

**Maryland Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee  
Draft October Meeting Minutes  
Friday, October 8, 2010  
Maryland Department of Transportation  
Hanover, Maryland**

**Members Present**

Richard Cushwa  
Judith Grillo  
Greg Hinchliffe  
Michael Mason  
Kevin Racine  
Fred Shaffer  
Patrick Sheehan  
Jim Swift  
Jim Titus  
Stephen Trageser  
Cari Watrous  
John Wetmore  
Michael Jackson (staff)

**Members Absent**

Steven H. Allan  
Vincent J. Browne Jr.  
Janet Harrison  
Carl Rebele  
Marci Ross  
Beverley Swaim-Staley  
Jeff Springer  
Missie Wakefield  
Neal Welch

**Visitors Present**

Carolyn Harvin  
Dustin Kuzan, State Highway Administration  
Beverly Malone, University of Maryland

Chairman Jim Swift called the meeting to order at 9:32 AM. He noted the agenda item proposing altering the MBPAC meeting schedule had been postponed to the December meeting at the request of Marci Ross.

**1. Approval of the August Retreat Meeting Minutes**

Jim Titus moved and Greg Hinchliffe seconded a motion to approve the August meeting minutes with the stipulation that second line of the fourth page be revised to add the words, “other than Jim Titus”. The motion to approve the minutes with this revision was passed unanimously.

**2. Subcommittee Reports**

A. Commuting and Transportation – The written C&T Subcommittee report was distributed by Michael Jackson on behalf of absent subcommittee chair Jeff Springer. This report noted that Jim Titus drafted a schedule of proposed milestones regarding sharrows and other shared lane traffic control devices and a rough draft on traffic flow patterns utilizing various lane widths and configurations that would be affected by

sharrow markings. Comments will be solicited from other subcommittee members in the near future. The report also noted that Kevin Racine has met with various town mayors along the US Route 40 corridor to promote improved pedestrian accessibility. Jim Titus stated his concerns about misstatements by State officials regarding the impact of new laws affecting bicyclists. Judy Grillo said the American Automobile Association has been lobbying to take away funds dedicated to bicycle paths that are perceived to have come from motor fuel taxes.

Greg noted he would be leaving early to attend a planned dedication ceremony in Baltimore City where Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake would sign two pieces of bicycle related legislation, officially dedicate new bicycle lanes in Harbor East and receive the League of American Bicyclists' Bicycle Friendly Communities bronze level award. Greg also discussed recent presentations from the National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) regarding innovative bikeway designs that were hosted by Baltimore City.

B. Education and Awareness Subcommittee – The E&A subcommittee report was distributed by Michael Jackson on behalf of absent subcommittee chair Vincent Browne. It noted the subcommittee met to review the draft Maryland Statewide Student Travel Policy Survey document.

C. Legislative and Government Affairs – L&GA Subcommittee Chair Patrick Sheehan distributed the subcommittee report. He noted that proposed Quiet Car federal legislation that would mandate engine noisemaking devices when motor vehicles are operating in a silent mode (e.g. hybrid cars operating only on battery power) hit a snag. Such legislation would be unlikely to be introduced in Congress this year. Patrick noted that L&GA would be meeting with Carol Silldorff, Executive Director of One Less Car in the near future to discuss 2011 proposed legislative initiatives.

D. Tourism and Product Development – The T&PD subcommittee report was distributed by Michael Jackson on behalf of absent subcommittee chair Marci Ross. Dick Cushwa summarized his written report on Canal Town meetings, activities of the City of Hagerstown's Bicycle Advisory Committee and the positive response of the Town of Williamsport officials upon receiving a letter from Maryland Department of Transportation Secretary Beverley Swaim-Staley applauding the Town's efforts to become bicycle friendly.

Greg asked Dick how would trail users of the planned extension of the Western Maryland Rail Trail be routed around the "Bat Tunnel" which will not be accessible due to anticipated negative impacts upon the bat population residing there. There are concerns of the grade change between the altitude of the WWRT and the C&O Canal Trail which will be used as a detour around the tunnel. Michael Jackson asked Dustin Kuzan, State Highway Administration Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator to describe how SHA responded to complaints of a bicycle tire trapping longitudinal joint along the MD Route 68 bridge over the Conococheague Creek. Dustin explained that flange filler was used to eliminate the gap. Dick said he would go out and review the repair.

### **3. Maryland Statewide Student Travel Policy Survey**

Michael Jackson distributed comments from the Education and Awareness Subcommittee on the draft Maryland Statewide Student Travel Policy Survey and summarized the background of this project. Jim Titus discussed comments from the Commuting and Transportation Subcommittee on the survey. Michael Mason reported that staff from the Maryland Department of Education had also reviewed this draft document. It was agreed that Michael Jackson would review comments from these respective subcommittees, summarize as much as possible and submit to the full committee to decide whether this should comprise the official MBPAC position on this document.

### **4. Other Business**

John Wetmore passed out materials from the September ProWalk/ProBike 2010 conference he attended in Chattanooga, Tennessee. He then reported that SHA's Sidewalk Retrofit program budget had been cut from \$1.2 million to \$750,000. John noted that approximately half of the questions Montgomery County officials raised during a recent meeting with Beverley Swaim-Staley and other state transportation officials were pedestrian and bicycle related. He was pleased to see so much attention raised on non-motorized transportation matters.

Judy said she had not seen any coverage in her local newspapers on the Eastern Shore regarding changes in bicycle traffic law effective October 1<sup>st</sup>. Michael Jackson will put her in contact with Peter Moe of the Maryland Highway Safety Office so Judy can learn about their publicity campaign regarding these new laws. Judy also discussed the publication, *Explore Maine by Bicycle*, a collection of 33 bicycle tours jointly produced by the Maine Department of Transportation and the Bicycle Coalition of Maine. Judy would like to see a similar publication in Maryland and she reported having an initial discussion with the Maine DOT bicycle and pedestrian coordinator about details of the guide's development.

Michael Jackson discussed his attendance at the ProWalk/ProBike Conference. Dustin stated he was working on a SHA master sidewalk plan. Kevin said he had attended a meeting earlier in the morning with Maryland Transit Administration officials regarding his 12 step proposal to improve better transit access along a travel corridor stretching from Fairfax County, Virginia to New York City.

### **5. Adjournment** – Jim Swift adjourned the meeting at 12 Noon.

