

**Maryland Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee  
February Meeting Minutes  
Friday, February 13, 2009  
Maryland Department of Natural Resources  
580 Taylor Avenue  
Annapolis, Maryland**

**Members Present**

Vincent Browne  
Judy Grillo  
Janet Harrison  
Greg Hinchliffe  
Michael Mason  
Susan Mele  
Kevin Racine  
Carl Rebele  
Patrick Sheehan  
Jeff Springer  
Jim Swift  
James G. Titus  
Stephen C. Trageser (for Ann Walsh)  
Cari Watrous  
Neal Welch  
John Z. Wetmore  
Michael Jackson (staff)

**Members Absent**

William Burd  
Richard Cushwa  
Marci Ross  
Beverley Swaim-Staley

**Visitors Present**

Larry Cole, Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission  
Matt Gilman  
Tracey Harvin, M-NCPPC  
Jim Hudnall, Oxon Hill Bicycle and Trail Club  
Fred Shaffer, M-NCCPC

MBPAC Chair Jim Swift began the meeting at 9:35 AM with a round of introductions.

**1. Approval of December meeting minutes**

The minutes were approved as amended to reflect Cari Watrous' abstention on the Committee's Purple Line vote.

## 2. Subcommittee Reports

A. Commuting & Transportation – C&T Subcommittee Chair Jeff Springer provided a written report. In summary he reported meetings between staff of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, Baltimore Regional Transportation Board, Michael Jackson and himself on efforts to get a Maryland version of the Employees/Employers Guide to Bicycle Commuting in the Washington Area. The BRTB received permission and assistance from MWCOG to reproduce this document.

There were discussions on SHA policy regarding rumble strips and minimum shoulder widths. The Committee requested that the C&T Subcommittee develop language stating MBPAC's position on rumble strip placement electronically and to send the approved resolution to SHA. Discussion on a resolution to address shoulder width was postponed in order to solicit views from outside stakeholders.

B. Education & Awareness – E&A Subcommittee Chair Vince Browne reported that a scope of work proposal for conducting a survey of Maryland school policies regarding student travel by bicycling and walking was scheduled to be sent to MDOT within one week. Michael Mason said that school principals would have more time to respond to survey questions in the summer.

C. Legislation & Government Affairs – E&A Subcommittee Chair Patrick Sheehan led a discussion of what positions MBPAC would take on the following bills. State agency representatives Michael Mason, Neal Welch and Janet Harrison abstained on voting for all bills. Cari Watrous abstained on all votes except for HB 25/SB 18.

- HB 97 *Manslaughter by Homicide* – **Support**
- SB 428 – *Three Foot Passing Bicycles* – **Support with amendment that failure to wear a bicycle helmet does not constitute evidence of contributory negligence.**
- SB 98 – *No Texting While Driving* – **Support**
- SB 152 – *Arrest for Leaving Scene of an Accident involving injury* – **Support**
- SB 15 – *Authorizes Use of Public School Construction Funds for Student Bike/Ped Access* – **Support with amendment that phrase “bike paths” are changed to “bikeways”.**
- SB 250 – *Authorizes Motorcycles to Proceed Thru Signalized Intersection if Undetected* – **Support if amended to include bicycles**
- HB 187 – *Mandatory Helmet Use* – **Oppose**
- HB 25/SB 18 – *Motor Scooter Roadway Restrictions* – **Oppose**

- HB 335 - *Designation of Hoyer Crest on Backbone Mtn. as Highest Point in State* – **Support**
- SB 370 – *Extending Duration of Quiet Car Task Force* - **Support**

D. Tourism & Product Development – No Report

### **3. HB 934 Discussion**

Larry Cole and Fred Shaffer, Senior Transportation Planners with the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission along with M-NCPPC Associate General Counsel Tracey Harvin described the rationale for HB 934. This bill, among other things, would create a 22<sup>nd</sup> seat on MBPAC for M-NCCPC, create a bicycle/pedestrian priority area, and require businesses and employers within the priority to submit reports on the status of bicycle access to these business and employment sites. After hearing questions and concerns from MBPAC members Michael Jackson agreed to set up a meeting between L&GA Subcommittee members, other members and M-NCPPC staff to further discuss.

### **4. Henson Creek Trail Extension**

Jim Hudnall of the Oxon Hill Bicycle and Trail Club and Fred Shaffer, noting the rejection of M-NCPPC’s Transportation Enhancement Program application for extending the Henson Creek Trail, gave a presentation on the merits of utilizing the existing culvert. The presentation included photographs of use of drainage culverts for shared use paths in nearby Alexandria, Virginia. Michael Jackson relayed SHA staff concerns regarding the TEP application including the lack of a Hydraulics and Hydrology study that SHA had requested. Carl Rebele said SHA can use Talbert’s Formula to determine hydrologic flow of the Henson Creek floodplain instead of the H&H study.

Michael will set up a meeting between Henson Creek Trail extension stakeholders including M-NCPPC staff and SHA staff to discuss project prior to a resubmittal of the TEP grant application.

### **5. Adjournment**

Jim Swift adjourned the meeting at 12:30 PM.