportation** - Subcommittee chair Jeff Springer prepared a written C&T subcommittee report that was distributed to the members prior to the meeting. Jeff reported that Delaware Area Rapid Transit (DART) had installed a bus shelter with bus stop along southbound MD 279 south of Fletchwood Road just inside the Maryland/Delaware line. This bus stop location had been sought for several years by DART. Jeff also announced that Cecil County Transit is planning to start bus service across the Susquehanna River into Havre de Grace effective July 1, 2011 via the Hatem Memorial Bridge, thus providing a transit connection between Harford County and Cecil County transit buses.

Jeff announced that the Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals is proposing to train traffic engineers on bicycle and pedestrian issues which would fill a gap in the academic training engineers typically don't receive. He also stated that he attended a recent public forum on the draft Town of Elkton Bike Plan, sponsored by the Wilmington Area Planning Council. Jim Titus inquired about the impact on bicyclists caused by bypass through lanes at intersections that eliminate shoulders in order to create left turn pockets. Finally Jeff declared Judy Grillo as an “honorary member” of the C&T subcommittee in gratitude toward her contributions in drafting text recommendations as part of C&T's comments on the upcoming MVA Drivers' Manual.

**D. Education & Awareness** – Subcommittee chair Vince Browne submitted the E&A subcommittee report that was distributed to members prior to the meeting. He noted that Toole Design Group was nearing the completion of the Maryland Student Travel Policy Survey report and work was proceeding on the Maryland Law Enforcement Bicycle Traffic Safety Instructional Video. Janet Harrison provided additional information on this effort. Jim Titus asked how information regarding future changes in bicycle laws will be communicated to law enforcement officers after the video is completed. Michael responded that was a good question which will be considered as part of this effort.

#### **5. Western Maryland Rail Trail Letter to the National Park Service**

Dick Cushwa distributed a draft letter to the National Park Service prepared for MDOT Secretary's Beverley Swaim-Staley's signature. The letter expresses MDOT's support for the NPS's proposed extension of the Western Maryland Rail Trail from Pearre Station, MD to Paw Paw, WVA. Dick noted that the NPS deadline for public comment is December 23<sup>rd</sup>. Carl Rebele moved and Jim Titus seconded a motion to send the letter to Secretary Swaim-Staley. Michael said he would forward the letter to the Secretary along with the request for her signature.

#### **6. Budget Allocations for Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities**

Michael announced that the planned discussion of budget allocations for bicycle and pedestrian facilities has been postponed until the February meeting.

#### **7. Other Business**

Dick noted that the City of Frederick has recently established a bicycle advisory committee. Kevin Racine stated that many mayors of small municipalities were discouraged from applying for grant funding of non-motorized transportation facilities because they don't think their applications have a reasonable chance of approval. Vince asked John Wetmore about the status of his findings on snow removal policies affecting sidewalks and trails. John said he is still working on this effort.

#### **8. Adjournment**

Jim Swift adjourned the meeting at 11:37 AM.