

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Jacob C. Shade, *President*Creade V. Brodie, Jr.
David J. Caporale

### ALLEGANY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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Jason M. Bennett, CPA
County Administrator
Paul F. Kahl, P.E.
Director of Public Works
Adam Patterson, P.E.
Deputy Director

June 10, 2021

The Hon. Gregory Slater, Maryland Transportation Secretary Maryland Department of Transportation 7201 Corporate Center Drive Hanover, Maryland 21076

RE: Allegany County 2021 Transportation Priorities

Dear Transportation Secretary Slater:

The Board of Commissioners of Allegany County, in cooperation with the municipalities of Allegany County are pleased to present our transportation priorities to your department for the FY 2021 – 2025 Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP.) The County's transportation priorities focus on system preservation, safety, and supporting economic development. The County appreciates your responsiveness to Allegany County's requests to move projects forward efficiently to better serve the needs of our constituents.

Thank you for funding the following projects in Allegany County:

- MD 36, Mount Savage Road Replacement of Bridge 01008 over Jennings Run
- MD 51, Industrial Boulevard Rehabilitation of Bridge 01092 over CSX and Canal Parkway
- Rt. 51, Old Town Road Replace Bridge 01047 over Town Creek

This year, you will see many of the projects that were listed in the 2020 Priority Letter; the project requests have been updated to move these projects to completion. It is critical projects in Allegany County continue to receive funding for consecutive phasing and to see these projects are completed in a timely manner to reach the goals of a safe and effective transportation system.

To be consistent with the Chapter 725 process, representatives from the County and the municipalities discussed and prioritized the following projects at a coordination meeting held Tuesday, April 20, 2021. The Board of Commissioners, as a part of the agenda on Thursday, June 10, 2021 endorsed the 2021 priority requests. On behalf of Allegany County, the Town of Barton, the City of Cumberland, the City of Frostburg, the Town of Lonaconing, the Town of Luke, the Town of Midland, and the Town of Westernport, we would like to submit the following projects:

### 1. Washington Street Bridge Rehabilitation (updated)

The City of Cumberland is requesting that the state obligate funding to replace the Washington Street Bridge. This is one of three bridges located along a CSX railway. The City and CSX have been in negotiations for several years to address ownership of the bridges, which is expected to result in the City assuming ownership of the Washington Street Bridge. This is a critical project for allowing the City to restore traffic flows to Washington Street which located within a Historic District of the City. The under clearance of the bridge will need to be raised nearly 4 feet which will require retaining walls to accommodate the new bridge approach. The project estimate for replacing the bridge is \$6,000,000.

### 2. US 220 Corridor Funding for Preliminary Engineering & ROW (South of Cresaptown to WV State Line)

Allegany County requests MDOT to program preliminary engineering and right-of-way acquisition funding to move this project forward. The County supports the overall plan is for the development of a multilane highway to improve

safety, enhance accessibility, and promote economic vitality in Allegany County. The Maryland Department of Transportation/State Highway Administration have completed the US 220 Supplemental Corridor Evaluation Report from south of Cresaptown to the West Virginia State line. MDOT will coordinate with WVDOT during their Spring/Summer workshops for the Tier II Design Study to determine the location of the roadway through Keyser, West Virginia and crossing Potomac River.

### 3. US 220 Cresaptown Improvements (US 220, MD 53, and MD 636) (updated)

Allegany County requests programing funding for right-of-way, final engineering and construction to relieve congestion along existing US 220, MD 53, and MD 636 (Warrior Drive). Preliminary planning is complete for the transportation system management (TSM) improvements to relieve the congestion. MDOT SHA has selected "Alternative 2 Modified" as its selected alternative to improve the safety and economic vitality in Allegany County. This project is in response to the public meeting held in Winter 2017; the public was in strong support of immediate improvements to the area.

### 4. Baltimore Street Access (updated)

The City of Cumberland requests continued funding for construction reopen the Baltimore Street pedestrian mall to allow one-way vehicular traffic through the area yet maintain space for pedestrians, bikes and outdoor dining. There has been \$4.8 million in TAP and \$1.25 million in ARC funding obligated to the project, which is estimated to cost \$11 million for construction. This project was recommended in a recent Economic and Transportation Study of Downtown Cumberland, to satisfy transportation needs for Downtown Cumberland an increase economic vitality. Design work for this project is underway and funded by the City. Construction is expected to start in the Spring 2022.

### 5. Allegany County Transit Operating & Capital Funding (updated)

Allegany County Transit is requesting funding for operations and capital projects. Allegany County Transit operates fixed route service and demand response in Allegany County. The Transit's mission is to provide the citizens and visitors of the Allegany County service area with safe, reliable, courteous, efficient, and clean transportation. Continued support for operation funds to achieve our mission. Capital Funding request for FY 2022 includes preventative maintenance and upgrading the computer system.

### 6. Rehabilitation of Bridge A-C-06 Baltimore Street Over Wills Creek

The City and County are requesting continued funding for the Baltimore Street Bridge over Wills Creek, which is in need of a total superstructure replacement. After the November 2017 inspection, the bridge received a condition rating of 4. The project is estimated to cost \$5,000,000. The project PS&E package has been submitted to MDOT and is expected to be advertised in the Summer of 2021. Construction is anticipated to begin in the Fall of 2021. The bridge is a vital transportation link between the Downtown Cumberland business district, the West Side residential area, and suburban areas along U.S. Route 220 south in Allegany County. The bridge also handles relief traffic when sections of I-68 near Downtown Cumberland are closed or blocked.

### 7. Construction Funds for Braddock Road Pedestrian & Bicycle Improvements (updated)

The City of Frostburg requests construction funding for continuous walking and biking lanes on Braddock Street (near I-68 Exit 33) to Center Street in order to complete the project in 2021. Funding for preliminary engineering is allocated in FY2020, and there are no costs anticipated for right of way acquisition. The project lies along MD 736 adjacent to the Frostburg State University (FSU) campus, and will address the need for increased safety within a high-volume pedestrian and bicycle traffic corridor; effectively linking local residents to large employers such as Active Network, Appalachian Laboratory, Edgewood Commons, the FSU campus, and Center Street, at the gateway to downtown Frostburg.

### 8. MD 135 Slope Protection Project & Condition Improvements (updated)

Allegany County, the Town of Luke, and the Town of Westernport request funding engineering for Phase II of the MD 135 Slope Protection Project, and improve access and road conditions in areas of MD 135. A geologically-based concept study done in fall 2017 evaluated areas along MD 135 from Bloomington to McCoole that were prone to failure, sheering rock, and overburden of saturated soils. Seven areas identified as high risk and high probability of failure are under design and construction funding for Phase I and funded in FY 2021. Funding for the design of Phase II, Section 10 - MD 135 between Luke & Westernport, is requested to be programed in the

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coming years for design and construction to address the next high-risk areas to the continue safe operation of MD 135.

Meanwhile when MDOT is addressing the MD slope protection project, Allegany County appreciate improvements to access, specifically in Westernport, during peak travel times the traffic in the vicinity of Church Street (MD 135) is backed up in both lanes due to access to the following businesses: McDonald's, The Dollar General and Fair Price Market. While MDOT is working on MD 135, the Town of Luke would like the pavement condition through their Town to be addressed. Additionally, the culverts that were installed to remedy drainage issues, are now clogged and the paving has deteriorated to the point that there are bumps in the road at each culvert.

### 9. US 220 Bowling Green Drainage Improvements (updated)

Allegany County requests continued support funding for all phases of the Bowling Green drainage improvements from Milnor Avenue to Moss Ave. After the June 12, 2014 flood event, State Highway Administration (SHA) and Allegany County collaborated with Whitney Bailey Cox & Magnani, LLC (WBCM) in preparing the Bowling Green Flooding Hydrology/Hydraulics Study, which proposed short-, mid-, and long-term solutions in response to the flood event. Phase I was completed April 2019, and engineering has been completed for Phase II and is ready for construction. It is imperative to secure funding for this project to see it through completion. The County and SHA have finalized the MOU for Phase II dated January 9, 2020. Due to COVID-19 Pandemic, State funding was not available for planned construction April 2020 and April 2021. Allegany County requests that SHA to continue to obligate funding for the cost of finalizing engineering/design, permitting, administering the advertisement/bid/award, and construction management services. SHA will fund the construction cost of all work within the US 220 right-of-way and split the cost with Allegany County for all work from US 220 to the CSX Railroad.

### 10. Cumberland Street Bridge (A-C-09) (updated)

The City of Cumberland requests funding for the design and construction of the Cumberland Street Bridge. This is one of three bridges on Cumberland's West Side which carry vehicular and pedestrian traffic over CSX rail lines. All three bridges were closed in 2018 due to their unsafe condition. The project is currently in the preliminary engineering stages of the Federal Bridge Reward Replacement Program. The current project estimate is \$6,500,000 and construction anticipated to begin Spring 2023.

### 11. Frostburg Gateway Enhancement Project (updated)

The City of Frostburg requests additional construction funding to complete the Frostburg Gateway Enhancement. The Gateway Project will replace a difficult to navigate five-way intersection where Braddock Road (MD 736) meets Center Street with a roundabout and associated bicycle, pedestrian, and stormwater drainage features. This intersection serves as the sole gateway to the Frostburg Central Business District from Exit 33 via Interstate 68, but has many traffic pattern, safety, and aesthetic limitations that cause frequent issues. In addition to the roundabout and related improvements, the project will make changes to traffic patterns including converting a portion of a one-way street to two-way. Improvements to pedestrian and bicycle facilities involve the construction of new crossings, sidewalks, bike lanes, and additional lighting. The project is currently in the Design phase, funded by the ARC, which has also provided partial construction funding. The City has applied for \$1.5 million in funding through the Surface Infrastructure funds in the newest Stimulus funding available. The project funding is being sponsored by Representative Trone's office. If the Surface Infrastructure through the Stimulus is approved for this project, an anticipated construction start date will be Spring 2022.

### 12. Frostburg Hillside Tram (New)

A significant number of visitors to the City of Frostburg arrive by way of the Great Allegheny Passage Trail and Western Maryland Scenic Railroad, however a geographical barrier in the form of a steep incline separates these popular tourism features from the business district. The City has completed a Preliminary Engineering Study and Design for the Hillside Tram and the project is widely supported by the community and business owners. The City is currently seeking funds for the Final Design and Construction.

### 13. Great Allegheny Passage Stabilization, Drainage & Surface Improvements (updated)

Allegany County requests construction funding for stabilization, drainage and surface improvements on the Great Allegheny Passage. Improvements are needed in various locations throughout the County to eliminate the on-going maintenance that is required to combat drainage and trail surface issues. These improvements relieve on-going maintenance issues and improve safety for all trail users.

### 14. John J. McMullen Bridge (A-C-01) Repairs (updated)

The City is requesting to use State Aid funding to perform various repairs to the John J. McMullen Bridge. The recent inspection reports identified concrete issues related to the bridge structure and elevated pedestrian walkways. The project is estimated at \$310,000 for design and construction. Repairs will ensure that the useful life of the 43-year-old bridge is extended. The John J. McMullen Bridge connects the north side of the City to the Downtown Business Corridor with an AADT of 11,600. This bridge is a critical asset for the City of Cumberland's road network.

### 15. Fayette Street Bridge Rehabilitation (updated)

The City of Cumberland is requesting that the state obligate funding to replace the Fayette Street Bridge. This is one of three bridges located along a CSX railway. The City and CSX have been in negotiations for several years to address ownership of the bridges, which is expected to result in the City assuming ownership of the Fayette Street. This is a critical project for allowing the City to restore traffic flows to the West Side neighborhood. The under clearance of the bridge will need to be raised nearly 4 feet which will require retaining walls to accommodate the new bridge approach. The project estimate for replacing the bridge is \$6,000,000.

### 16. Greene Street Rehabilitation & Streetscape Improvements

The City of Cumberland design and construction funding for Greene Street to improve road structure, surface rehabilitation, and pedestrian, bicycle, ADA, and streetscape upgrades. Greene Street is in need of significant rehabilitation to handle the traffic on this West Side arterial street. The City is looking to implement the Greene Street Complete Street Plan to improve the corridor for all modes of transportation. The Greene Street Complete Street Plan (financed by the Cumberland Area MPO) was completed in 2015. The plan provides a vision for a safer, more attractive, and economically viable street spanning from Baltimore Street to the end of City maintenance at I-68 Exit 42.

### 17. Pedestrian Connections at MD 36 and US ALT 40 - Eckhart to Village Parkway (new)

SHA recently completed major sidewalk improvements along Main Street (US 40) in Frostburg. The improvements have revitalized the "walkability" for the City, however a disconnect at the east end of Main Street continues to be a concern due to high pedestrian traffic to major employers and shopping centers located in this area. A network of sidewalk and trail facilities is needed to connect the many businesses with the City, Mountain Ridge High School, and the community of Eckhart. Three state routes all converge at this location: US 40, MD 36, and MD 743, including 2 signalized intersections. The Cumberland Area MPO is finalizing an East Frostburg Pedestrian Connection Plan, in coordination with the City of Frostburg, and funding is requested for the implementation of this completed study.

### 18. Midland Sidewalk Repairs - (new)

The Town of Midland is requesting a project to repair and/or replace uneven sidewalk along Rt. 36 between the north and south connections with Paradise Street to enhance the safety and mobility within an ever-increasing pedestrian route through town. The current sidewalks along Rt.36 through the Town of Midland were constructed along with the new Rt. 36 alignment over 25 years ago. The Town of Midland with MDOT SHA funding, extended the sidewalks along the eastside of Rt. 36 with tie-in to Paradise Street promoting a connection between the north and south ends of town. This connection was made in 2002 to enhance the pedestrian safety and mobility in these areas along the roadway. The current conditions of the sidewalk are hazardous to the safety of pedestrians traveling from one end of town to the other. The concrete slabs have shifted over the years and broken creating an uneven walking surface which can lead to trips and falls for the pedestrians using the sidewalk. The Town of Midland is requesting funding to repair and/or replace the current sidewalk along the eastside of Rt. 36 between the north and south connections to Paradise Street.

### 19. Mount Savage Road (MD 36) Pedestrian and Surface Improvements (Retrofit Fund 78)

Allegany County requests retrofit funding (Fund 78) for increasing pedestrian and nonmotorized connectivity in Mount Savage Road (MD 36) from New School Road to the intersection of Iron Rail Street at the east end of town. There is a lack of connectivity in the sidewalks and there are challenges relating to the narrow roadway. These improvements will further revitalize the community of Mount Savage.

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Thank you for your consideration of these transportation priorities in Allegany County. We look forward to a productive partnership with the Maryland Department of Transportation and to actively participate in the development of the CTP to plan and implement these projects.

If you need any clarifications about our recommendations, please contact us.

Sincerely,

The Board of Commissioners of Allegany County

President Jacob C. Shade

Commissioner Creade V. Brodie, Jr.

Commissioner David O aporale

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District 1 Delegation

Senator George C. Edwards

Senator George C. Edwards, District 1

Hansey R But

Delegate Wendell R. Beitzel, District 1A

Delegate Jason C. Buckel, District 1B

Delegate Michael W. McKay, District 1C

Municipal Elected Officials of Allegany County

Daniel A. Colmer, Mayor, Town of Barton

W. Robert Flasigan, Mayor, City of Frostburg

im, Mayor Town of Longconing

Enclosures:

Maps

Cc:

The Hon. George C. Edwards, Maryland Senate

The Hon. Jason C. Buckel, Maryland House of Delegates

The Hon. Wendell R. Beitzel, Maryland House of Delegates

The Hon. Michael W. McKay, Maryland House of Delegates

Daniel A. Colmer, Mayor, Town of Barton

Raymond Morriss, Mayor, City of Cumberland

W. Robert Flanigan, Mayor, City of Frostburg

John W. Coburn, Mayor Town of Lonaconing

Edward E. Clemons, Jr., Mayor, Town of Luke

John Monahan, Mayor, Town of Midland

Laura Freeman Legge, Mayor, Town of Westernport

Dave Cotton, Maryland Department of Planning

Anthony Crawford, District 6 State Highway Administration

David Schlie, State Highway Administration

Tyson Byrne, Manager, Regional Planning, Office of

Planning and Capital Programming, Maryland Department

of Transportation

Edward E. Clemons, Jr., Mayor, Town of Luke

John Wonsham Monahan, Mayor, Town of Midland

Ian Beam, Regional Planner, Office of Planning and Capital Programming, Maryland Department of Transportation Travis Johnston, Director Office of Local Transit Support, Maryland Transit Administration

Karlie Shannon, Regional Planner, Maryland Transit Administration

Jason M. Bennett, C.P.A., Administrator, Allegany County Paul Kahl, P.E., Director, Public Works, Allegany County Adam Patterson, P.E., Deputy Director, Public Works, Allegany County

Whitney M. Daugherty, Engineer I, Public Works, Allegany County

Roy Cool, Planner III/ MPO Coordinator

Robert Smith, City Engineer, City of Cumberland

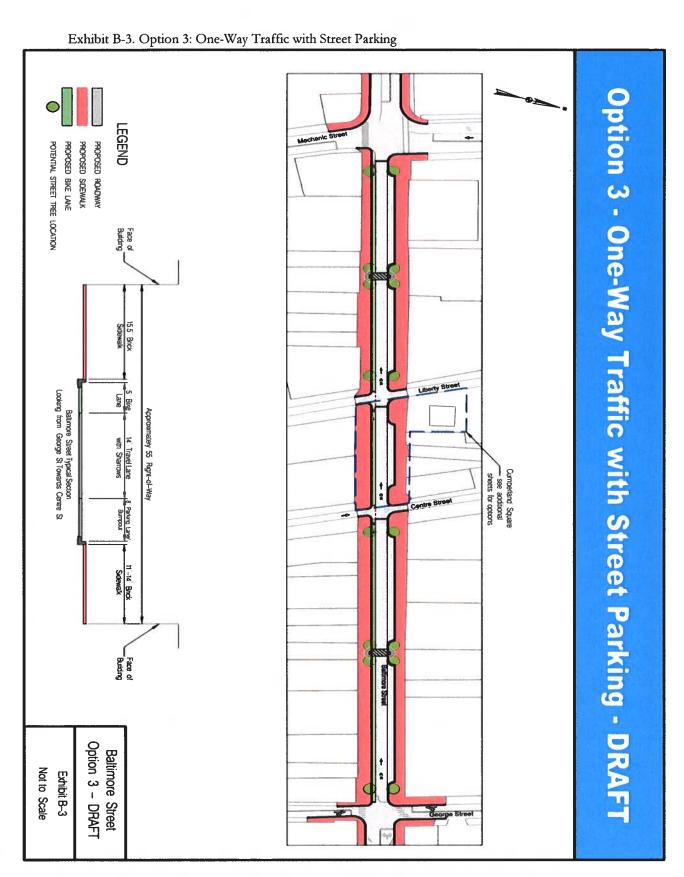
Elizabeth Stahlman, Director of Community Development, City of Frostburg

Laura Michael Community Development Specialist, City of Frostburg

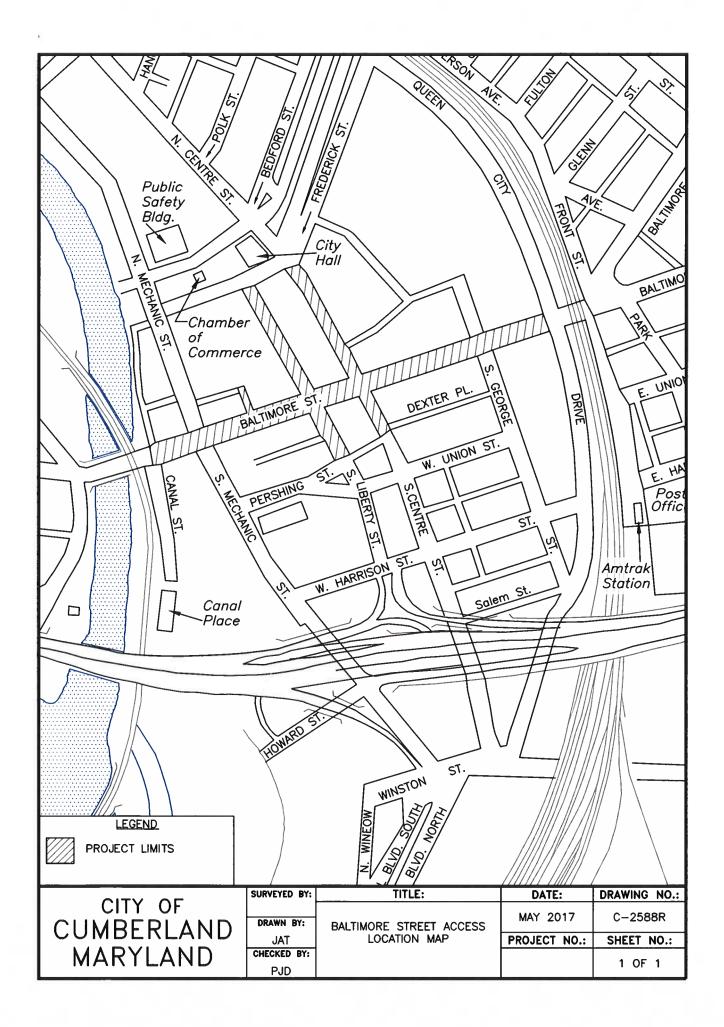
Dawn Beitzel, Circuit Rider

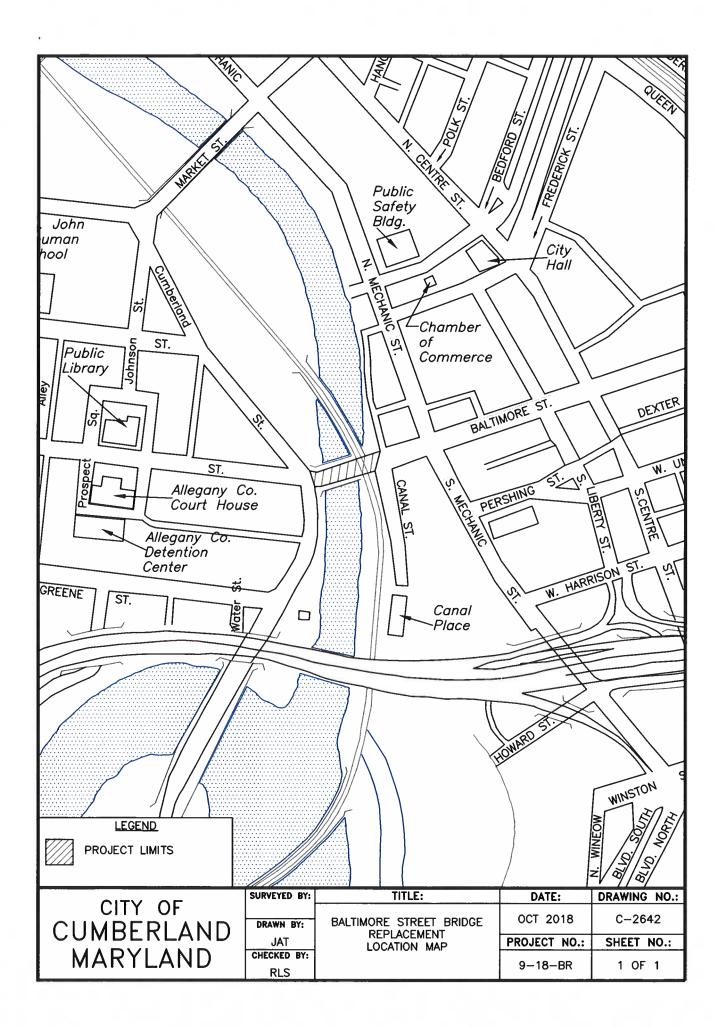
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1 US 220 Corridor Funding for Preliminary Engineering & ROW	Allegany County		TBD No Portion		χes	- 2			×		×			Whitney	wdaughertv@alleganygov.org
2 US 220 Cresaptown Improvements (US 220, MD 53, and MD 636)	Allegany County		TBD No Portion		≺es	ž	×	×	×		×			Whitney Daugherty	wdaugherty@alleganygov.org
3 Baldimore Street Access	City of Cumberland	<b>↔</b>	8,900 Local	<20%	Yes	ž					×	× ×	×	Robert Smith	robert.smith@cumberlandmd.gov
4 Allegany County Transit Operating & Capital Funding	Allegany County	•	1,800 Local	10-50%	Ϋ́es	ž	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	Roy Cool	rcool@alleganygov.org
5 Baltimore Street Bridge (A-C-06) Rehabilitation	City of Cumberland	•	3,500 Local	20%	۲es	ž					×	×	×	Robert Smith	robert.smith@cumberlandmd.gov
6 Construction Funds for Braddock Road Pedestrian & Bicycle Improvements	City of Frostburg		TBD No Portion		ž	ž	×		×	×	×	×		Laura Michael	Imichael@frostburgcity.org
7 MD 135 Slope Protection Project & Condition Improvements	Town of Luke & Allegany County		TBD No Portion		۲œ	ž	×							Whitney Daugherty	wdaugherty@alleganygov.org
8 US 220 Bowling Green Drainage Improvements	Allegany County	64	600 No Portion		≺es	ž		×		×				Adam Patterson	adam.patterson@alleganygov.org
9 Cumberland Street Bridge (A-C-09)	City of Cumberland	•	5,200 No Portion	70%	Yes	£	×	×				×	×	Robert Smith	robert.smith@cumberlandmd.gov
10 Frostburg Gateway Enhancement Project	City of Frostburg	•	4,300 No Portion		×es	2			×	×	×	×		Laura Michael	Imichael@frostburgcity.org
11 Frostburg Hillside Tram	City of Frostburg	•	1,000 No Portion		≺es	ž	×	×		×	^	×		Laura Michael	Imichael@frostburgcity.org
12 Great Allegheny Passage Stabilization, Drainage & Surface Improvements	Allegany County	₩.	300 No Portion		×e	ž	×	×		×	^	×		Adam Patterson	adam,patterson@alleganygov.org
13 John J. McMullen Bridge (A-C-01) Repairs	City of Cumberland	<b>6</b> 9	310 Local	70%	≺es	ž	×	×				×	×	Robert Smith	robert.smith@cumberlandmd.gov
14 Fayette Street Bridge Rehabilitation	City of Cumberland		TBD Local	<50%	≺es	ž	×	×			×	×	×	Robert Smith	robert.smith@cumberlandmd.gov
15 Washington Street Bridge Rehabilitation	City of Cumberland		TBD Local	<50%	۲es	ટ્ટ	×	×			×	×	×	Robert Smith	robert.smith@cumberlandmd.gov
16 Greene Street Rehabilitation & Streetscape Improvements	City of Cumberland	€	6,806 No Portion	20%	Yes	ž				^	×		×	Robert Smith	robert.smith@cumberlandmd.gov
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18 Midland Sidewalk Repairs	Town of Midland & Allegany County		TBD No Portion	%	≺es	ž	×			^	×		×	Craig Alexander	scalexander@hughes.ne{
19 Mount Savage Road (MD 36) Pedestrian and Surface Improvements (Retrofit Fund 78)	Allegany County	€	1,750 No Portion		×8	Š			×		×			Whitney	wdaughertv@alleganygov.org

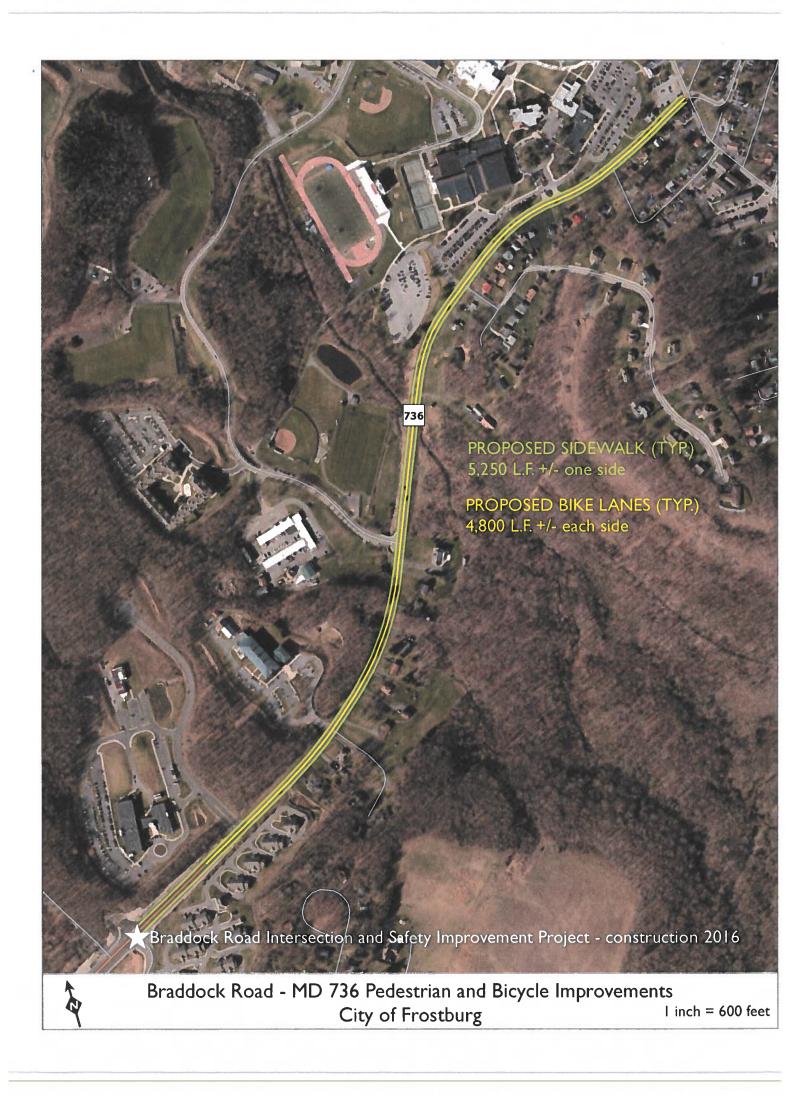
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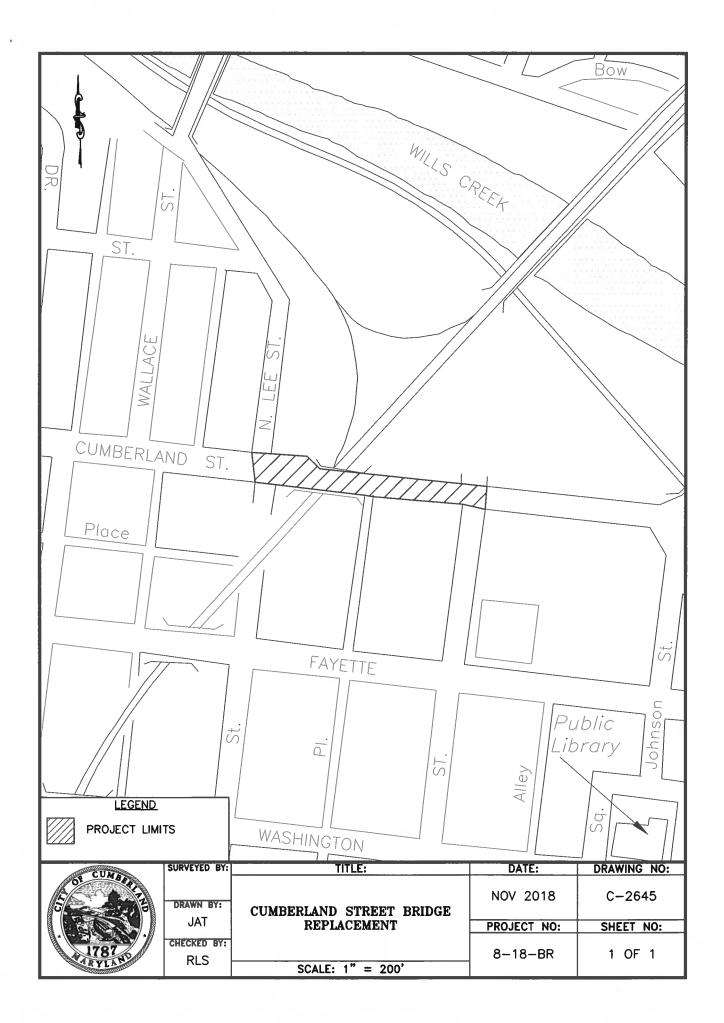


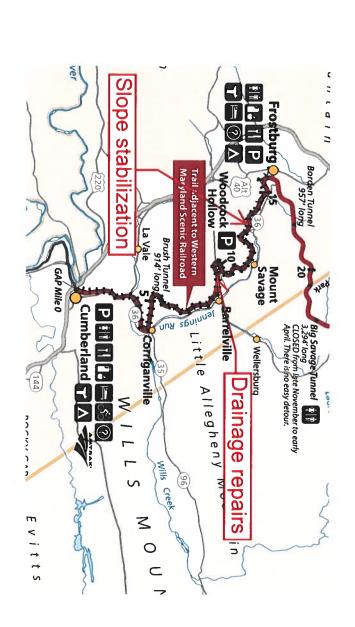


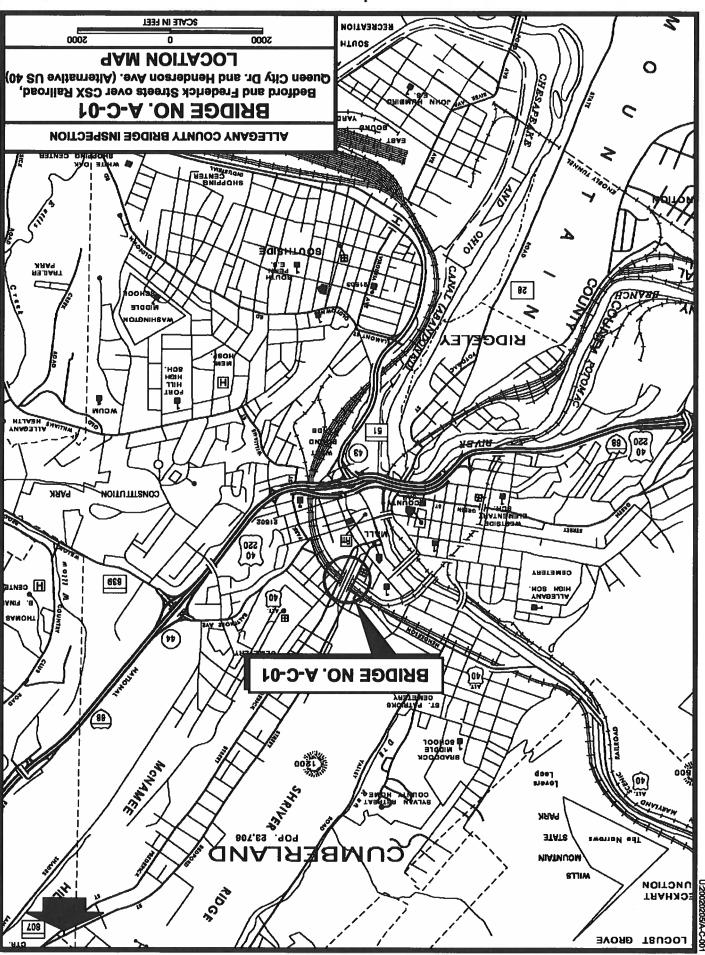


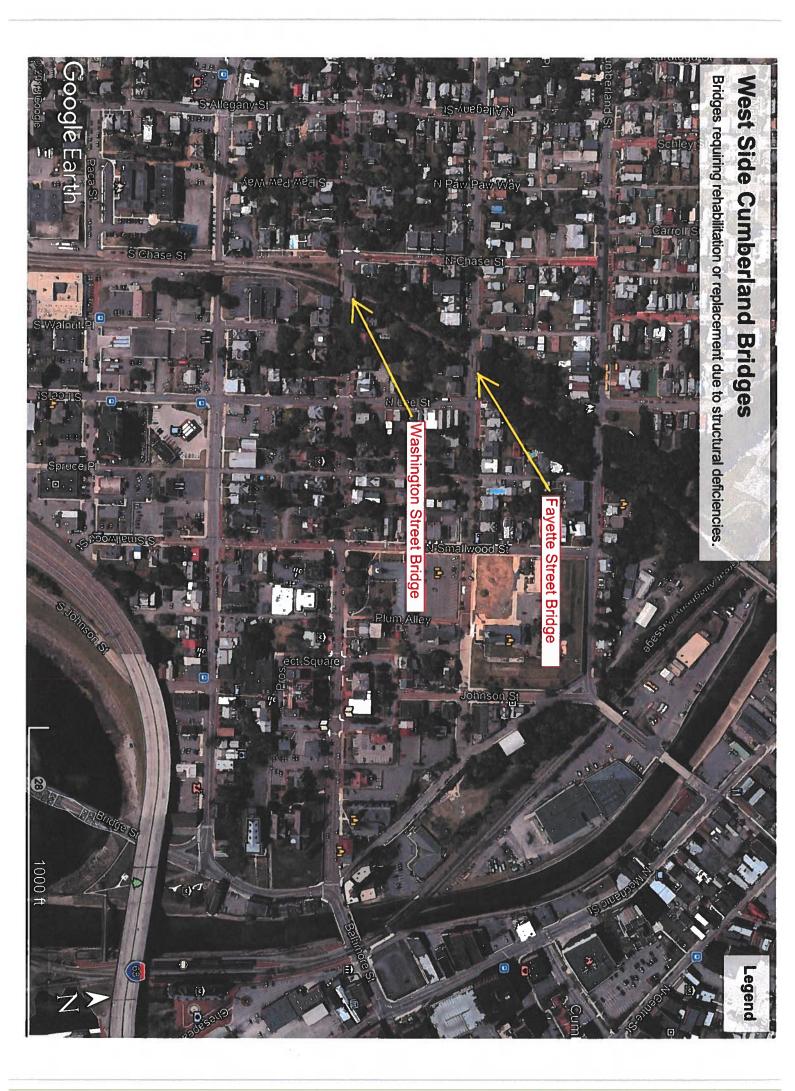












# RECOMMENDATIONS KEY

INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS



### Crosswalks

A marked crosswalk designates a pedestrian right-of-way across a street



### Curb Ramps

**Audible Countdown Signals** Countdown signals provide time information in seconds



reduce crossing distances.

strollers, and pedestrians with mobility or other physical impairment. Curb bulb outs help slow traffic, increase visibility of pedestrians, and Curb ramps provide better access for wheelchair users, people pushing **Bulb-Outs** 



# Shared Lane Markings & Bike May Use Full Lane Signs

Shared lane markings, sometimes referred to as sharrows, are road markings used to indicate a shared lane environment for bicycles and



### Park Improvements

Improvements to existing parks will create more inviting, accessible spaces that enhance the overall corridor.



### **Pocket Parks**

spaces can create gateways into downtown and enhance a sense of place Pocket parks are recommended for parcels that are vacant. These small



### Entry Monuments

into Cumberland for visitors. Gateway monuments would provide a clear, grand message of entrance



# **Directional Wayfinding**

Cumberland, and guide residents and visitors to key attractions. Wayfinding signage can encourage visitation, reflect the character of



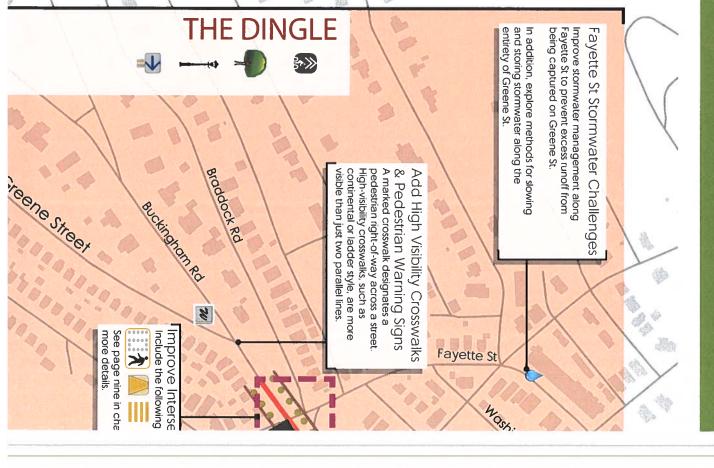
## **Street Trees & Planters**

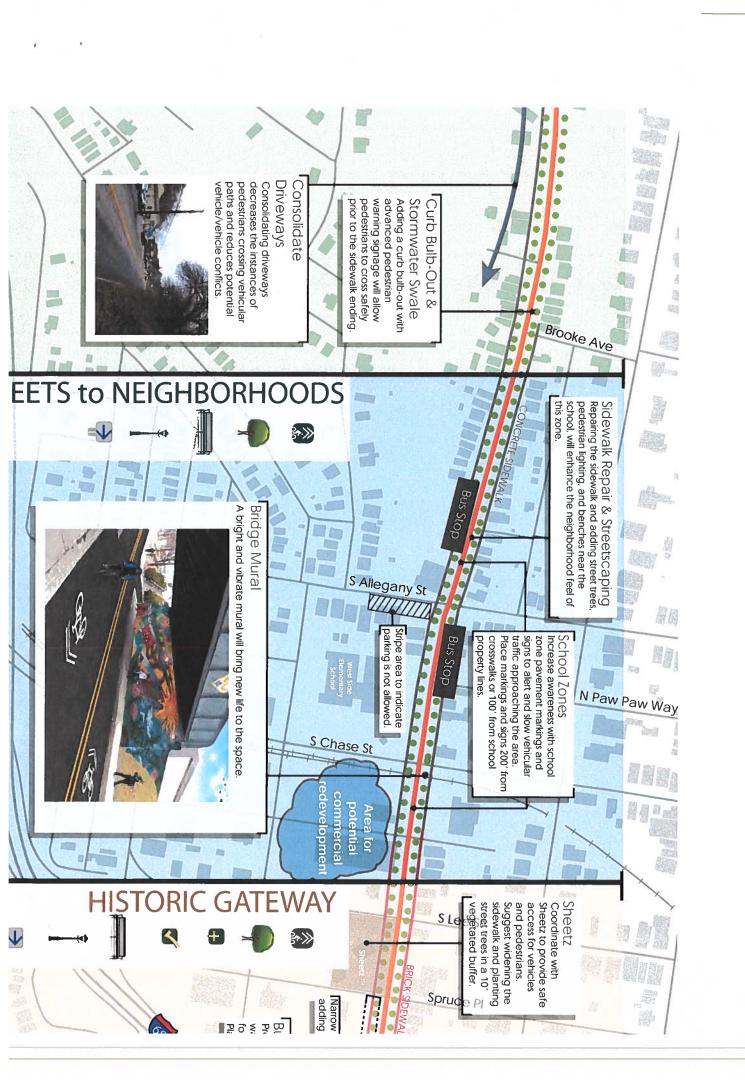
vehicular traffic. Large street trees provide shade for pedestrians and can act as buffers to



Street Furnishings

Benches, planters, and bicycle parking can reflect the character of Cumberland and will create a more comfortable pedestrian experience.





Mount Savage Road (MD 36) Retrofit

