

BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

2021 Annual Report

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Introduction

What is MBPAC

The Maryland Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (MBPAC) advises Maryland state government agencies on issues related to bicycling and pedestrian activity including funding, public awareness, safety and education as required by statute.

The twenty-two-member committee is appointed by the Governor, combining the experience of citizens with the expertise of representatives from nine State agencies and one state-chartered bi-county commission. Committee members represent geographical regions throughout the State and specific interests, including those of visually and mobility-challenged individuals.

MBPAC has three primary focus areas for promoting bicycle and pedestrian activities:

- 1. **Mode of Transportation** Promote non-motorized modes as healthy, efficient, and environmentally-friendly ways to travel
- Education and Awareness Promote activities, programs, and policies which foster improved bicycle and pedestrian safety education across all age groups; also increase awareness of the mission and work of MBPAC
- 3. **Tourism & Recreation** Promoting and protecting Maryland's off-road trail system and on-road facilities, providing guidance to Maryland State agencies, and providing guidance on program strategies which promote Maryland's trails, infrastructure, and tourism resources

MBPAC Website

https://www.mdot.maryland.gov/tso/pages/Index.aspx?PageId=140

MBPAC Email Contact

MBPAC@mdot.maryland.gov

2021 Year in Review

Covid-19 Pandemic

2021 continued the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic constraints and challenges for the Committee, State Departments and Agencies and everyone generally. The global pandemic continues to present unexpected challenges, requiring staff to continue to be creative and innovative to ensure the Committee meets its statutory obligations.

All meetings in 2021 were held virtually, using online collaboration tools. The Committee attempted to find ways to hold a socially distant, in-person/virtual hybrid meeting, but plans were thwarted by recurring outbreaks. By the end of the year, the Committee has met virtually for its last seven meetings. These meetings have generally improved with growing familiarity with various collaborations tools. The

October 2021 meeting utilized Microsoft Teams for the first time and was a substantial improvement in allowing guests to participate in the meeting discussion. MBPAC meetings are projected to take place online until at least the Omicron outbreak subsides.

Staff also continues to utilize Microsoft Teams to support some administrative functions and organizing committee meetings.

Membership

2021 brought stability to the Committee membership and supporting staff, a refreshing change versus the prior year of substantial turnover. We welcomed one new member this year and one new intern to the staff team. Two members were reappointed for 4-year terms; 1 member of the Administration's Departments and one member of the public.

The roster of appointees as of the end of 2021 is contained in Appendix A. The most current roster is posted on the MPBAC website.

MDOT Committee staff continued their diligent efforts and remained highly supportive of the Committee. MDOT experienced almost a 25% turnover in key Bike/Ped staff-specific positions, bringing new energy but a loss of continuity in some significant roles. A list of these positions and the individuals currently serving in those roles is contained in Appendix D.

At the end of 2021, MDOT Secretary Greg Slater announced his imminent departure from the Department. The Committee recognizes and thanks the Secretary for his support of Bicycle and Pedestrian related matters throughout his time with the Department.

Advisory Role

The Committee is charged with providing guidance to the state agencies involved in Bicycle and Pedestrian matters. At the April 2021 meeting the Committee formally approved its first annual report (for 2020) summarizing the work performed and advice offered by the Committee in the prior calendar year. The Committee will continue to produce and publish an annual report ongoing, as evidenced by this document.

The Committee will utilize formal means of developing and documenting input on major projects, policies and related matters where and when appropriate. The Committee has prioritized increasing its engagement as part of the development of bicycle and pedestrian-related topics during the inception of these programs and seeks active early engagement in significant matters that fall within its scope. We seek to be pro-active partners in the creation of these documents versus reactive to final drafts.

No formal advice or recommendations were issued by the Committee during 2021.

Procedures

Minor edits to the approved Procedures were received from the Office of the Attorney General and incorporated as recommended in January 2021. The MBPAC Procedures Manual allows new committee members to understand the workings of the Committee more readily and helps ensure full and

consistent compliance with the Committee's statutory charge. The Procedures Manual defines member roles, conditions required to meet a quorum, and how the Committee adheres to Maryland's Open Meetings Act.

Ad-hoc Subcommittees

Subcommittees, or working groups, are permitted to help advance work of the full MBPAC but are subject to full Open Meetings Act requirements if given official standing. Based on a thorough review of the needs and opportunities related to smaller group investigation into committee wide concerns, the Committee decided that the formation of ad-hoc committees on a volunteer basis would best serve the Committee's needs and interests. These ad-hoc committees may include stakeholders outside of the formal MBPAC membership.

In 2021 three ad-hoc subcommittee had meetings. The first, a Pedestrian Subcommittee is being led by Marian Vessels. The second, led by Patti Sevens, is focused on the Eastern Shore. The third, is a subcommittee focused on individuals with disabilities, led by Chelsea Hayman.

Pedestrian Ad-Hoc Subcommittee

A summary of the subcommittee meetings can be located in Appendix C.

Eastern Shore Ad Hoc Subcommittee

A summary of the subcommittee meetings can be located in Appendix C.

Disability Ad-hoc Subcommittee

A summary of the subcommittee meetings can be located in Appendix C.

MBPAC foresees the probability of additional ad-hoc subcommittees being formed in future as a mechanism to help promote active engagement and inclusion, while ensuring adequate focused attention on matters within the Committee's purview. Potential additional ad-hoc subcommittees may include groups focused on legislation, infrastructure (roads or trails), and bike/ped tourism.

MBPAC membership does not limit members from participating in or expressing bicycle and pedestrian related concerns as part of outside bodies formal or otherwise.

Individual Meeting Highlights

Detailed meeting minutes are kept on the Committee website and are provided in Appendix B.

January 22, 2021

January 2021's meeting was held virtually. Updates for the MBPAC Procedures were discussed and approved. An update about legislative matters for the ongoing Annapolis 2021 session was provided.

A presentation was provided outlining various Eastern Shore initiatives. An ad-hoc committee focused on Eastern Shore matters was one of the outcomes of this presentation. The subcommittee intends to meet quarterly.

The formation of a subcommittee focused on Pedestrian issues was announced and participation solicited.

April 23, 2021

This was the 5th consecutive virtually held committee meeting. The Committee reviewed and approved the 2020 MBPAC Annual Report.

A discussion about the National Committee on the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (NCMUTCD) and the MUTCD as well as the Maryland versions that would be subsequently updated was held. Members were encouraged to review and comment on these documents.

A report from the Chair of the Pedestrian Subcommittee was provided regarding its first meeting. The subcommittee plans to meet quarterly.

A Legislative recap of the recently ended session was held. Most significantly was the passage of the Vulnerable Road User bill, which requires a court appearance for any traffic crash resulting in the fatality of a pedestrian, bicyclists or other vulnerable road users.

A presentation about Western Maryland initiatives was provided to the Committee.

July 23, 2021

Once again, the Committee met virtually. This was the 6th consecutive virtual meeting.

The Pedestrian subcommittee added some structure with a mission statements and goals being created. The Eastern Shore quarterly subcommittee meeting helped initiate Thrive Talbot.

A discussion about the upcoming update to the Maryland Rail Plan and how that should coordinate with rail trails was held. A discussion about rail-trail coordination will be included in the next MBPAC meeting.

Harford County presented its Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan to the Committee.

October 22, 2021

The first half of the meeting was devoted to presentations followed by a panel discussion on rail trails. Panelists included individuals from Rails-to-Trails, MDOT, Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and the City of Salisbury.

As the next round of comments on the Managed Lanes Project (I-495/I-270) is due before the next MBPAC meeting, members and the public were encouraged to submit comments as individuals on the SDEIS.

A readout on the participation in Walktober was provided. The Walkinars were averaging over 500 participants each with on last one to be held.

A final Disability subcommittee meeting on Floating Bus Stops was held. Maryland's Department of Disabilities is working on a summary of the discussion and recommendations provided.

2022: Focus Areas

For 2022, MBPAC will continue its focus on understanding other non-profit and local initiatives with presentations by local and regional bike and pedestrian organizations. The presentations are intended to provide groups with the opportunity to discuss barriers to progress for projects they are pursuing. These presentations will also allow MBPAC members to advise State agencies, where appropriate, on potential approaches to help assist and guide the Agencies in these efforts.

- January 2022 Baltimore County
- April 2022 One or more counties in Central or Southern Maryland.
- Areas for July and October have not yet been selected.

The Committee continues to encourage the Administration and Agencies to further engage the Committee as part of the development of new policies, procedures and practices and updates to existing documents.

The Committee will also continue to provide advice to the Administration for updates to existing state plans; focusing on aspects related to bicycle and pedestrian matters. The Committee will evaluate pending legislation, seek out opportunities to enhance active transportation networks, close gaps, address natural barriers and look to ensure interstate connections are maintained and expanded.

Appendix A - MBPAC member list as of December 2021

Chair:

Jon Morrison

State Representatives:

<u>Maryland Department of Commerce</u>: Heather Ersts Maryland Department of Disabilities: Chelsea Hayman

Maryland Department of Health: Kristi Pier

Maryland Department of Natural Resources: Andrew Mengel

Maryland Department of Planning: Sarah Lipkin Sularz

Maryland Department of Transportation-TSO: Jeff Hirsch

Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission: Eli Glazier

Maryland State Department of Education: Gabriel Rose

Maryland State Police: Lt. Laura Beck

Residents:

Baltimore Metropolitan Area: Karen Schonfeld, Pierre Stewart

Eastern Shore: Patti Stevens

Southern Maryland: Marshall Edwards

Washington DC Metropolitan Area: Jim Titus, John Wetmore

Western Maryland: Steve Green

Visually Impaired Representative: Jim Smith Mobility Impaired Representative: Marian Vessels

At Large: Marquette Rogers, Steve Friedman, Antoine RJ Wright

Appendix B – Subcommittee Reports

Pedestrian Subcommittee



Maryland Pedestrian

Subcommittee 2021

Annual Report

The Maryland Pedestrian Sub-Committee, a subcommittee of the Maryland Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee, held its inaugural meeting on March 18, 2021. A total of four meetings were held with the subsequent meetings held on June 24th, September 2nd, and December 9th. A special committee was formed to draft our Mission Statement and Goals, which were presented and adopted in June:

Mission Statement: The Pedestrian Subcommittee of the Maryland Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee will advise agencies on measures to provide pedestrians of all ages and abilities, safe, accessible, comfortable, and connected pathways (sidewalks, paths, and trails) to residences, businesses, mass transit, recreation, and goods and services using the vision in the Maryland Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan.

Goals:

Goal 1. The Subcommittee will be a conduit for sharing information and best practices around pedestrian issues

Objective 1. Host quarterly meetings that allow participants to share information

about their programs, activities, and resources.

Objective 2. Promote the new pedestrian newsletter as a venue for information

sharing. Subcommittee participants will be encouraged to write articles

for inclusion.



Goal 2. The Subcommittee will encourage participation of pedestrian activities

<u>Objective 1.</u> Promote activities such as WALKTOBER and Walk Maryland Day.

<u>Objective 2.</u> Raise the awareness of pedestrian opportunities for state and local governments, neighborhoods, non-profits, and business entities as a

form of transportation, recreation, and health.

Goal 3. The Subcommittee will review and inform state and local jurisdictions on pedestrian plans and projects

<u>Objective 1.</u> Pedestrian Safety Action Plan
Objective 2. Transportation Data Equity Project

Objective 3.

Other relevant plans and projects

Throughout the year, attendance averaged 30 individuals or more. The Committee members were recruited from the 2020 & 2021 WALKTOBER events and represent state and local government agencies, non-profits, businesses, enthusiasts, and advocates. Over 100 individuals are routinely invited to the quarterly meetings.

Subcommittee members learned of pedestrian activities and programs undertaken throughout the state, WALKTOBER events, and other pedestrian initiatives. Members supported and promoted WALKTOBER events, hosted walks for Walk Maryland Day, and shared relevant resources and best practices. The Subcommittee is well positioned to support WALKTOBER 2022, continue to encourage articles for the biannual Pedestrian newsletter, help inform the Pedestrian Safety Action Plan, support the Transportation Data Equity project, and to provide input on the update of new Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan in the future.

Eastern Shore Subcommittee

Bike and Pedestrian Advocates and staff from the nine counties of the Eastern Shore began meeting virtually to share successes, plans, challenges in preparation for the first regional presentation to MBPAC on January 22, 2020. Opportunities for ongoing collaboration were identified and the group has convened quarterly to work on common goals and enjoy exploratory bike rides. Members of Virginia's Eastern Shore Rail Trail Project are now engaged. From these meetings a new initiative, Talbot Thrive, was launched and plans are underway for a regional trails conference to be hosted by Eastern Shore Land Conservancy on April 28, 2021.

January 22, 2021 Presentation to MPBAC

April 30, 2021 Meeting in Easton - Regional Introductions, Talbot County Focus, Virginia

Eastern Shore Rail Trail Project, Group Ride

September 3, 2021 Meeting in Salisbury MDOT Update, Federal Funds for Infrastructure,

ACA Delmarva Route Maps, Regional Trails Conference Proposal

Disability Subcommittee

The Disability Subcommittee held three (3) meetings in collaboration with the Maryland Department of Disabilities (MDOD). MDOD hosted the meetings which brought together community advocates and transportation professionals to discuss how bicycle infrastructure can be more accommodating the people with disabilities. Better design practices were discussed for 'floating bus stops' where protected bike lanes intersect transit boarding zones. A summary of recommendations to improve floating bus stop designs is forthcoming.

MDOD Director of Transportation Policy was added to the 60-day Clearinghouse review team for Comprehensive Plan reviews, a state agency process, which will now permanently include MDOD. This will allow the department to weigh in on future goals and implementation strategies, specifically looking for the topics of access, transit, equitable design, design standards, and more.

Appendix C – MDOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Key Staff

Name	Title	MDOT Business Unit	Role
Jeff Hirsch	Assistant Secretary, Director of Bicycle & Pedestrian Access	TSO	Advises Secretary on all bike ped issues
Marty Baker	Deputy Director of Bicycle & Pedestrian Access	TSO	Advises Leadership on Issues and Coordinates w/Agencies on Partnerships/Investments
Matt Baker	Chief, Regional and Intermodal Planning Division	SHA	
Stacey Beckett	Transportation Engineering Manager I	SHA	Oversees innovative bicycle infrastructure inventory such as green treatment
Christy Bernal	Transportation Alternatives Program Manager	SHA	Manages Transportation Planning and Safe Routes To School Programs.
Cynthia Spriggs	DOT Executive Officer III	MVA	Manages Pedestrian and Bicycle Emphasis Area in Strategic Highway Safety Plan Efforts.
Nate Evans	Active Transportation Planner	TSO	Manages Bikeways grant program and other bike/ped efforts
Luis Gonzalez	Assistant Division Chief Innovative Contracting Division	SHA	Manages sidewalk and bicycle retrofit programs
Kandese Holford	Bicycle & Pedestrian Coordinator	SHA	Leading Context Driven/Complete Streets efforts
Cheryl Ladota	Recreational Trails Program Manager	SHA	Manages Recreational Trails Program
Patrick McMahon	Bicycle/Pedestrian Planner	MTA	Oversees pedestrian and bicycle connections to transit
Jared Paper-Evers	Project Manager	SHA	Oversees ADA compliance standards and bicycle accommodations on SHA projects
Francine Waters	Transportation Planner	TSO	Leads TSO pedestrian initiatives Walktober, Ped Subcommittee

MDOT Business Units

MTA – Maryland Transit Administration

MVA – Motor Vehicle Administration

SHA – State Highway Administration

TSO – The Secretary's Office

Appendix D – Meeting Materials

January 2021 Meeting:

- January 2021 Meeting Minutes
- Agenda
- Meeting Presentations

April 2021 Meeting:

- April 2021 Meeting Minutes
- Agenda
- Meeting Presentation

July 2021 Meeting:

- July 2021 Meeting Minutes
- Agenda
- Meeting Presentation

October 2021 Meeting:

- October 2021 Meeting Minutes
- Agenda
- Meeting Presentations



9:00 AM

January 22, 2021

The State of Maryland is operating under an Elevated Level II status due to the COVID-19 epidemic. As such, this meeting was held online through GoToWebinar

MEETING MINUTES

Attendees:

Members:		Non-Members:		
Jon Morrison, Chair	Karen Schonfeld	Alex Gebhart	Alexi Sanchez De Boado	
Andrew Mengel	Kristi Pier	Bill Boicourt	Bob Marietta	Bob Zillig
Antoine RJ Wright	Lt. Laura Beck	Brian Cahalan	Brigitte Carty	Carol Kachadoorian
Chelsea Hayman	Marquette Rogers	Chris Reno	Clint Sterling	Daniel Paschall
Eli Glazier	Marshall Edwards	Darlene Gavel	David Greene	Ed Tutor
Gabriel Rose	Patti Stevens	Ellen Saltsman	Catlin Everett	Grace Davenport
Heather Ersts	Sarah Lipkin Sularz	Heather Dunigan	Jeff Dunckel	Jennifer Ray
Jeff Hirsch	Steve Friedman	Joe Kelley	John Foley	John Hartline
John Wetmore	Steve Green	Jon Korin	Leslie Sandoz	Michael Bomgardner
Vacant:		Owen Bailey	Patrick McMahon	Paul Moser
Citizen Representativ	e for Mobility Impaired	Peggy Flaxman	Rahul Kesarkar	Rita Ossiander
Absent Members:		Sharon Guida	Seirafi Sogand	Stephanie Piperno
Jim Titus	Pierre Stewart	Tanya Asman	Tina Williams	Tory Pierce
Staff:				
Marty Baker	Nate Evans			

I. Welcome & Introductions (15 min)

Francine Waters

Jon Morrison, Chair opened the meeting with introductions of committee members and MDOT staff.

II. Agenda Review and Approval of Minutes (10 min)

Catherine Skeeter

The committee reviewed the agenda. No additional items were added to the agenda. Steve Friedman moved to approve the minutes of the October 2020 MBPAC meeting. Chelsea Hayman seconded the motion. The October 23, 2020 meeting minutes were approved by the committee.



III. MBPAC Procedures Update (5 min)

Following the October meeting, Nate Evans reviewed the MBPAC procedures with Offices of Attorney General (OAG) at the Maryland Departments of Transportation and Health. The OAGs provided minor edits to more clearly define a committee quorum and how subcommittee must adhere to the Maryland's Open Meetings Act.

IV. 2021 Maryland Legislative Session (20 min)

Jon Morrison provided a summary on pending legislation before the Maryland General Assembly for the 2021 session. A summary of the bills is available as a meeting handout and included with the minutes as an appendix.

The Vulnerable Road User Bill (HB 118/SB 293) has been supported by MDOT Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) and the State Highway Administration (SHA). A summary of the legislative session will be provided at the April 2021 quarterly meeting.

V. Eastern Shore Initiatives Update (50 min)

Patti Stevens, MBPAC's Eastern Shore representative, led a presentation on various Eastern Shore initiatives such as the Queen Anne's County Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee, Talbot County bicycle routes, Somerset County's Route 413 Hiker Biker Trail, Eastern Shore Land Conservancy and Salisbury's bicycle network. The presentation illustrated unique active transportation needs and opportunities throughout the region. The presentation materials are located on the MBPAC website.

VI. MBPAC Subcommittee Designation (5 min)

MBPAC will providing an opportunity for committee members and members of the public to participate in subcommittees focusing on bicycle and pedestrian issues. Francine Waters (MDOT TSO) is leading pedestrian initiatives and is seeking interested individuals. Please contact Jon Morrison if interested in leading or participating on an MBPAC subcommittee.

VII. Citizen and Partner Agency Updates (20 min)

Kristi Pier (Maryland Department of Health) shared two local health departments received funds to initiate Safe Routes to Schools (SRTS) projects in Washington, Somerset and St. Mary's County. Request for proposals will be released soon.

Heather Ersts (Maryland Department of Commerce, Office of Tourism) indicated that new bike maps will be released in coordination with the Chesapeake & Ohio (C&O) Canal bicentennial celebration. Visit https://www.youtube.com/user/traveIMD

Sarah Lipkin Sularz (Maryland Department of Planning) is assisting with the Waldorf area development plan. The department recently hired a military installation land use planner to coordinate compatible land uses adjacent to numerous military bases across Maryland.

Andrew Mengel (Department of Natural Resources) indicated that local parks and land preservation plans will be drafted and reviewed in the coming months.



Jeff Dunckel (MDOT Maryland Highway Safety Office) shared that the State Highway Safety Plan is complete and under National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and will be released once approved. Pedestrian and bicycle fatalities increased during 2020.

Patrick McMahon (MDOT Maryland Transit Administration) shared that MTA is undertaking a statewide transit plan. The Patapsco Avenue bridge was awarded a Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant to complete design. MTA is coordination with Baltimore City on dockless scooter transit hubs. The North Avenue Rising project is under construction and will bring 7 miles of shared bike and bus lanes to Baltimore City.

Nate Evans indicated that MDOT will host an online grants workshop on various FY 2022 grant available for bicycle and pedestrian projects on Thursday, February 18th at 10 am. The Kim Lamphier Bikeways Network Program is accepting Letters of Intent for FY 2022 Bikeways applications through April 2, 2021. With limited in-person public engagement possible during the COVID-19 pandemic, MDOT is promoting online public participation for Bikeways projects with links through the Bikeways interactive maps.

Prince George's County is updating the Bike and Pedestrian Network Plan. Online public comments are being accepted at

https://tooledesign.github.io/536504 S PGC pedestrian bicycle network/

BikeAAA recently unveiled its vision for the Anne Arundel Trail Network. Visit www.annearundeltrailnetwork.org

Antoine RJ Wright attended a Bike Howard event and learned of new bicycle projects connecting the area around North Laurel.

VIII. Closing Reminders and Adjournment (10 min)

Action items were reviewed. Nate Evans will contact Carol Kachadoorian about rail trail possibilities included in the state rail plan. Sarah Lipkin Sularz motioned to adjourn the meeting with Patti Stevens seconding the motion.

The next MBPAC meeting will be held on Friday, April 23, 2021.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am.

JON MORRISON

CHAIRPERSON

9:00 AM

JEFF HIRSCH

January 22, 2021

DIRECTOR OF BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ACCESS, MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF **TRANSPORTATION**

The State of Maryland is operating under an Elevated Level II status. As such, this meeting is being held as an online/conference call meeting only.

KRISTI PIER

Join online

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7356852503147804943

LT. LAURA BECK MARYLAND STATE POLICE

Join by Phone: 213-929-4212 Access Code: 775-835-749

HEATHER ERSTS

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

SARAH LIPKIN SULARZ MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING

Welcome & Introductions (10 min) I. Jon Morrison, Chair and MDOT Staff

AGENDA

GABRIEL ROSE

MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION II. Agenda Review and Approval of Minutes (10 min)

2021 Maryland Legislative Session (20 min)

bicycle and pedestrian-related legislation.

ANDREW MENGEL

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL

Nate Evans, MDOT TSO

RESOURCES

CHELSEA HAYMAN

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITIES

MBPAC Procedures Update (5 min)

Eastern Shore Initiatives Update (20 min) Patti Stevens, MBPAC Eastern Shore representative

ELI GLAZIER

MARYLAND NATIONAL PARK AND **PLANNING COMMISSION**

MARSHALL EDWARDS

III.

IV.

V.

VI. MBPAC Subcommittee Designation (10 min)

> MBPAC subcommittees will be designated to focus on specific issues including legislative planning, mobility issues of the disadvantaged community, pedestrian issues and trail development.

Jon Morrison and other MBPAC members will provide an update on

STEVE GREEN **MARQUETTE ROGERS** KAREN SCHONFELD

STEVEN FRIEDMAN

JIM SMITH

PATTI STEVENS PIERRE STEWART

JAMES TITUS

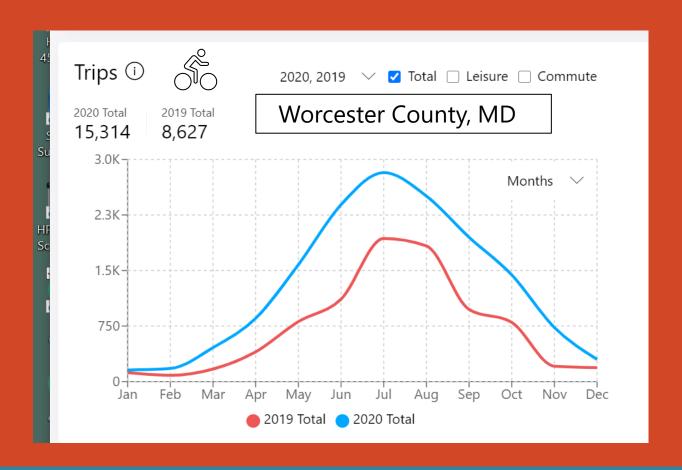
JOHN WETMORE ANTOINE RJ WRIGHT VII. Citizen and Partner Agency Updates (20 min)

VIII. Closing Reminders and Adjournment (5 min)

- a. Review meeting action items
- b. Upcoming Events

EASTERN SHORE REGION

Patti Stevens — patti59.stevens@gmail.com
Worcester County Bike & Pedestrian Coalition



9 Counties - 170 mi x 80 mi CECIL – 102,552 population KENT - 19,536 **QUEEN ANNE'S - 49,632 CAROLINE - 33.049 TALBOT** - 37,167 DORCHESTER - 32,138 WICOMICO - 102,539 **SOMERSET** - 25,729 WORCESTER - 51,765

Summer peak population of Ocean City is 350,000!

Sample Assets and Resources Planning Resources:

- Wilmington Area Planning Council Non-motorized Working Group (WILMAPCO)
- Bike Salisbury (Bike SBY)
- Salisbury-Wicomico Metropolitan Planning Organization (S/WMPO)
- · Tri-County Council for the Lower Eastern Shore
- Local Bike/Ped Plans: Salisbury, Berlin, Cecil County, Perryville, Charles County
- Walking Plan Assessments: Caroline/Dorchester, Somerset, Wicomico, and Worcester

Partners and Stakeholders:

- · Stories of the Chesapeake Heritage Area
- · Heart of Chesapeake Country Heritage Area
- · Lower Eastern Shore Heritage Area
- · Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway
- Eastern Shore Land Conservancy (ESLC) and Lower Shore Land Trust

Bicycle Facilities

Existing Off-Road Facilities

Planned Off-Road Facilities

Existing Routes

Innef

Recent MDOT Project Examples

East Coast Greenway Signage Project
Cross Island Trail

Harriet Tubman Visitor Center
Salisbury Bike/Ped Improvements

Berlin Bike/Ped Improvements
Ocean City safety improvements

Worcester

Rt. 413 Hiker Biker Trail

The Eastern Shore of Maryland is rich in attractive destinations and scenery that benefit from an emphasis on active tourism and desirable amenities to attract and protect cyclists and pedestrians. The relatively even topography and the wide range of natural and heritage resources create a strong basis for continued strategic investment in trail connectivity, sidewalks, and main streets.

Trends

10% population growth 2010-2016

2.7% commute by bike/walk

7% Households with no access to vehicle

U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey 2017

In addition to the safety initiatives in Ocean City (see Illustrative Project on page 28), recent programs are devoted to extending the trail network. An ongoing initiative was launched in Somerset County in 2018. While momentum and attention to biking and walking access is growing in some key towns (Salisbury and Berlin, for example), plans and planning resources to strategically improve biking and walking are limited at the county level.

Eastern Shore Pedestrian & Bicyclist Fatalities and Injuries, per 10,000 Population



Bike Ped Plan Update, p 23

MBPAC: Queen Anne's County Concerns



QAC BPAC team serves as advisory committee for the county

- Team Link <u>Click to Link to BPAC Team site</u>
- Meet Quarterly . . . Seven Members
- Key Deliverable Annual Safety & Connectivity Recommendations

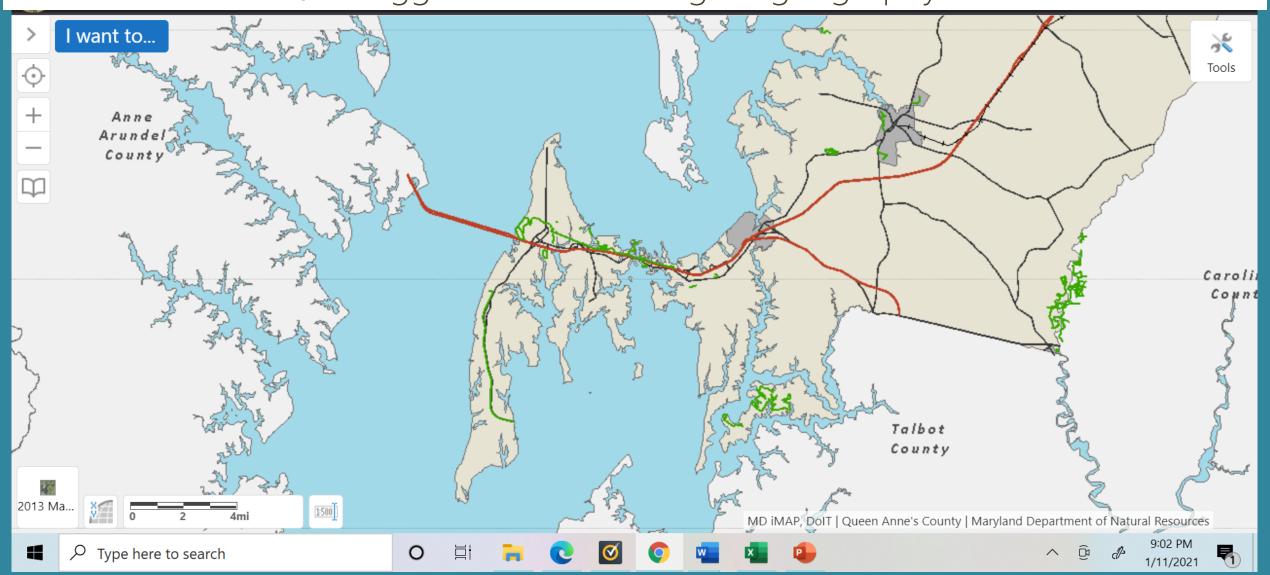
Click to Link to 2020 Safety and Connectivity Recommendations

Key Resource – County's Pedestrian Connectivity MAP

Click to Link to Connectivity Map

Also, advocacy group "Friends of Queen Anne's County Trails" is on Facebook with 200 members

QAC biggest BPAC challenge is geography



Kent IslandGateway to the Eastern shore is an Island.

32 Square miles 20 K Population 8.6 K Household HU 1.3% Proj. Growth (2X 10 yr trend)

Cut in Half by Rt 50 "Reach the Beach" freeway initiative

North of Rt 50

Medical Center High School w/Athletic fields Public Library

Industrial Park Professional offices Four Seasons Expansion

Primary Trail: Cross Island Trail (6 miles)

South of Rt 50

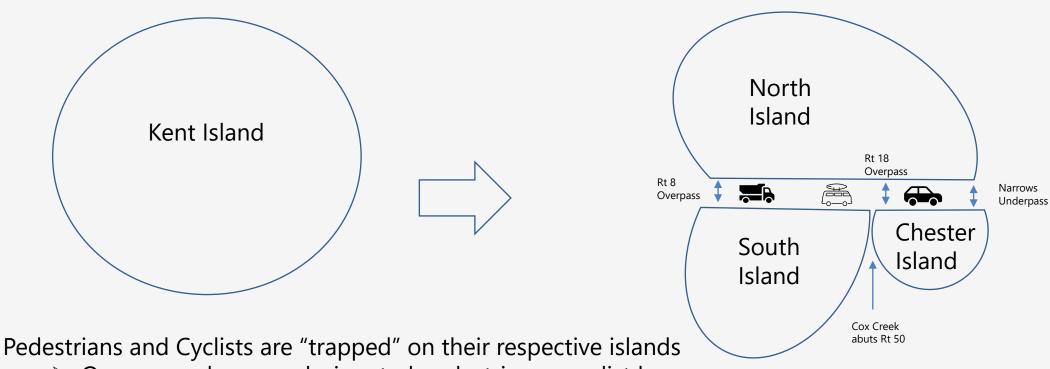
Commuter Lot at Rt 8/Rt 50

Retail Shopping/Commercial Centers along Rt 50/301

Grocery stores Hardware Stores Mass Merch
Target (coming soon!!) Fast Food Strip Malls

Primary Trail: South Trail (6 miles)

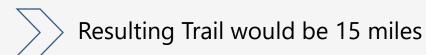
Rt 50 turned one island into threewith three "bridges" connecting



- > Overpasses have no designated pedestrian or cyclist lanes
- > Only the Kent Narrows Underpass allows safe passage
- > South Island has no East west passage due to Cox Creek abutting Rt 50

Asking for help to "stitch the island back together" for Pedestrians & Cyclists

- 1. Make Pedestrian and cyclist lanes on Overpasses a priority
- 2. Connect two primary trail systems via Rt 8 requires crossing Rt. 8 at safe location
 - Cross Island Trail (North side)
 - South Trail (South Side)



3. Long term - address Cox Creek issue blocking east / west movement by building trail along Rt 50, utilizing right of way at creek crossing



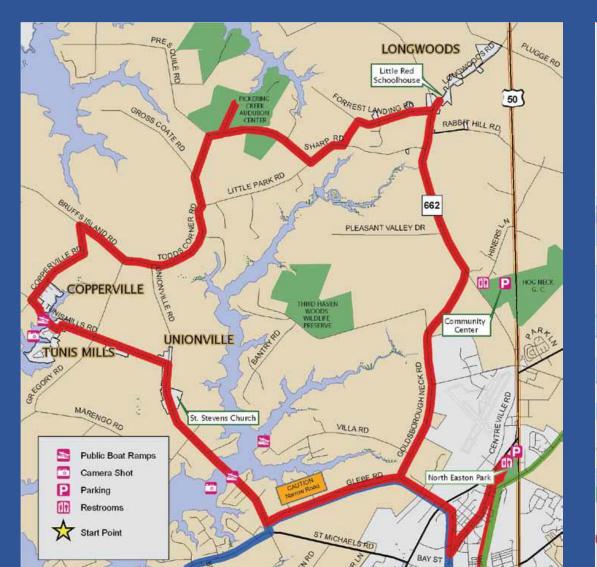
Bill Boicourt- Planning Commissioner boicourt@umces.edu Carol Kachadoorian, Consultant carol@dbltildecollaborative.com

- Great rural cycling, but routes restricted by coastal geography and highways
- Immediate, low-cost solutions proposed to ameliorate high-speed traffic issues at pinch points and to expand trail connectivity, especially between Easton and St. Michaels
- Connectivity opportunities: Easton Trail extensions, Frederick Douglas Rail Trail, Frederick Douglass Park, Cordova Rail Trail
- Inter-jurisdictional and public/private cooperation required. Cultural and Agricultural Impediments
- https://tourtalbot.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/TCOT-Bike-Trails.pdf

MBPAC - Help with acquiring economic impact and safety data & benefits of active transportation for under-served communities.



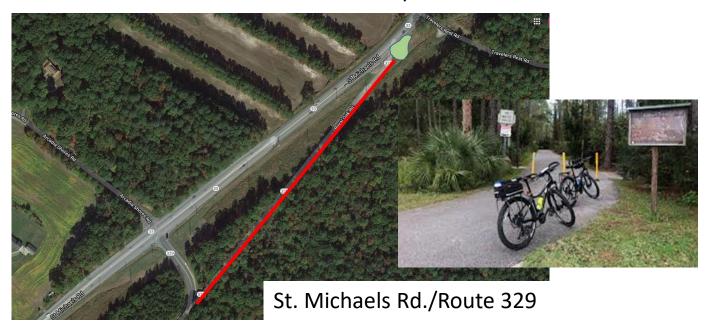
Common Issues and opportunities



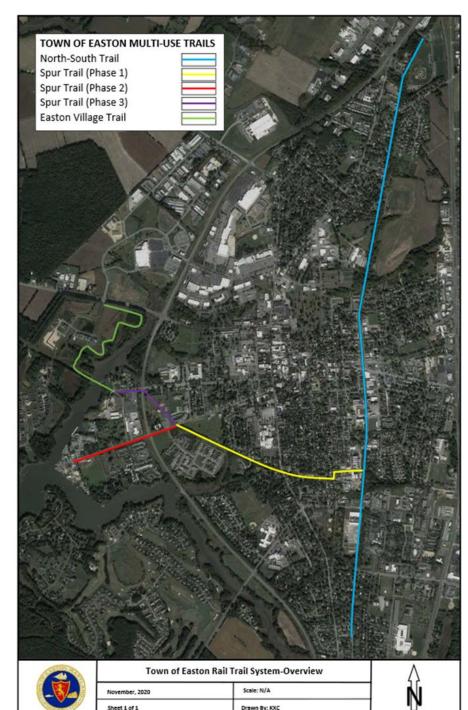


Solutions and Opportunities



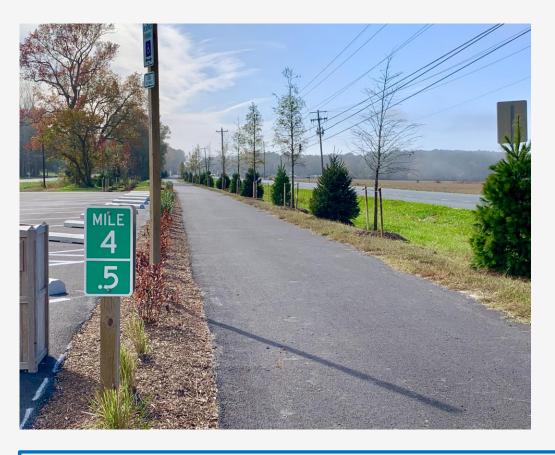


--C. Kachadoorian



Somerset County

Clint Sterling, Director of Recreation, Parks, & Tourism csterling@somersetmd.us



Biking and Pedestrian activity in Somerset:

- •Nearing completion of 4.7 mile bike/walk trail connecting Crisfield/Marion. 10 ft wide asphalt path. Already getting heavy usage.
- •Grant approval through TAP/Bikeways for the second phase of this project will begin in Westover recreation facility.
- •Resurfacing of ½ walking/exercise trail in Westover
- •Continued promotion of our recreational initiative, Somerset County's Original Trail Mix with mobile app:

www.somersettrailmix.com

- •A dedicated crosswalk with signals was added at the intersection of rt13 and Mt. Vernon Rd in Princess Anne.
- •Multi-agency and levels of government support was critical. Sold trail on health, tourism, and environmental impacts.

MBPAC /MDOT can help convene conversations and planning with trailways and state rail planners. Help with cross-state promotion of new trails and bikeways and event.



Owen Bailey
Town Projects Manager
obailey@eslc.org
www.eslc.org

Mission:

- Increase access to parks, open space, and community service
- Make streets safer for pedestrians and cyclists
- Connect communities with resources and ideas



Demonstration Projects

A Demonstration Project is a tool that towns (both residents and elected officials) can use to promote creative solutions to make our communities more walkable and livable by installing temporary pedestrian safe infrastructure that can be tested for its effectiveness before being scaled up and made permanent.

Demonstration projects are:

- > Partnership with local government and residents
- >Inexpensive and adaptable
- ➤ Short-term solutions for long-term problems
- > Tools adopted by other jurisdiction and States
 - Minnesota Department of Transportation

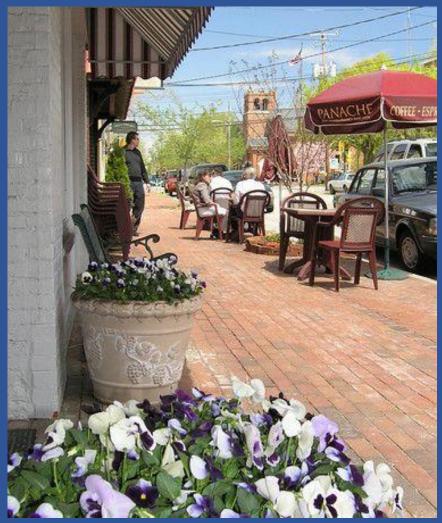




Chestertown Main Street

Chestertown Farmers Market

Challenges







Moving Forward – Work with MBPAC to:

- Convene regional workshop on bike and pedestrian issues for planning commissions, elected officials, and staff.
- Create regional trail network between and in Eastern Shore towns.
- Tie to state-wide trail plan.



Other Eastern Shore Counties

CECIL COUNTY – part of Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway www.upperbaytrails.com/maps.html

CAROLINE COUNTYvisitcaroline.org/listings/cycling-in-caroline/

DORCHESTER COUNTY – Hosts IRONMAN in Cambridge https://visitdorchester.org/dorchester-cycling-guide/

WICOMICO COUNTY – Salisbury BPAC https://www.facebook.com/SalisburyBPAC/

WORCESTER COUNTY - Ocean City BPAC https://oceancitymd.gov/oc/bpac-bike-maps/



Maryland Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee 2021 Maryland Legislative Session

Bill/Cross-file	Title	Sponsor	Current Status	Org Committees & Hearings	Opp Committees & Hearings
HB0284	Vehicle Laws – Dedicated Bus Lanes – Enforcement	<u>Delegate</u> <u>Lewis, R.</u>	In the House - First Reading Environment and Transportation and Appropriations		
HB0487	Education – School Construction – Pedestrian Safety Plans (School Pedestrian Safety Act)	Delegate Solomon		<u>Appropriations</u> 1/27/2021 – 1:30 PM	
<u>SB0097</u>	Purple Line Marketing Act	Senator Rosapepe	In the Senate – Hearing 1/27 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance, 1/27/2021 - 1:00 PM	
<u>HB0067</u>	I-495 and I-270 Public- Private Partnership - Partnership Agreement - Requirements (Maryland Department of Transportation Promises Act of 2021)	<u>Delegate</u> <u>Korman</u> t	In the House - First Reading Environment and Transportation and Appropriations	Environment and Transportation Appropriations	
HB0118 (SB0293)	Vehicle Laws - Injury or Death of Vulnerable Individual - Penalties	<u>Delegate</u> <u>Stein</u>	In the House - Hearing 1/14 at 1:30 p.m.	Environment and Transportation 1/14/2021 - 1:30 PM	-
HB0226	Baltimore City – Complete Streets Program Funding – Traffic and Vehicle Monitoring Systems	Delegate Lewis, R.	In the House - First Reading Environment and Transportation	Environment and Transportation	
HB0285	Workgroup on Statewide Vehicle Crash Data Collection and Reporting	Delegate Lewis, R.	In the House - Hearing 1/21 at 1:30 p.m.	Environment and Transportation 1/21/2021 - 1:30 PM	_
HB0494 (SB0337)	Vehicle Laws - Reckless Driving - Excessive Speeding	Delegate Stewart	In the House - Hearing 2/04 at 1:30 p.m.	Environment and Transportation 2/04/2021 - 1:30 PM	-

Bill/Cross-file	Title	Sponsor	Current Status	-	Opp Committees & Hearings
<u>SB0179</u>	Distracted Driving Monitoring Systems - Authorization	<u>Senator</u> <u>Klausmeier</u>	In the Senate - Hearing 1/27 at 11:00 a.m.	Judicial Proceedings 1/27/2021 - 11:00 AM	
SB0293 (HB0118)	Vehicle Laws - Injury or Death of Vulnerable Individual - Penalties	Senator Waldstreiche	In the Senate - Hearing 1/27 at 11:00 a.m.	Judicial Proceedings 1/27/2021 - 11:00 AM	
SB0337 (HB0494)	Vehicle Laws - Reckless Driving - Excessive Speeding	<u>Senator</u> <u>Kramer</u>	In the Senate - Hearing 1/27 at 11:00 a.m.	Judicial Proceedings 1/27/2021 - 11:00 AM	



9:00 AM

April 23, 2021

The State of Maryland is operating under an Elevated Level II status due to the COVID-19 epidemic. As such, this meeting was held online through GoToWebinar.

MEETING MINUTES

Attendees:

Members:		Non-Members:		
Jon Morrison, Chair	Kristi Pier	Brigitte Carty	Carol Kachadoorian	Charlene Mingus
Antoine RJ Wright	Lt. Laura Beck	Chris Nichols	Cindy Burch	Daniel Paschall
Eli Glazier	Marian Vessels	David Greene	Dominic Scali	Heather Dunigan
Gabriel Rose	Marquette Rogers	Jack Keene	Jaime McKay	Jeff Dunckel
Heather Ersts	Patti Stevens	Joe Kelley	Joe Rodgers	Jon Korin
Jeff Hirsch	Pierre Stewart	Jon Mayer	Kim Minseok	Larry Schoen
Jim Titus	Steve Friedman	Lee Borror	Leslie Sandoz	Mandela Echefu
John Wetmore	Steve Green	Michael Bomgardner	Patrick Hudnall	Patrick McMahon
Marshall Edwards		Paul Hubble	Rodney Tissue	Roy Gothie
Absent Members:		Sharon Guida	Sue Veith	Tina Williams
Andrew Mengel	Karen Schonfeld	Staff:		
Chelsea Hayman	Sarah Lipkin Sularz	Marty Baker	Nate Evans	Francine Waters
		Catherine Skeeter		

I. Welcome & Introductions (10 min)

Jon Morrison, Chair opened the meeting with introductions of committee members and MDOT support staff.

II. Agenda Review and Approval of Minutes (5 min)

A revised agenda was presented with removed the Bikeways Annual Report and allowed for more general discussion during the Public Comment time. The Bikeways Annual Report was addressed during agency updates. Jim Titus motioned to accept the revised agenda. Steve Green seconded the motion. The Committee voted unanimously to accept the revised agenda.

Jim Titus moved to approve the minutes of the January 2021 MBPAC meeting. Pierre Stewart seconded the motion. The January 23, 2021 meeting minutes were approved by the committee.



III. MBPAC Annual Report Review and Approval (10 min)

The inaugural MBPAC Annual Report was drafted and reviewed by MBPAC members with assistance from MDOT TSO staff. The draft annual report was presented to the Committee for approval. Longtime MBPAC member Jim Titus stated that the report was a long-needed product and illustrates the Committee work. Kristi Pier motioned to accept the annual report. Patti Stevens seconded the motion. The Committee unanimously voted to approve the report. The report will be posted to the MBPAC website and distributed to Secretary Slater and Governor Hogan.

IV. Public Comment (30 minutes)

Jon Morrison opened the floor to public comments and deferred to Nate Evans. Nate stated that Governor Hogan had receive a constituent's letter requesting a ghost bike program. Marty Baker indicated that Secretary Slater's response was to decline the request but focus on other meaningful roadway improvements to reduce crashes. Marty also stated that such requests will be referred to the committee.

The Capital Trails Coalition, in partnership with a team of experts, spent two years developing an impact report to quantify the economic, health, and environmental benefits of our region's 881-mile multi-use trail network. Wednesday, April 28, 2021, 2:00 PM Zoom

Jon Korin, president of the Bicycle Advocates of Annapolis Anne Arundel (BikeAAA) shared that the county's first traffic playground will open next week and that the Lifeline 100 will be held on October 3rd, 2021. With the coming federal funding, Jon is concerned with Maryland's readiness for a federal infrastructure bill and suggested the Baltimore Metropolitan Council review Maryland's grant efficiency as a Unified Planning and Work Program (UPWP) item. Marty Baker replied that MDOT is better aligning grant projects with administrative changes.

Daniel Paschall, Patti Stevens and Brigitte Carty hope that Maryland will pursue large trail infrastructure projects under the RAISE program.

Jim Titus indicated that the National Conference for the Manual for Uniform Traffic Control Devices (NCMUTCD) has received comments from state agencies, including MDOT, for the next version of the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). Maryland has its own version, which will be updated following the federal version's updating. Jim would like to see more progressive infrastructure adopted with the coming updates.

V. MBPAC Subcommittee Reports (10 minutes)

Marian Vessels shared that the Pedestrian (ad hoc) Subcommittee hosted the initial kick-off meeting with more than 30 participants. The subcommittee discussed MDOT SHA's Pedestrian Safety Action Plan, other initiatives and future meeting dates.

VI. Citizen and Partner Agency Updates (20 min)

Nate Evans shared that MDOT Kim Lamphier Bikeways Network Program will accept FY22 applications between May 3 and June 3, 2021. \$3.8m is available in the competitive bid program.



Nate also shared that the inaugural Bikeways Program Annual Report is available online, which documents completed, awarded and on-going project status.

Francine Waters announced that MDOT Secretary's Office is leading a Transportation Data Equity initiative with the University of Washington to use crowdsourced data for accessible, pedestrian trip planning.

Jeff Dunckel (MDOT Maryland Highway Safety Office) shared that the Look Alive Campaign kicks off on Whitehall Road in Anne Arundel County for a 3 Foot Enforcement awareness event. This will be the first Maryland event using passing measurement technology to enforce the 3 Foot Law.

Jaime McKay (MDOT Maryland Transit Administration) shared that new MTA shared bike bus lanes are being installed as part of the North Avenue Rising project. Mobility corrals are developing around Baltimore at transit stops. MTA is coordinating with the Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC) on the Patapsco Regional Greenway development with light rail interaction. MTA is investigating a feasibility study for a shared use path between the Monocacy MARC station to the adjacent Monocacy Battlefield.

Eli Glazier (Maryland National Capital Parks and Planning Commission (MNCPPC)) shared that the Montgomery County pedestrian survey was conducted asking on existing walking conditions, recommendations and benchmarking tools. 60,000 households were contacted by postcards for the survey with results indicating a 10% walk commute, more than the 2.4% indicated in the American Community Survey.

Kristi Pier (Maryland Department of Health) shared that no responses were received for the Safe Routes to Schools (SRTS) projects in Washington, Somerset and St. Mary's County. The projects will be readvertised.

Heather Ersts (Maryland Department of Commerce, Office of Tourism) announced National Bike Month videos are available. The C&O Canal is the 8th most visited national park.

The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) asks you to share how your transportation behavior has been altered by the pandemic. The purpose of this survey is to understand the transportation experiences of Maryland residents and employees throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. The survey is now open through May 1. Individuals over the age of 18 who have lived or worked in the state of Maryland since January 2020 are eligible to participate. Your survey response will help inform leaders about the impact on our transportation system in this critical time. Take the MDOT Pandemic Travel Survey

MDOT also announces the Commuter Partner Program. Commuter Choice Maryland partners with organizations to help them promote commuter benefits, and also recognizes employers across the state who are leaders in promoting alternative commuting options and benefits.

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) DNR has received our 2021 Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) apportionment from the National Park Service and we plan



to open a competitive grant round in September of this year. LWCF is a 50/50 matching grant program to Counties and Municipalities that provides funds for acquisition and/or development of public outdoor recreation facilities. The LWCF program has funded other multi-use trail projects in the past, such as the Western MD Rail Trail.

VII. 2021 Maryland Legislative Session (20 min)

Jon Morrison provided a summary on legislation considered before the Maryland General Assembly for the 2021 session. The main legislation to pass is the Vulnerable Road User bill, which is awaiting the Governor's signature. The Vulnerable Road User Bill (HB 118/SB 293) has been supported by MDOT Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) and the State Highway Administration (SHA).

VIII. Western Maryland Initiatives Update (50 min)

Steve Green, MBPAC's Western Maryland representative, led a presentation on various initiatives in Garrett, Allegany and Washington Counties including Garrett Trails, Fork Run, The presentation illustrated the recreational nature of trails, Great Allegany Trail, Hagerstown's bike network, Garrett Composite mountain bike team, Broadford Park Trails and the Trail Towns program. The presentation materials are located on the MBPAC website.

IX. Closing Reminders and Adjournment (10 min)

Action items were reviewed. Patti Stevens would like to participate in a follow-up conversation at some point on ghost bikes. Nate Evans will coordinate the discussion in compliance with the Open Meetings Act. Most members signed off before an adjournment motion, second or vote was taken.

The next MBPAC meeting will be held on Friday, July 23, 2021.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 am.



JON MORRISON

CHAIRPERSON

9:00 AM

JEFF HIRSCH

April 23, 2021

DIRECTOR OF BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ACCESS, MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF **TRANSPORTATION**

The State of Maryland is operating under an Elevated Level II status. As such, this meeting is being held as an online/conference call meeting only.

KRISTI PIER

Join online https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2680337082686325775

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Webinar ID 239-148-171

LT. LAURA BECK MARYLAND STATE POLICE

Join by Phone: 562-247-8422 Access Code: 764-096-421

HEATHER ERSTS

AGENDA

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

I. Welcome & Committee Introductions (10 min)

Jon Morrison, Chair and MDOT Staff

SARAH LIPKIN SULARZ MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING

> Agenda Review and Approval of Minutes (5 min) II. **GABRIEL ROSE**

MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF **FDUCATION**

III. MBPAC Annual Report Review and Approval (10 min)

ANDREW MENGEL

Public Comment (20 min) IV.

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOLIRCES

a. Correspondence Report

b. Open Comment

CHELSEA HAYMAN

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITIES

٧. MBPAC Subcommittee Reports (10 min)

ELI GLAZIER

VI. Partner Agency Updates (20 min)

MARYLAND NATIONAL PARK AND

PLANNING COMMISSION

IX.

VII. 2021 Maryland Legislative Session (10 min)

VIII. Western Maryland Initiatives Update (20 min)

Closing Reminders and Adjournment (5 min)

Jon Morrison and other MBPAC members will provide a summary on bicycle and pedestrian-related bills considered during the 2021 Maryland General Assembly legislative session.

MARSHALL EDWARDS STEVEN FRIEDMAN STEVE GREEN

MARQUETTE ROGERS

KAREN SCHONFELD

JIM SMITH

PATTI STEVENS

PIERRE STEWART

JAMES TITUS

MARIAN VESSELS

JOHN WETMORE ANTOINE RJ WRIGHT a. Review meeting action items

b. Next meeting, July 23rd, 2021 – in-person possible



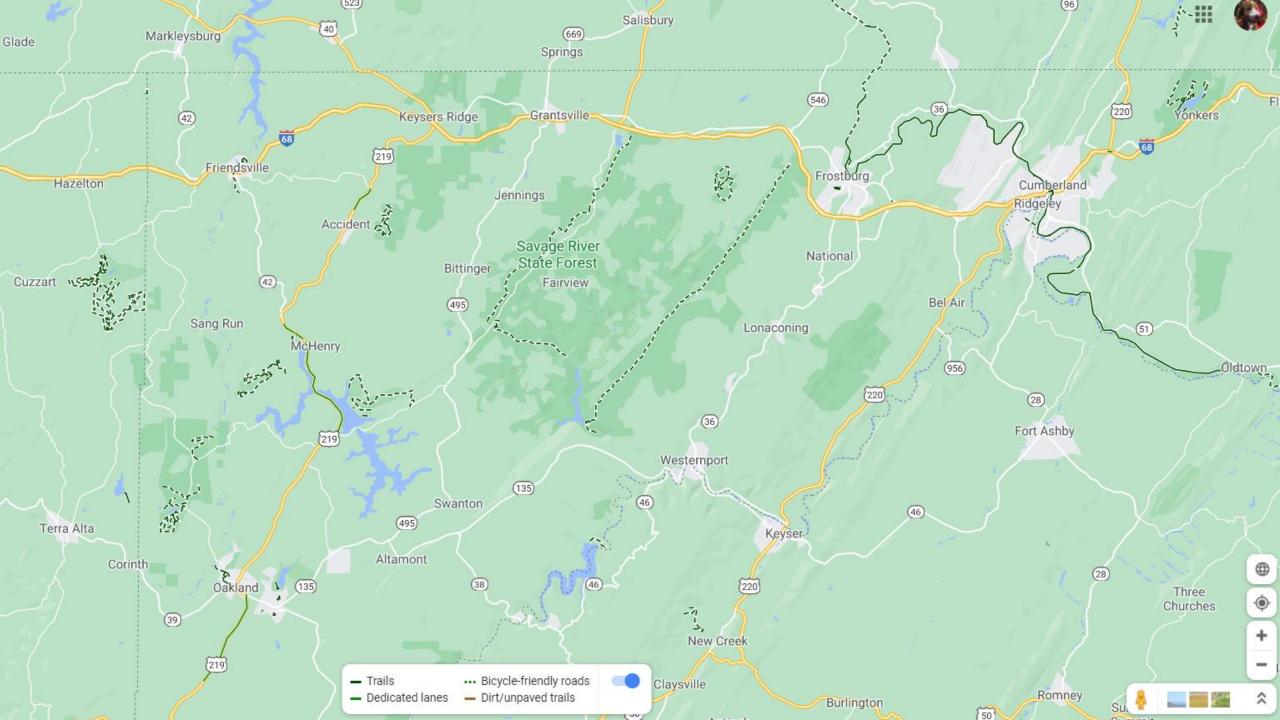




Garrett Trails

- MISSION
- Garrett Trails is a nonprofit, volunteer organization dedicated to the development of a well used network of high-quality, sustainable trails that provide access to Garrett County's historic, municipal, and environmental treasures. Garrett Trails believes outstanding trails are important to the economic development of the County and will promote good health and well being for County residents.







Deep Creek Lake State Park Park Address: 898 State Park Road Swanton, MD 21561 Contact: 301-387-5563 Emergencies: 410-260-8888 Trail (color indicates Blaze) Service Road and Trail Park Boundary (Approx.) 20' Contour Interval (from USGS)

Deep Creek State Park



Meadow Mountain Trail – Eastern Continental Divide

Garrett County Gran Fondo

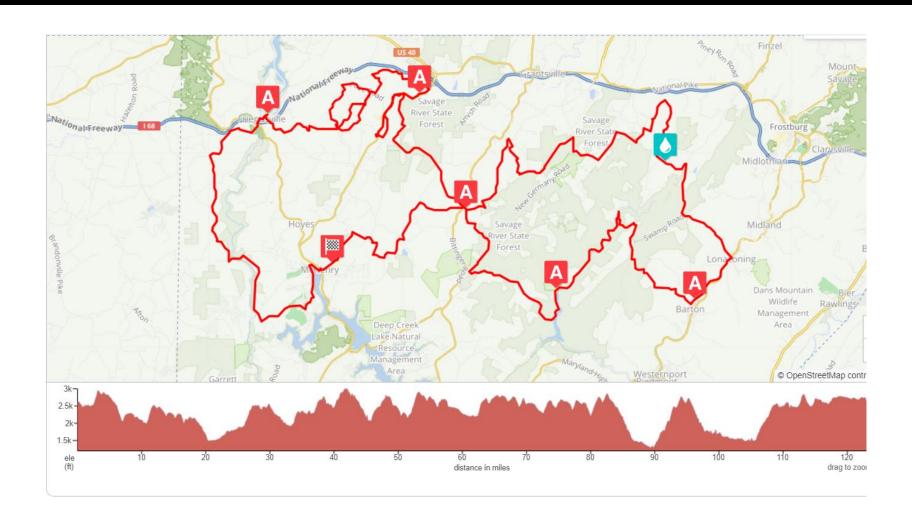
Garrett Trails Fundraiser

5 Rides

Diabolical Double

125 miles

16,500 feet of climbing





McHenry Community Park and Meshach Browning Trail System

Deep Creek Lake Lions Club



Chris Nichols

DCLLIONS @gmail.com

323 325 5466



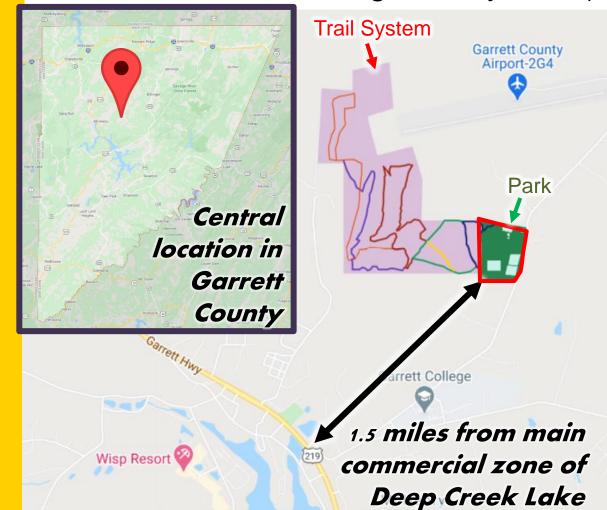
April 2021

McHenry Community Park – 1249 Bumble Bee Rd Accident MD



The Club operates the 30 acre McHenry Community Park and 120 acre Meshach Browning Trail System (all county-owned)

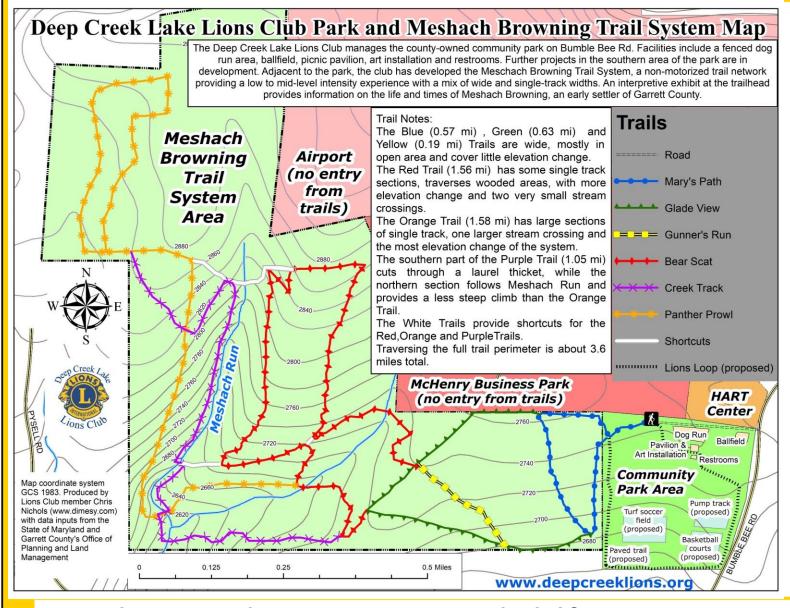






Meshach Browning Trail System





- Around 8 total miles of nonmotorized use only w/ mix of terrain and difficulty levels
- Some of the only wide and "flat" trail areas in the county
- Opened in 2019 by the Club, developed mostly by linking up existing ATV, tractor and game paths
- All county-owned property that would be difficult to develop for other uses due to airport restrictions and terrain
- Trailhead also has a history center and art installation themed around local historical figure
- Planning to install a Pump Track and paved trail at the park to complement the trail system

Deep Creek Lake Lions Club perspective



- What makes Western Maryland unique in terms of bike ped connectivity and successful projects?
 - Club operation of park (versus public entity) streamlines procurement and construction projects
 - County ownership of land that is difficult to do anything with has provided an opportunity for trail development
 - Since we are not a gov entity with dedicated funding for parks, we have gotten creative in developing partnerships and finding money to make projects happen
- What needs does Western MD have that are different from other parts of the state?
 - We are not in a municipality and can't apply for Parks and Playgrounds POS funds
 - No Parks Department or any official organization in County to coordinate funding or projects
 - Terrain will make it hard to entice casual bikers to ride on roads from commercial zone of the lake to our park
- More detail on the DCL Lions Club, the park, trails and proposed pump track in the rest of the presentation

THE GREAT ALLEGHENY PASSAGE, 2021

MANDELA ECHEFU

MOUNTAIN MARYLAND TRAIL ASSOCIATION

WHEELZUP ADVENTURES (WWW.WHEELZUPADVENTURES.COM)

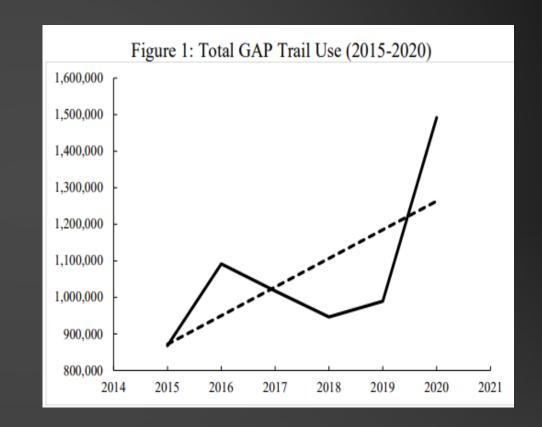
ABOUT THE TRAIL

- 150 Miles long crushed limestone, built on an abandoned rail bed, grade < 1%
- Cumberland, MD Pittsburgh, PA
- Skirts along 3 rivers (Casselman, Youghiogheny and Monongahela)
- Goes through or close to 3 states (Md, PA, WV) and Washington DC.
- Top 10 long trails Bicycling Magazine
- Long Bike Trails 10 of the Best Rail Trails in the U.S. (bicycling.com)



USAGE IN 2020

- Estimate of 1.4 1.6 million visits (50.8% increase from 2019)
- Estimated through riders 117,500
- Visitors from all across the country and international riders
- 5 Countries from the Wheelzup shuttle service and many more from trail ambassadors
- 2020 Great Allegheny Passage Trail Count Final Report.pdf (gaptrail.org)



ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY

- 2008 study showed tourist spending totaled \$40 million between McKeesport, PA and Cumberland, MD
- On average, the amount spent overnight at a town on the trail was \$124
- Bed and Breakfast and shuttle services already at capacity

CHALLENGES/OPPORTUNITIES

- Maintenance
 - Volunteer organizations
 - Raising funds
- Younger Demographic now users of the trail
- New trails being linked to the GAP





Making Bicycling a Viable Transportation Alternative





City of Hagerstown, MD Rodney Tissue, P.E., City Engineer April 23, 2021



Hagerstown has a rich history of cycling...









...some past events included:



- Hagerstown and Washington County hosted a League of American Wheelmen (now League of American Bicyclists) National Rally in July, 1889.
- Pope and Crawford bicycles were manufactured in Hagerstown in the late 1800's and early 1900's.
 Company later manufactured autos, then taken over by the M. P. Moller Pipe Organ Co.
- Tour Du Pont had Stage Start/Finishes in Hagerstown and Washington County in 1991 and 1992.







League of American Wheelmen National Rally, July 1889
Public Square, Hagerstown, MD

4





....but in Recent History

 2008: No bike routes, handful of bike racks that no one knew about





2009

- Constructed Hamilton Run Trail (1/2 mile) that connects Pangborn park to Fairgrounds park
- One-way street "solution"
- Developed the Hub City Loop (10 miles mostly "on street")









2010

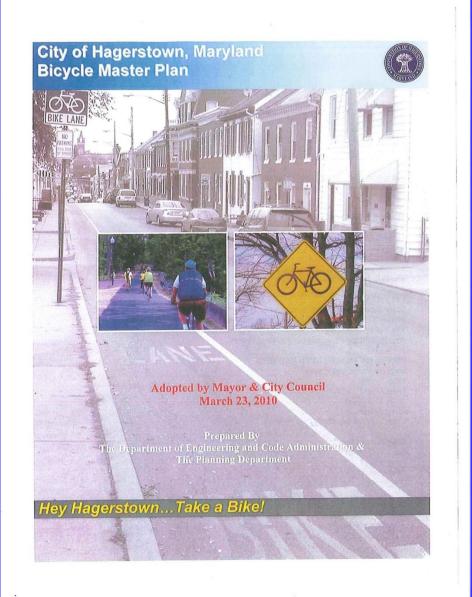
Development of Bicycle Master Plan

- Solicited part-time help to draft in-house
- Public meeting
- Mayor & Council support & adoption



Bicycle Master Plan







Bicycle Master Plan



The Existing Bicycle Network









2016

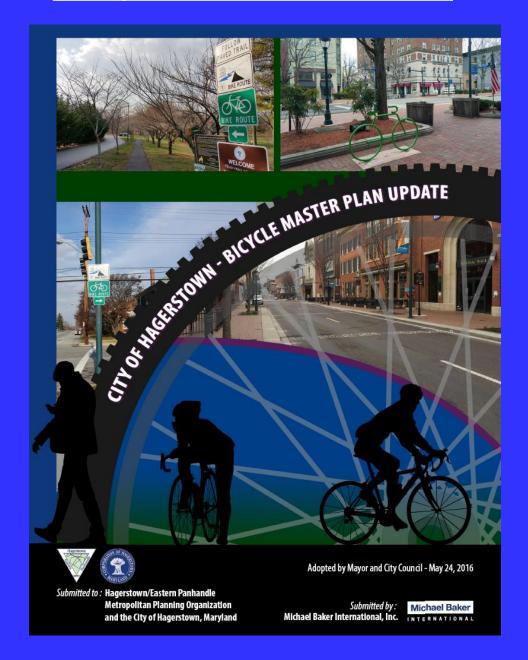
2nd Bicycle Master Plan

- Prepapered by our MPO by consultant
- Public meetings and input
- Studied demands and comfort levels of cyclists



Bicycle Master Plan







Bicycle Master Plan







Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC)

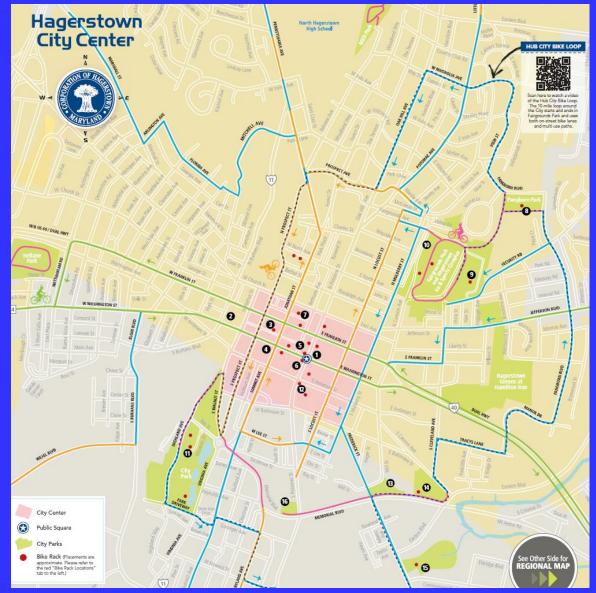


- Appointed by City Council (started June 2010)
- 6 citizen members
- Tasked with implementing the Master Plan
- Developed Route Map (copies available). Map has been printed three times, 8000 copies are "in circulation".
- Develop Bicycle-related Events (May)
- Met with various groups (safety, Board of Education, Bikes for the World, SHA, DNR)



Bike Map Excerpt









Bike Month Events

- Poster
- Mural
- 'Ride of Silence'
- 'Ride with the Mayor'
- Designated Rides
- "Tour of Washington County Downtown Criterium Race"





Ride of Silence









"Tour of Washington County Downtown Criterium Race"













Current Statistics



- 14.8 miles of on-street bike lanes
- 23.4 miles of designated bike routes
- 17.6 miles of SHA bike routes
- 3.5 miles on multi-use paths
- TOTAL of 59.3 miles





...24 bicycle racks Citywide





Bike Rack Locations

Bike racks come in all shapes, sizes, and colors. Look for racks at the locations listed below. The bike rack locations, represented by the "•" icon on the map are approximate.

City Center Locations:

- · Lower level A&E Parking Deck near office
- · Parking lot side at entrance to Elizabeth Hager Center
- SW quadrant of Public Square at Professional Arts Building
- NW quadrant of Public Square
- · Front of County Courthouse
- University Plaza in alcove near HPD office entrance
- · Rear of the Bus Transfer Center
- Library Entrance on Potomac
- Library Entrance rear lower level
- Alcove off N. Potomac at University District Parking Deck
- · Front of United States Post Office
- Front of Department of Social Services
- Parking lot side of Farmers Market
- Front of the Robert W. Johnson Community Center
- Front of the Martin Luther King Community Center

City Park Locations:

- In front of Museum of Fine Arts
- Opposite end of parking lot from the 911 Memorial
- Near concession stand

Fairgrounds Park Locations:

- Front door of Ice and Sports Complex
- South end of outdoor hockey rink
- Near northern playground equipment

Pangborn Park Location:

Near restroom

Potterfield Pool/Staley Park Location:

· At rear of upper parking lot

Municipal Stadium Location:

In parking lot near Ticket Booth



Lessons Learned



- Master Plans are important
- Energetic and focused BAC is essential
- Cyclists come in many types





Questions / Comments?

Contact Info:

Rodney Tissue, P.E.
City Engineer
Hagerstown, Maryland
(301) 739-8577 ext. 128
rtissue@hagerstownmd.org

Coyotes in Garrett County



Garrett Composite MTB Team

Joined MICL 2018

MICL - marylandmtb.org NICA - https://www.nationalmtb.org/

Current team info:

14 coaches

30 riders 6th grade - 12th grade

We saw the need to have a beginner trail in Garrett County Mountains

to simply get more kids on bikes!

Broadford Park Trails

Town owned property

Current Funding Raised: \$68,000

\$50,000 Maryland Bond Bill

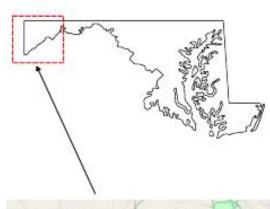
\$12,000 Community Trust Foundation

\$5,000 Town of Mountain Lake Park

\$1,000 Garrett Regional Medical Center

Goal: 3 miles of trail: \$160,000

Future Skills Bike Park: \$100,000



Broadford Park Trail System:

Conceptual Design



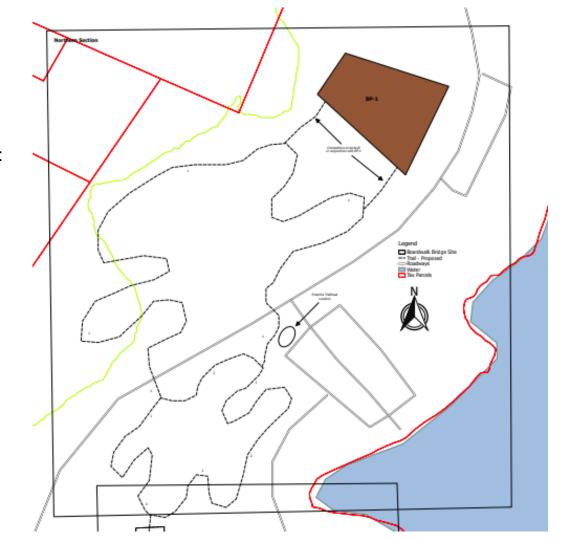
Broadford Park Trail System

3 miles beginner trail w/skill park



Phase 1 About 1 mile of stacked loops.

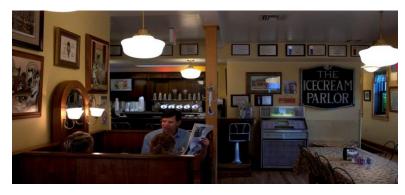
Projected completion: June 2021





GAP Average Spending

- 2008 Average Overnight Spending \$98
- 2010 Average Overnight Spending \$114
- 2015 Average Overnight Spending \$124
- 2008 Average Daily Spending \$13
- 2010 Average Daily Spending \$17
- 2015 Average Daily Spending \$18



GAP Trail User Demographics

45-55 age largest group of users

35% earn a household income over \$100,000



Desired Lodging

Bed & Breakfasts Hotels Motels Resorts Country inns / lodges Primitive camping RV camping



Desired Services

Restaurants / cafes Bike sales / repair shops



Grocery stores
Gift shops
Train service
Taverns / bars
Local arts / crafts
Galleries / antiques

Design Issues

Signs Kiosks **Brochures** Bike racks Sidewalks Crosswalks Public art Visitor centers





Give them what they want and need!!!!





Get Creative





Economic Research

User surveys
Business surveys
Trail counts
Business opportunities



Trail Town Stories



Crabby Pig Restaurant



Harvey's Florist Shop



Cumberland Trail Connection



Joe Rogers, Regional Planner, Western Maryland, Maryland Department of Planning Joseph.rogers@maryland.gov





9:00 AM

JULY 23, 2021

The State of Maryland is operating under an Elevated Level II status due to the COVID-19 epidemic. As such, this meeting was held online through GoToWebinar.

MEETING MINUTES

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Antoine RJ Wright	Marquette Rogers	Dominic Scali	Joel Gallihue	Jon Korin
Andrew Mengel	Patti Stevens	Kristy Daphnis	Larry Schoen	Michael Farrell
Chelsea Hayman	Pierre Stewart	Kim Minseok	Owen Bailey	Paula Hubble
Jeff Hirsch	Sarah Lipkin Sularz	Patrick McMahon	Richard Braley	Roy Gothie
Jim Titus	Steve Friedman	Richard Schoenfeld	Sharon Guida	Siera Wigfield
John Wetmore	Steve Green	Stephanie Piperno	Mary Womack- Norris	
Kristi Pier				
Absent Members:		Staff:		
Eli Glazier	Karen Schonfeld	Nate Evans	Francine Waters	
Gabriel Rose	Lt. Laura Beck			
Heather Ersts				

I. Welcome & Introductions (10 min)

Jon Morrison, Chair opened the meeting with introductions of committee members and MDOT support staff.

II. Agenda Review and Approval of Minutes (5 min)

A revised agenda was presented with Old Business added to Public Comment. There were no objections to the modified agenda.

Jim Titus moved to approve the minutes of the April 2021 MBPAC meeting. Antoine RJ Wright seconded the motion. The April 23, 2021 meeting minutes were approved by the committee.



III. Old Business & Public Comment (20 minutes)

Jon Korin encouraged the Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration (MDOT SHA) or Maryland Highway Safety Office (MHSO) to develop a public education messaging campaign for the October 1, 2021, start of the Vulnerable Road User (VRU) protections under Maryland law.

Jon Korin stated that Anne Arundel County passed an ordinance to allow bicycle riding on sidewalks and successfully used C3FT technology to convict a driver who intentionally passed within the required three feet passing distance. Dominic Scali with the Anne Arundel County Police Department indicated that the county police department hopes to train others with the technology. https://bikeaaa.org/2021/04/23/maryland-driver-convicted-of-violating-3-foot-bicycle-passing-law-based-on-cycliq-video-evidence

Marquette Rogers shared the East-West Highway Pedestrian Safety Efforts Townhall on July 27th, 7pm - 9pm by the District 18 Representatives, County DOT and State Highway Admins https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdRLnzDIFNqg57Vx-N4QscovCHeJAY-s2JGsxJOoTUqyCtTDA/viewform

Roy Gothie, Pennsylvania DOT Active Transportation Planner, shared that US Bike Route 11 is going to be signed from Maryland to New York, continuing Maryland's recently signed section. https://www.penndot.gov/TravelInPA/RideaBike/Pages/default.aspx
Carol Kachadoorian shared a link to a new Maryland section: https://www.adventurecycling.org/members/news/five-new-u-s-bicycle-routes-to-celebrate-in-the-new-year/

Daniel Paschall commends MDOT SHA and others for the MD 193 University Parkway protected bike lane project and that this practice should be repeated elsewhere across the state.

Richard Schoenfeld shared his story of how e-biking helped him recover from health issues and to keep up with friends while biking. Richard advised that Maryland should allow e-bikes on shared-use paths, like the Western Maryland Rail Trail. Many on the call agreed. Andrew Mengel shared DNR's e-bike restrictions:

https://dnr.maryland.gov/publiclands/Pages/Statewide-Maryland-Park-Policies.aspx

Roy Gothie shared Montour Trail's etiquette guide for e-bikes: https://montourtrail.org/wpSupport/events/MTCSafetyBrochure09022018.pdf

Jon Korin stated Anne Arundel County's trail chief agrees with speed limits are a better regulatory measure as opposed to the mechanical capabilities of e-bikes. **Jon Morrison requested the committee provide recommendations to the state on e-bicycle allowances.**



Kristy Daphnis was invited to share how the Open Streets Montgomery worked with MDOT SHA to install temporary, protected bike lanes on MD 193 (University Boulevard) between Amherst Avenue and Arcola Avenue. The project connects Wheaton, Sligo Creek Trail with adjacent neighborhoods and will remain in place through the summer. Kristy invited all to join her on a bike ride on University Boulevard. https://mdot-sha-md193-amherst-to-arcola-shared-streets-maryland.hub.arcgis.com/?fbclid=lwAR2lFMlFmEtHEd hmEs5VcmUzF-NJgrg4Z1UzmRYLDPdgqZOlDkvwhBd1Ao

IV. MBPAC Subcommittee Reports (10 minutes)

Marian Vessels shared that the **Pedestrian Subcommittee** hosted a quarterly meeting with more than 30 participants. The subcommittee developed a mission statement and goals, which were shared. Francine Waters shared that Walktober planning continues with October 7th being Walk Maryland Day.

Patti Stevens shared that the **Eastern Shore subcommittee** held an April meeting in Easton which helped initiate Thrive Talbot, a group focusing on active, healthy lifestyles for all. The next quarterly meeting will be held on Friday, September 3 in Salisbury.

V. Partner Agency Updates (20 min)

Kristi Pier (Maryland Department of Health) shared the launch of a team-based walking academy, which will be available to community partners and elected officials to create more walkable communities. The link to applications will be distributed in late September.

Chelsea Hayman (Maryland Department of Disabilities) is working with bicycle and disability advocates to address floating bus stop designs. The Department is also working with the Department of Planning to develop more inclusive planning process for the disability committee. Sarah Lipkin Sularz (Maryland Department of Planning) echoed how this initiative is an exciting process for the Department to reach more citizens.

Nate Evans shared that MDOT Kim Lamphier Bikeways Network Program received 21 applications requesting \$8.3 million in funding. The FY22 selection process will continue through the summer with announcements in the fall along with Transportation Alternatives Program and Recreational Trails Program awards. Nate also shared that MDOT's State Rail Plan is being updated. Along with Patti Stevens, Nate is coordinating with MDOT rail program manager Harry Romano on recommendations and outcomes. Please send all rail plan comments to Patti Stevens.

Patti Stevens requested a future panel discussion on innovative rail trail coordination including Rails to Trails, Virginia and New Jersey DOT and advocates.

As requested in a previous meeting, Nate Evans shared MDOT SHA's comments submitted to the Federal Highway Administration on the Manual for Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) https://www.regulations.gov/comment/FHWA-2020-0001-14994 or visit https://www.regulations.gov and search "MUTCD Maryland"

Patrick McMahon (MDOT Maryland Transit Administration) thanks Jon Morrison and Jon Korin for participating in MDOT MTA's announcement of full-size bikes being allowed on the Camden



MARC line. Patrick shared links to the announcement:

- Bikes on all MARC trains video https://youtu.be/vDfpYQPKAOY?t=1
- Bikes on all MARC trains announcement https://www.mta.maryland.gov/articles/311
- Bikes on MDOT MTA info https://www.mta.maryland.gov/bike
- Bikes on MDOT MTA brochure https://s3.amazonaws.com/mta-website-staging/mta-website-staging/files/Brochures/Bike%20Brochure%20Web%20Version2021.pdf

MDOT MTA is also expanding bicycle parking access at multiple rail transit stations.

MDOT Maryland Highway Safety Office (MHSO) announced over \$1 million in grants to improve bicycle and pedestrian safety through education and enforcement.

VI. Harford County Bicycle & Pedestrian Mater Plan (20 min)

Joel Gallihue, Chief of Long-Range Planning for the Harford County Department of Planning and Zoning shared a presentation on Harford County's Bicycle & Pedestrian Master Plan update. With assistance from Maryland and Delaware Departments of Transportation, the plan's analysis used Open Streets Maps to identify low-traffic-stress islands and census data to identify a projects' potential improvement to access and mobility. The plan is open for comment online: https://harford-county-bike-ped-plan-harfordgis.hub.arcgis.com/

VII. Closing Reminders and Adjournment (10 min)

Nate Evans shared the following action items:

- 1. The committee will develop e-bicycle recommendations to provide to the state.
- 2. Nate Evans will coordinate a panel discussion on rail trail recommendations for Maryland
- 3. Patti Stevens will collect comments on the State's Rail Plan and coordinate with Nate Evans
- 4. Nate Evans will provide additional information on the MHSO safety grants.

The next MBPAC meeting will be held on Friday, October 22, 2021.

Jim Titus motioned to adjourn the meeting. Antoine RJ Wright seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 am.



JON MORRISON

CHAIRPERSON

9:00 AM

July 23, 2021

JEFF HIRSCH

DIRECTOR OF BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN
ACCESS, MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF

TRANSPORTATION

The State of Maryland had been operating under an Elevated Level II status, a such, this meeting was scheduled to be held as an online/conference call

https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5284478698216081934

meeting only.

KRISTI PIER

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH Join OF

Join online

LT. LAURA BECK

MARYLAND STATE POLICE

Webinar ID: 474-268-947

webinar

HEATHER ERSTS

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Join by Phone: 914-614-3221 Access Code: 517-461-538

AGENDA

SARAH LIPKIN SULARZ
MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING

GABRIEL ROSE

MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

I. Welcome & Introductions (10 min)

Jon Morrison, Chair and MDOT Staff

II. Agenda Review and Approval of Minutes (10 min)

ANDREW MENGEL

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL

RESOURCES

III. Old Business & Public Comment (20 min)

CHELSEA HAYMAN

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITIES

IV. MBPAC Subcommittee Reports (15 min)

V. Partner Agency Updates (20 min)

ELI GLAZIER

MARYLAND NATIONAL PARK AND

PLANNING COMMISSION

VI. Harford County Bicycle & Pedestrian Master Plan (20 min)

Joel Gallihue, Director of Long-Range Planning Harford County Department of Planning and Zoning

MARSHALL EDWARDS STEVEN FRIEDMAN

STEVE GREEN

MARQUETTE ROGERS

KAREN SCHONFELD

JIM SMITH

PATTI STEVENS

PIERRE STEWART

NNE STEVVANT

JAMES TITUS

MARIAN VESSELS

JOHN WETMORE

ANTOINE RJ WRIGHT

VII. Closing Reminders and Adjournment (5 min)

a. Review meeting action items

b. Next meeting, Friday October 22, 2021

Harford County Bicycle Pedestrian Plan





June 1880 Aegis Weekly Newspaper

A VELOCIPEDESTRIAN ON HIS TRAVELS .- On Wednesday morning Mr. Hussey, of Baltimore city, created a stir by rolling into Bel Air, at a rapid rate, on a bicycle, having made the trip, over the Harford Turnpike, 221/2 miles, in four hours. He stopped at Hanna's Hotel for rest and dinner and that he was on his way to New York and intended to make the entire journey on his bicycle. After dinner he mounted his queer-looking steed and rode away in the direction of Darlington, intending to stop for the night with his relative, Mr. C. Y. Thomas, who lives near that place. From thence his intention was to proceed to New York, by way of Havre de Grace, Wilmington and Philadelphia. Mr. Hussey said it was a common thing to make twelve miles an hour on a bicycle in the vicinity of Baltimore, but being impeded by a small amount of baggage and the steep hills on the turnpike he could not get along very rapidly.

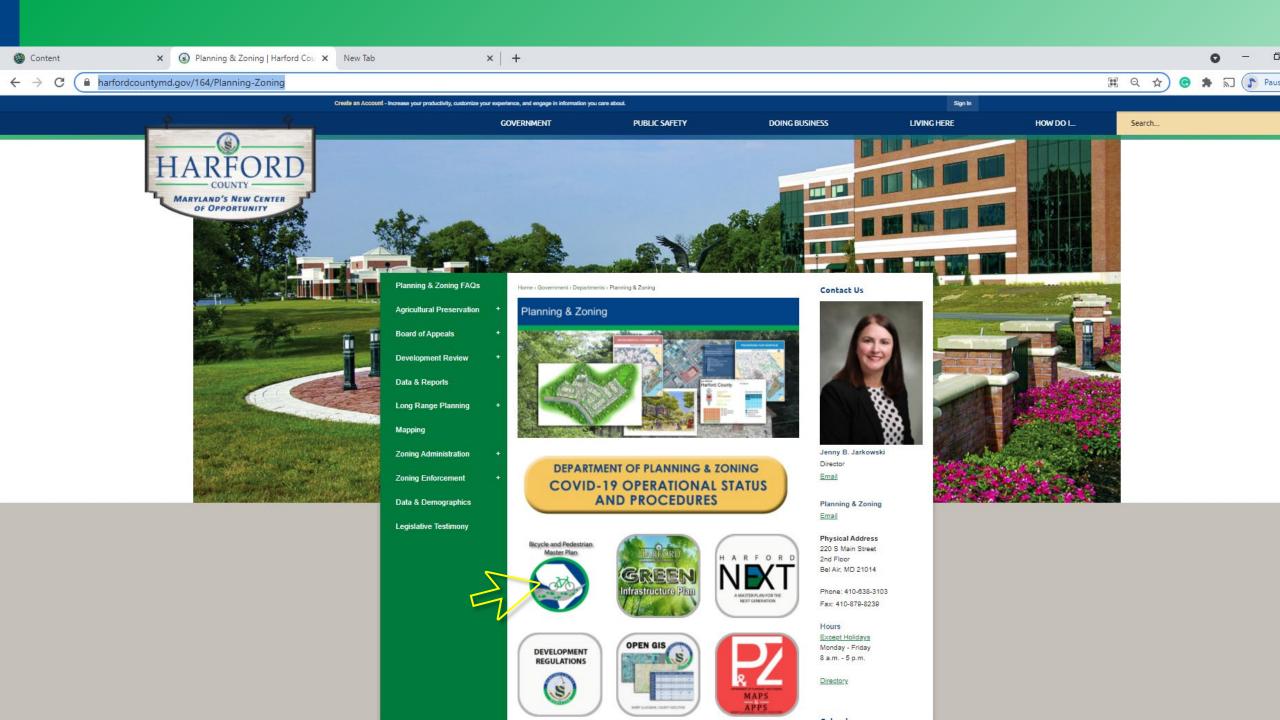




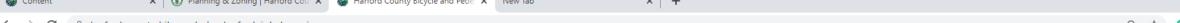
Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Update

- HarfordNEXT, the county master plan, called for the 2013 Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan to be reviewed and updated.
- The plan update analyzes corridors and lays out over two hundred bicycle and pedestrian plans to guide capital planning and review of development proposals for years to come.
- The draft plan is available on the Harford County Planning and Zoning Webpage. It will be open for suggestions through the end of October 2021.
- The plan will be adjusted to incorporate feedback and become the policy of the Harford County Department of Planning and Zoning



























Harford County Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan

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HarfordNEXT, the county master plan, called for the 2013 Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan to be reviewed and updated, to ensure efforts to extend the network of non-motorized facilities are synchronized with other land use and transportation decisions.



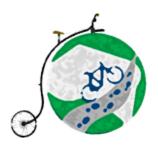
This plan analyzes corridors and lays out 220 bicycle and pedestrian plans to guide capital planning and review of development proposals for years to come.

The draft plan will be open for public comment and suggestions through the end of October 2021. The plan will then be adjusted to incorporate feedback. The final plan will become the policy of the Harford County Department of Planning and Zoning





Project Map





Corridor Analyses

- 1. Introduction 5. Planning for Safety
- 2. A Historic Ride 6. Facility Types
- 7. Planning Strategy 3. Setting
 - 8. Strategy Palette

A Historic Ride

- 9. Policies
- 10. Project Map
- 11. Programs
- 12. Grants

Share Your Idea

- 13. Public Participation
- 14. Policy Partners
- 15. Coordination

Harford County Department of Planning and Zoning 220 S Main Street

4. Existing Facilities

2nd Floor Bel Air, MD 21014

Phone: 410-638-3103

Fax: 410-879-8239

Level of Traffic Stress

- We chose a simplified model in consultation with Delaware planners.
- Open Street Map Data
 - Infer most LTS information from OSM classification
 - OSM "residential or living street" = LTS1
 - OSM "tertiary or smaller road and max speed 25mph" = LTS 2
- Adequate to guide a countywide plan
- Leaves room to come back with more detailed update especially when mobile mounted LIDAR road facility data becomes available.



LTS 0



LTS₁



LTS 2



LTS 3



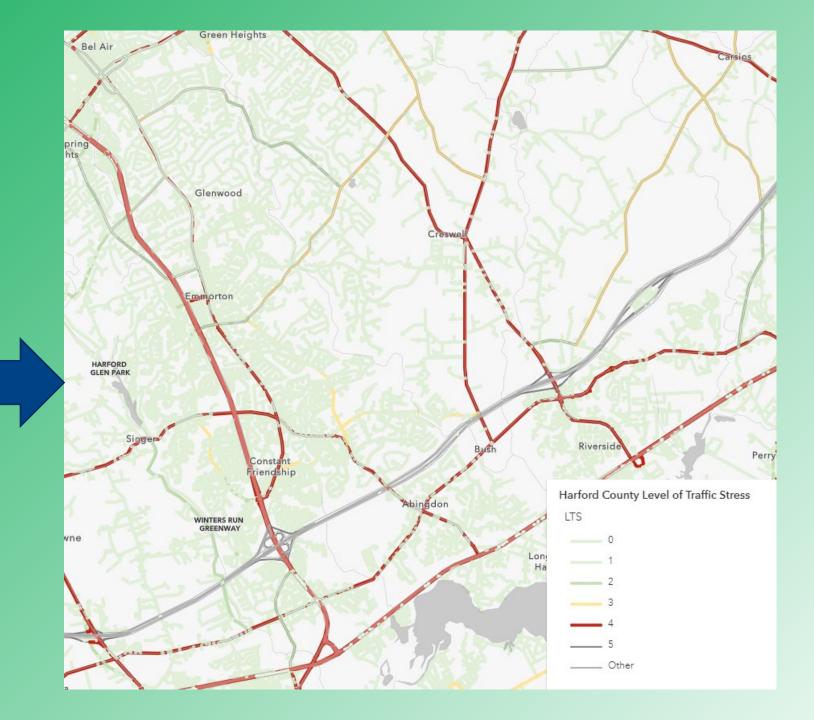
LTS 4



LTS 5

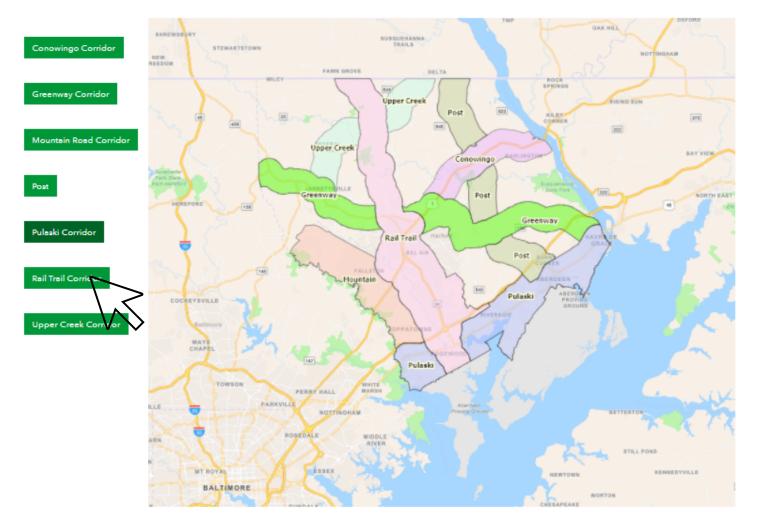
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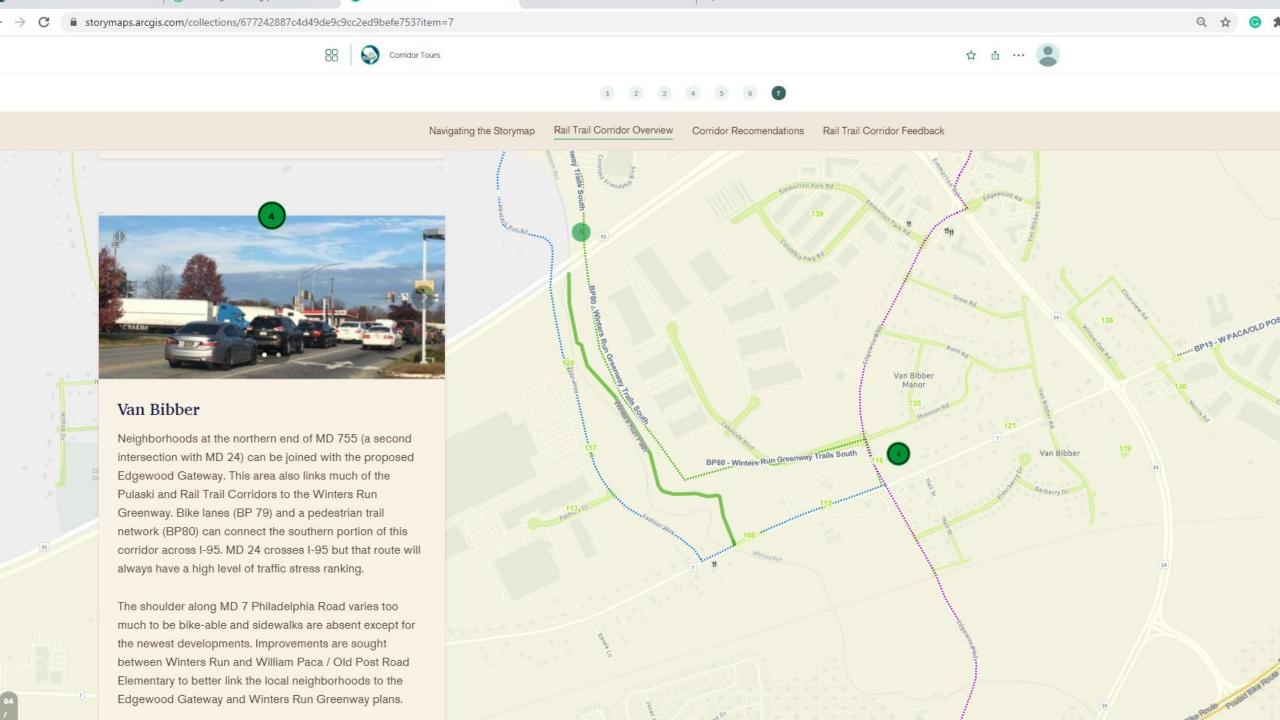


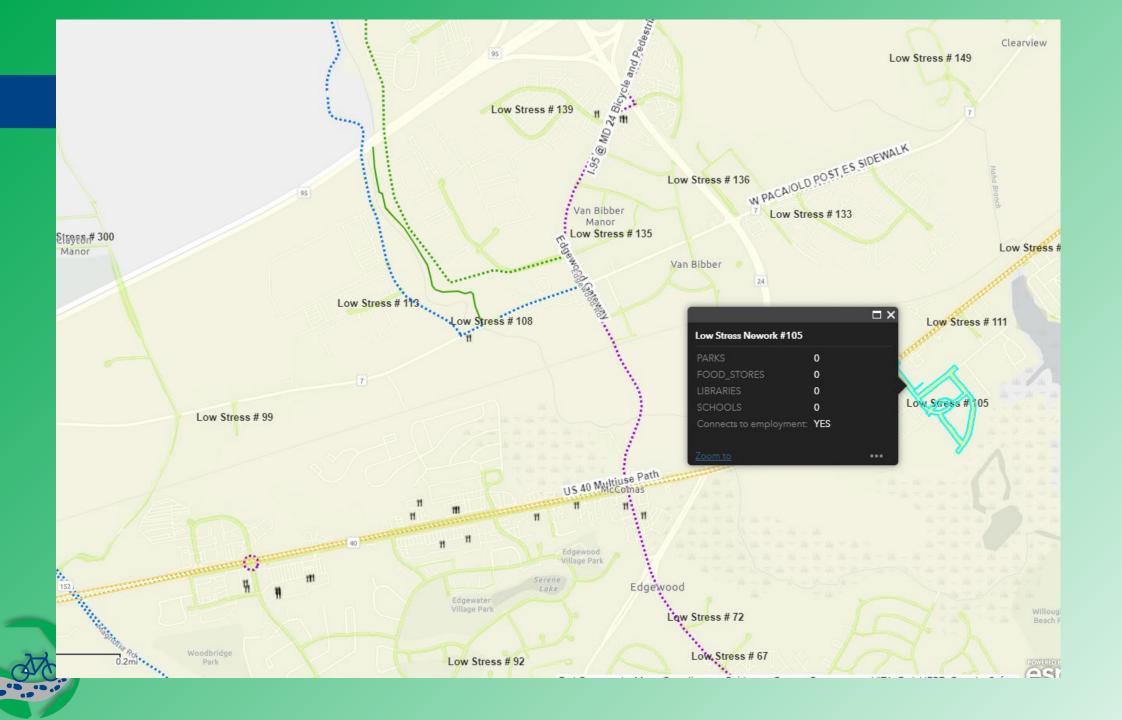


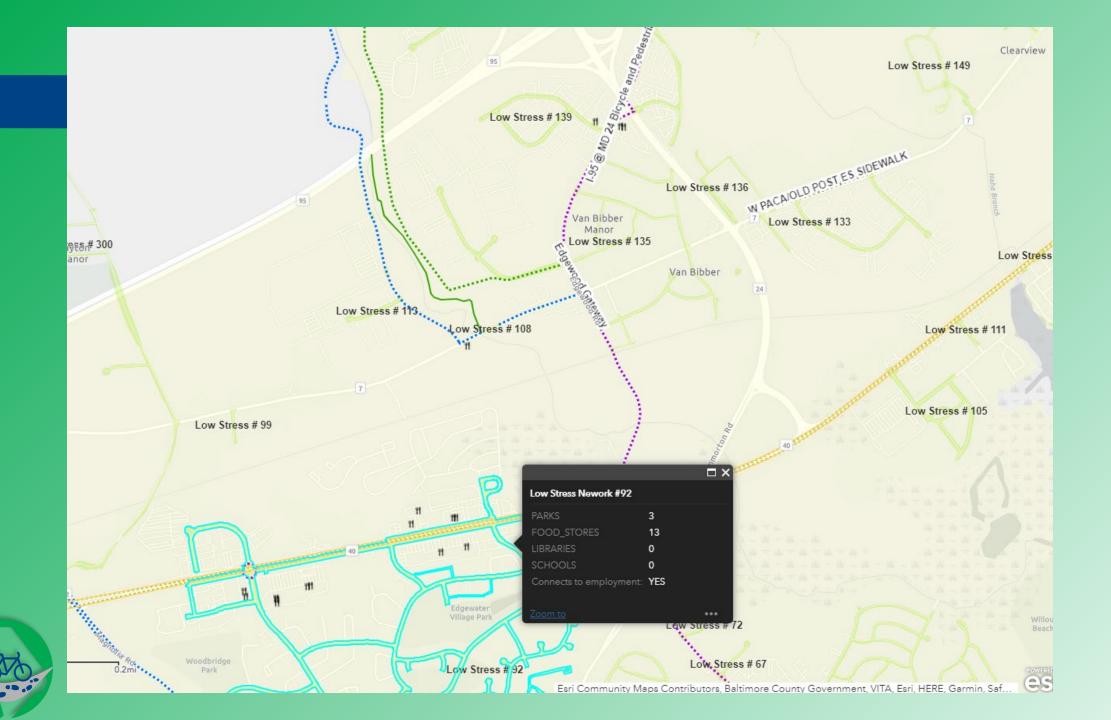
Planning by corridors

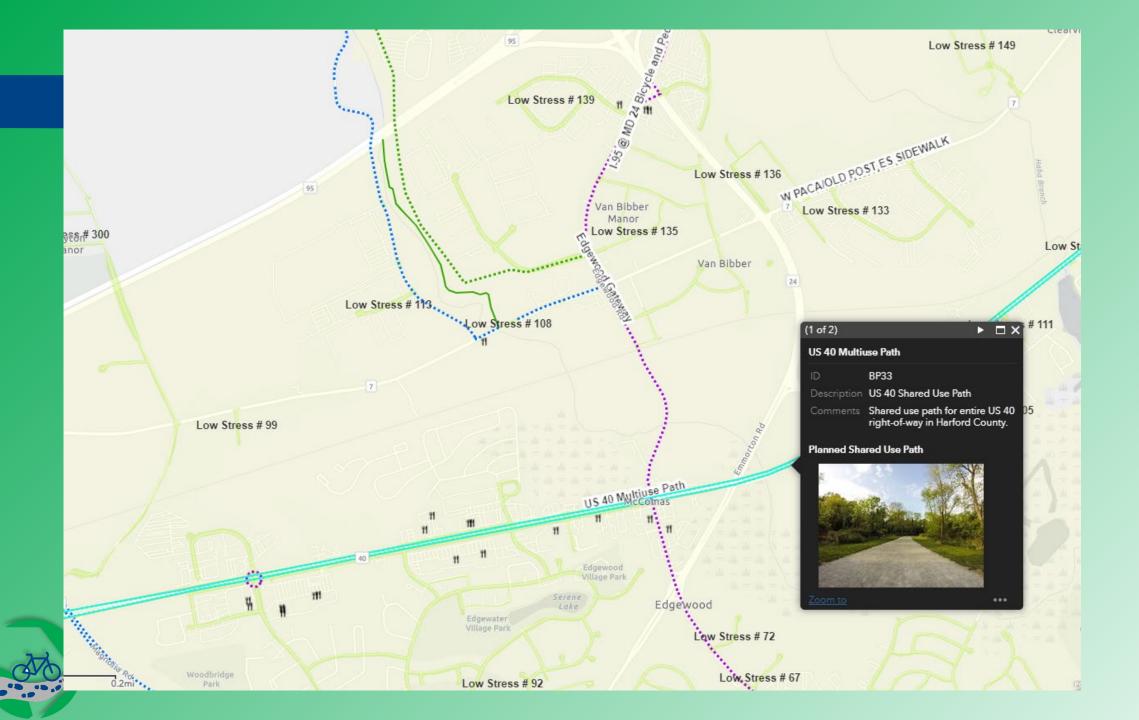
The 2013 Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan identified seven corridors to focus evaluations of future planning efforts. Some of the corridors were evaluated in 2013 with corridor maps that combined pictures and call-out notes. This plan refines the corridors in the form of seven different story maps. The underlying data includes the project map, other facts, and graphics. The corridors include the municipalities to better facilitate coordinated planning but local decision-making is ultimately at the town or city level. The corridors do not include APG lands but are aligned to gates to facilitate ongoing coordination with base master planning as anticipated by JLUS. The corridors comprise about 10% of the land area of the counties and municipalities combined but contain about 85% of the households (single and multi-family) in the county. The plan offers draft names for the corridors with an eye towards the thematic implementation of wayfinding routes, however, future implementation decisions may settle on other names

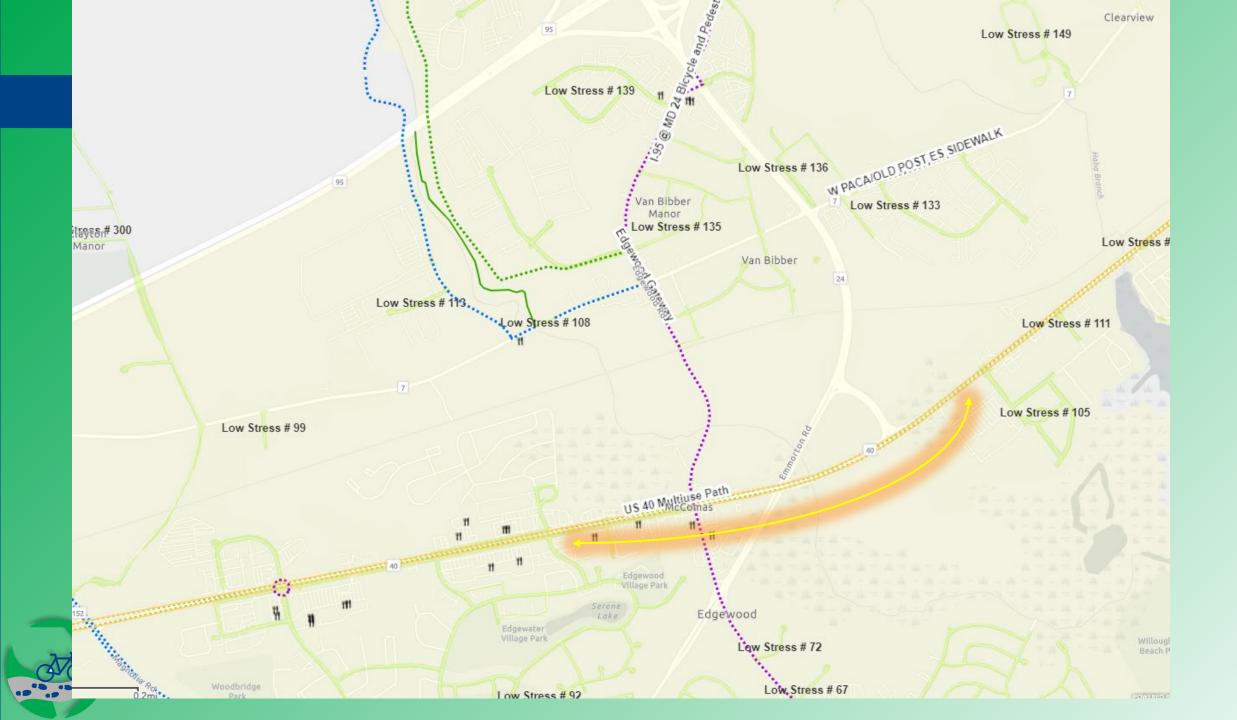


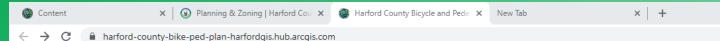














Harford County Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan



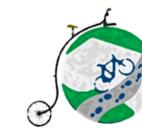
HarfordNEXT, the county master plan, called for the 2013 Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan to be reviewed and updated, to ensure efforts to extend the network of non-motorized facilities are synchronized with other land use and transportation decisions.



Q

This plan analyzes corridors and lays out 220 bicycle and pedestrian plans to guide capital planning and review of development proposals for years to come. The draft plan will be open for public comment and suggestions through the end of October 2021. The plan will then be adjusted to incorporate feedback. The final plan will become the policy of the Harford County Department of Planning and Zoning





A Historic Ride



Corridor Analyses

3. Setting

Project Map

- 1. Introduction
- 5. Planning for Safety
- 2. A Historic Ride
- 6. Facility Types 7. Planning Strategy 8. Strategy Palette
- 4. Existing Facilities
- 11. Programs
 - 12. Grants

10. Project Map

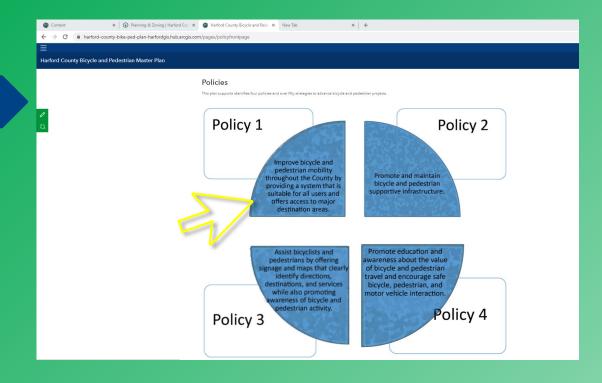
Share Your Idea

- 13. Public Participation
- 14. Policy Partners
- 15. Coordination



Harford County Department of Planning and Zoning 220 S Main Street 2nd Floor Bel Air, MD 21014

Phone: 410-638-3103 Fax: 410-879-8239

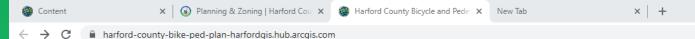




Policy 1

Improve bicycle and pedestrian mobility throughout the County by providing a system that is suitable for all users and offers access to major destination areas.

Num.	Strategy	1
1.01	Review and update the project list annually once a year through Intercounty Bike- Ped Coordination Group and the Transportation Priority Letter Team.	Δ
1.02	Promote the project list as the county's comprehensive bicycle and pedestrian network plan.	A
1.03	Promote a network of complete streets within development envelopes working towards a goal of being able to access the entire development envelope safely on a bicycle for recreation, commuting, and errands.	Δ
1.04	Promote a network of excursion-type and link-type bicycle facilities beyond the development envelope in the rural areas of the county.	В
1.05	Promote a targeted network of pedestrian facilities beyond the development envelope in the rural areas of the county. Public sites like parks and schools or places of public accommodation should be designed to safely convey	P





Harford County Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan



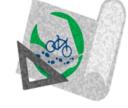
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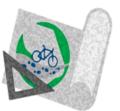


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This plan analyzes corridors and lays out 220 bicycle and pedestrian plans to guide capital planning and review of development proposals for years to come. The draft plan will be open for public comment and suggestions through the end of October 2021. The plan will then be adjusted to incorporate feedback. The final plan will become the policy of the Harford County Department of Planning and Zoning









A Historic Ride



Corridor Analyses

Project Map

1. Introduction

4. Existing Facilities

- 5. Planning for Safety
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11. Programs 12. Grants

9. Policies

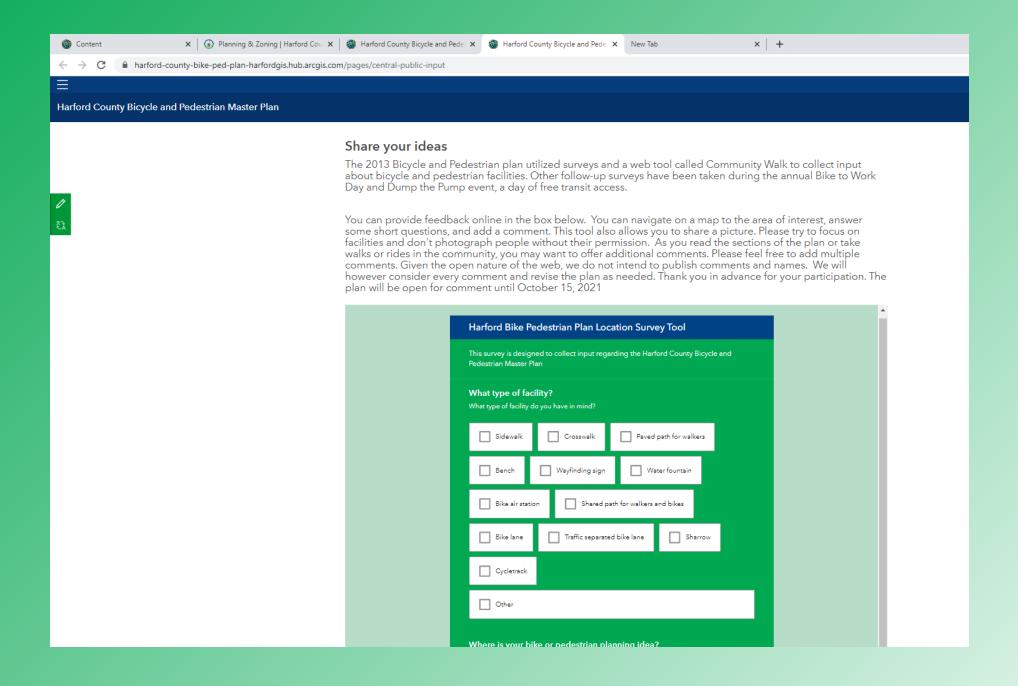
10. Project Map

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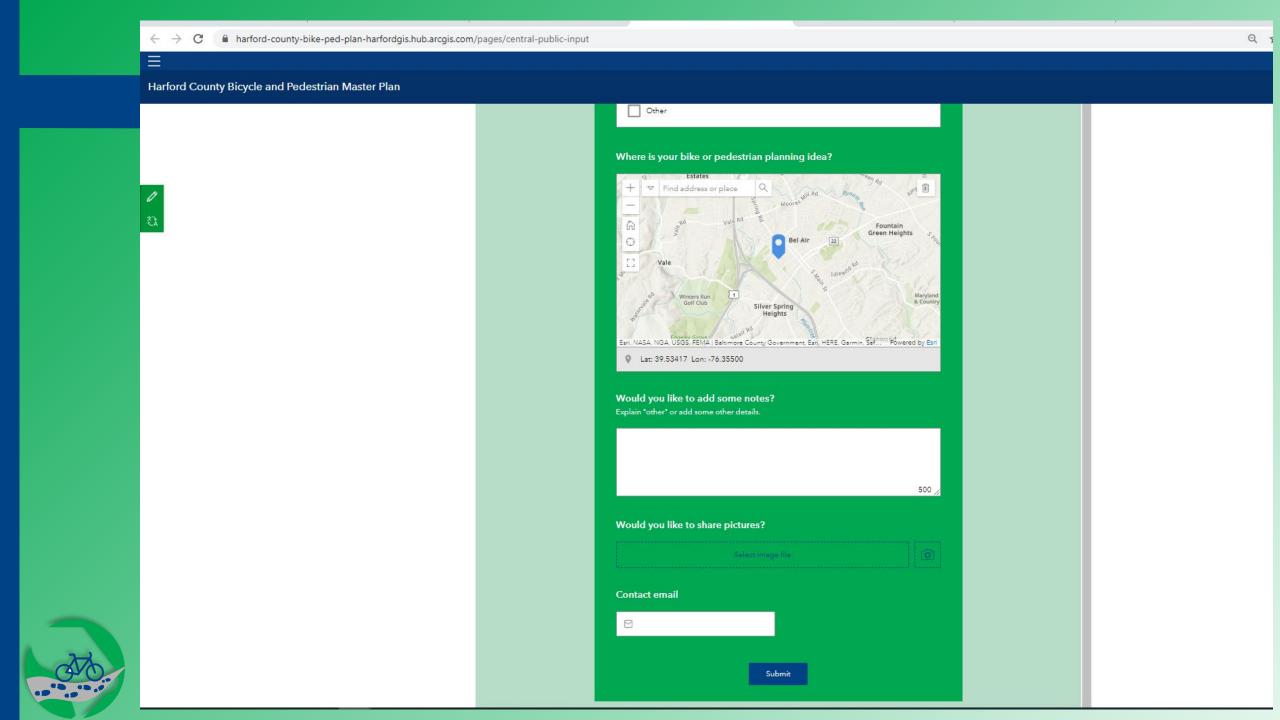
Harford County Department of Planning and Zoning

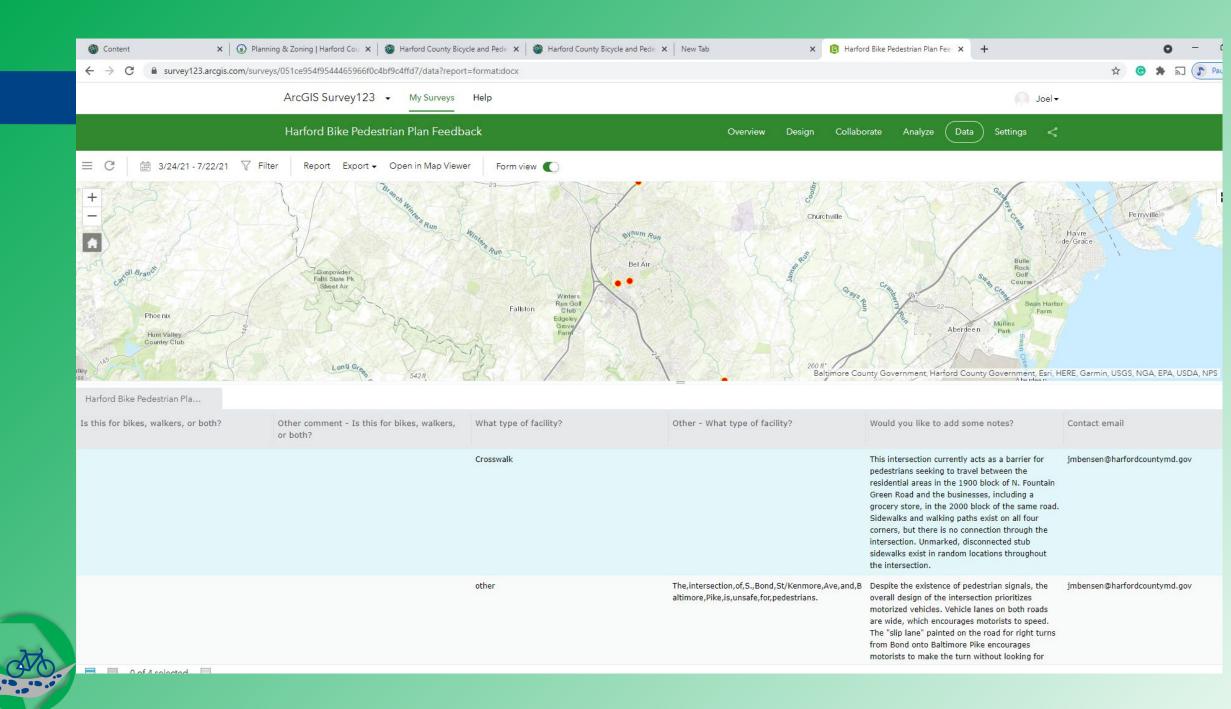
220 S Main Street 2nd Floor Bel Air, MD 21014 Phone: 410-638-3103 Fax: 410-879-8239













9:00 AM

OCTOBER 22, 2021

Originally scheduled as an in-person and online meeting, this meeting was held only online through Microsoft Teams.

MEETING MINUTES

Attendees:

Members:		Non-Members:		
Jon Morrison, Chair	John Westmore	Brigitte Carty	Eric Brenner	Owen Bailey
Antoine RJ Wright	Kristi Pier	Carol Kachadoorian	Greg Hinchliffe	Patrick McMahon
Andrew Mengel	Marquette Rogers	Champe Burnley	Ines Nizeye	Shayne Boucher
Chelsea Hayman	Marshall Edwards	Chris Reno	Jim Brown	Steph Piperno
Heather Ersts	Patti Stevens	Daniel Paschall	Jon Korin	Roy Gothie
Eli Glazier	Pierre Stewart	David Willauer	John Bolecek	Will White
Jim Titus		Dianne Klair	Kandese Holford	
Absent Members:		Staff:		
Gabriel Rose	Lt. Laura Beck	Marty Baker	Nate Evans	Nick Johnson
Jeff Hirsch	Marian Vessels			
Jim Smith	Sarah Sularz			
Karen Schonfeld	Steve Green			

I. Welcome & Introductions (10 min)

Jon Morrison, Chair opened the meeting with introductions of committee members and MDOT support staff.

II. Agenda Review and Approval of Minutes (5 min)

A revised agenda was presented with the rail and trail panel discussion moved to the third agenda item. There were no objections to the modified agenda.

Jim Titus moved to approve the minutes of the July 2021 MBPAC meeting. Antoine RJ Wright seconded the motion. The July 23, 2021 meeting minutes were approved by the committee.



III. Panel Discussion: Rail Tail Possibilities in Maryland (60 minutes)

The panel presentations and discussion included national, regional and state rail trail examples followed by a panel discussion.

Jim Brown, TrailNation Director at the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy, provided a history of the rail trail movement and how properties can be converted from railroad to trail use.

John Bolecek, Statewide Bicycle and Pedestrian Planner at the Virginia Department of Transportation shared how the Eastern Shore Rail Trail feasibility study was conducted and how it can be developed.

Nate Evans, Active Transportation Planner at the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT), provided a history of rail trails in Maryland, the status of the state rail plan, current and future departmental efforts to develop rail trail and rail with trails.

Will White, City of Salisbury Department of Infrastructure and Development, shared his experience with the development of the city's rail trail project and active railroad coordination.

Presentations from Rails-to-Trails Conservancy, Virginia and Maryland Departments of Transportation are available on the MBPAC website. Questions and comments from the chat are included in the appendix.

IV. Old Business & Public Comment (20 minutes)

Jon Korin shared that MDOT State Highway Administration (SHA) is undergoing a study to evaluate the efficiency of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), Safe Routes to School (SRTS) and Recreational Trails Program (RTP).

Jim Titus inquired if the committee would receive responses to comments submitted on the I-495/I-270 Managed Lanes Project. Jim also encouraged the committee to be pro-active in working with SHA as Maryland updates the Maryland Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MDMUTCD) based on the new federal version.

Jon Korin shared that as of October 1, the Vulnerable Roadway User (VRU) law went into effect. Offenders are required to appear in court when involved in a crash with a pedestrian, bicyclist or other vulnerable road user.

Eric Brenner shared that the September 11th National Memorial Trail was officially recognized and has been incorporated into the National Park Service system. This move allows more federal funding for the trail, which saw a marked increase in traffic for the 20th anniversary of the attacks. Eric noted that the main barrier along the trail's route is the Susquehanna River crossing, which President Biden acknowledged during the signing ceremony. With the issue



having the president's attention, several committee members and attendees agreed that a renewed effort to revisit a shared-use path option for the crossing.

V. MBPAC Subcommittee Reports (10 minutes)

Marty Baker shared that the **Pedestrian Subcommittee** will host their next meeting on December 9th. The committee has been focused on Walktober events, including the final Walkinar scheduled for October 28. Each 2021 webinar averaged 500 participants.

Chelsea Hayman shared that the **Disability Subcommittee** held its final discussion on floating bus stop design. A synopsis of the discussion and recommendations are being drafted by the Maryland Department of Disabilities.

VI. Partner Agency Updates (20 min)

Heather Ersts (Department of Commerce) shared that the State and National Park Service are celebrating the 150th Anniversary of the C&O Canal with promotional videos of user experiences and promoting the interconnectivity of the state's land and water trails.

Kristi Pier (Maryland Department of Health) shared the launch of a team-based walking academy, which will be available to community partners and elected officials to create more walkable communities.

Andrew Mengel (Department of Natural Resources) announced the Department in partnership with Baltimore City won an Outdoor Legacy grant to repair and expand trails around Middle Branch Park. Counties are submitting recreation and land preservation plans to DNR and the Maryland Department of Planning (MDP) for review, which helps determine future Program Open Space funding. Andrew clarified for Jon Korin that e-bike policies are established at the individual park unit. The Western Maryland Railroad Trail is one park unit which does allow e-bikes.

Sarah Lipkin Sularz (Maryland Department of Planning) forwarded departmental activities to Nate Evans to share with the committee, stating MDP released the <u>Snapshot Maryland Transportation Planning Dashboard</u> to assist planners, transportation professionals and the public with planning-related information at the local level. MDP encourages local jurisdictions to address pedestrian bicycle issues, policies and strategies in local comprehensive plan updates. MDP encourages the Maryland Transportation Authority to explore pedestrian bicycle access in the future Tier 2 Bay Crossing NEPA study and encouraged MDOT SHA to consider pedestrian bicycle elements in the I-495/I-270 Managed Lanes Project, especially in communities that need these types of elements in order to access any community centers and commercial areas.

Gabriel Rose (Maryland State Department of Education) forwarded departmental activities to Nate Evans stating MSDE celebrated School Bus Safety Week earlier in October and looks forward to celebrating Bike to School Day in the spring.

Eli Glazier (Maryland National Capital Parks & Planning Commission) shared that Montgomery County's Pedestrian Master Plan data collection is wrapping up with the Pedestrian Level of Comfort (PLOC) effort substantially completed. Connectivity analysis using PLOC will look at access to schools, parks, and other walkable destinations. The existing conditions report for the plan will be finalized in April 2022, and then draft recommendation development will begin.



Patrick McMahon (MDOT Maryland Transit Administration) shared that the North Avenue Rising project progresses and the shared bus and bike lanes are experiencing higher bicycle traffic volumes. Additional improvements are coming with the project along 20th Street and Baker Avenue. MDOT MTA received an FY22 Bikeways award to study a shared-use path between the Monocacy MARC station and the Monocacy Battlefield Park Visitor Center.

Kandese Holford (MDOT SHA) shared that the Pedestrian Safety Action Plan (PSAP) is on-going with a pending round of virtual public meetings. The Transportation Alternatives and Recreational Trails Programs awarded \$13 million to projects across the state.

Nate Evans and Marty Baker (MDOT Secretary's Office) shared that MDOT Kim Lamphier Bikeways Network Program awarded \$3.38 million to 16 projects across the state. Walktober 2021 has been successful with Walk Maryland Day on October 6 and three complete Walkinar with the fourth and final Walkinar to be held Thursday, October 28.

Nate Evans also shared that the Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS) for the I-495/I-270 Managed Lanes Project, now called OpLanes, is available on the state website: The SDEIS includes a detailed list of pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure to be constructed with the project in addition to three options for the shared-use path crossing of the Potomac River at the American Legion Bridge. Public comments are being accepted through November 15, 2021 with two virtual public meetings to be held on November 1, 2021.

VII. Closing Reminders and Adjournment (10 min)

The next MBPAC meeting will be held on Friday, January 28, 2022.

Jon Morrison reminded committee members to recommend future meeting discussion topics of interest.

Jim Titus motioned to adjourn the meeting. Antoine RJ Wright seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 am.



Appendix A - Chat Log from the October 22, 2021 MBPAC Meeting

[10/22 9:19 AM] Jon Korin

3 active Rail-Trail projects in Anne Arundel: WB&A Bridge over Patuxent River, South Shore Trail (Annapolis to Odenton) and BWI to Baltimore connector (near light rail). Plus many other trail projects (2 liked)

[10/22 9:21 AM] Jon Korin

And connecting the CTN and Balt.Greenway is the Anne Arundel Trail Network.

www.annearundeltrailnetwork.org

Anne Arundel Trail Network
Visit the post for more.
www.annearundeltrailnetwork.org

[10/22 9:28 AM] Jon Korin

JimBrown: Can you mention use of power line right of ways?

[10/22 9:28 AM] jim (Guest)

When a corridor is railbanked, how does it work if instead of bringing back the use of heavy rail, a locality wants to use the corridor for light rail?

[10/22 9:28 AM] jim (Guest)

DIfferent railroad and different use, but still rail. Does that count?

[10/22 9:32 AM] Jim Brown

Jon, and Jim: just saw these questions, happy address them

[10/22 9:33 AM] Morrison, Jon (Asbury)

Is there a white paper/guidance on the best way to lay the groundwork and timeline to expect when approaching a railway for rail/trail conversion?

[10/22 9:33 AM] Antoine RJ Wright (Guest)

@john, see https://www.railstotrails.org/build-trails/trail-building-toolbox/

[10/22 9:35 AM] Morrison, Jon (Asbury)

thanks Antoine

[10/22 9:39 AM] Patti Stevens (Guest)

what is smart scale? Fed or state \$

[10/22 9:40 AM] Jon Korin

VA Program https://smartscale.org/

(1 liked)



[10/22 9:41 AM] Patti Stevens (Guest)

Nate - Has MDOT done studies of multi-jurisdicitional rail trail projects like the ones John Described from VDOT?

[10/22 9:42 AM] Kandese Holford

Could I have a copy of the agenda, please? The one attached to my invite looks different

[10/22 9:43 AM] Glazier, Eli

I'm going to have to drop off unexpectedly, but the update from Montgomery County is that the Pedestrian Master Plan data collection is wrapping up. We have substantially completed the Pedestrian Level of Comfort (PLOC) effort, and are doing some pretty interesting connectivity work using PLCO to look at access to schools, parks, and other walkable destinations. We anticipate the existing conditions report for the plan will be finalized in April 2022, and then draft recommendation development will begin!

[10/22 9:43 AM] Jon Korin

Patti, here is a good example sponsored by BMC (that Nate worked on): https://www.baltometro.org/transportation/plans/patapsco-regional-greenway

[10/22 9:43 AM] Morrison, Jon (Asbury) WB&A

[10/22 9:43 AM] Boucher, Shayne E. Western Maryland Rail Trail

[10/22 9:43 AM] Jon Korin B&A Trail (1 liked)

[10/22 9:44 AM] Jim Brown i got to see it in Somerset, very nice!

[10/22 9:44 AM] Daniel Paschall, ECGA (Guest) love all those + the Ma and Pa!

[10/22 9:44 AM] Marty Baker NCR aka Torrey Brown

[10/22 9:44 AM] Owen Bailey Easton Rail Trail

[10/22 9:44 AM] Jim Brown NCR



[10/22 9:44 AM] Chelsea Hayman (Guest) NCR

[10/22 9:44 AM] steve (Guest)

CCT is closest and most frequently one I use but last week rode the NCR where it turns into York Heritage in PA for first time. Nice ride! (1 liked)

[10/22 9:44 AM] Glazier, Eli

Anyone wanting more info on our efforts in Montgomery County can send me an email. Eli.glazier@montgomeryplanning.org

[10/22 9:46 AM] jim (Guest)

Anacostia trails. WBA is my local trail but it really needs to be connected, maybe then there wll be more destinations.

(1 liked)

[10/22 9:48 AM] Brigitte Carty -LSHG- (Guest)

Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway Trail: https://www.traillink.com/trail/lower-susquehanna-heritage-greenway-trail/

(1 liked)

[10/22 9:51 AM] Heather Ersts

Frederick Douglass Rail Trail goes right past new FD Park on the Tuckahoe.

[10/22 9:52 AM] Marty Baker

For today's meeting agenda, see:

https://www.mdot.maryland.gov/OPCP/MBPAC Draft Agenda 10 22 2021.pdf

[10/22 9:54 AM] Boucher, Shayne E.

Map of F&P rail with trail design F and P Line RR Trail (frederickcountymd.gov)

[10/22 9:54 AM] Boucher, Shayne E.

Frederick-and-Pennsylvania-Line-Railroad-Trail-Project-Drawings (frederickcountymd.gov)

[10/22 9:55 AM] jim (Guest)

The reduction in trespassing is counterintuitive. I can see how the presence of people might help deter really bad actors, but if there is no fence along the trail then it would tend to cause more people to be on the tracks. Can you elaborate?

[10/22 9:55 AM] Jim Brown

National Park Service has also expressed interest in the Frederick Douglass Trail



(1 liked)

[10/22 9:58 AM] Patti Stevens (Guest)

WHen there is proposed abandonement is the state or local jurisdicition buying the rail line or is ownership transferred?

[10/22 9:58 AM] Greg Hinchliffe (Guest)

Often, people walk along the tracks because it is the easiest place to walk through the forest, swamp, etc. This led to a fatal accident on the Baltimore Light Rail line years ago. A parallel trail provides a safe passage without walking/biking on the tracks.

[10/22 9:58 AM] Jon Korin

For MD SHA: Safe Crossing of state roads for these trails is critical. Crossing Rt 3 near Rt 175 for South Shore Trail is a good example. Trail bridge is ideal but extremely expensive. What can be done near term to improve safety and comfort?

[10/22 10:00 AM] Daniel Paschall, ECGA (Guest)

+1 to Jon's comment re: improving safety at major intersections for vulnerable users and +1 to Eric's comment about re-looking at Amtrak crossing of Susquehanna for a study on a separate span with funds from teh train project; MUCH more federal support with Amtrak Biden in office in addition to support for 9/11 Trail that was federally designated with Rep Harris (R) supporting the trail on the Cecil County side (1 liked)

[10/22 10:01 AM] Daniel Paschall, ECGA (Guest)

there was supposedly a "2017 Susquehanna River Rail Bridge Project Bicycle/Pedestrian Crossing Hazard Analysis and Security Risk Assessment" referenced in the public engagement around the Susquehanna crossing, but I haven't seen anything else about the document anywhere

[10/22 10:01 AM] Antoine RJ Wright (Guest)

Love the discussion here; can these comments be added to the minutes/records?

[10/22 10:02 AM] Daniel Paschall, ECGA (Guest)

what's the potential of the Ma and Pa Trail from Harford to Baltimore County

[10/22 10:02 AM] Daniel Paschall, ECGA (Guest)

[10/22 10:07 AM] Brigitte Carty -LSHG- (Guest) Thank you, Eric!!

[10/22 10:07 AM] Daniel Paschall, ECGA (Guest) Now is the time! (1 liked)



[10/22 10:07 AM] Heather Ersts Eric, Congrats on the 9-11 Trail!! (2 liked)

[10/22 10:08 AM] Brigitte Carty -LSHG- (Guest) And yes, Congratulations!

[10/22 10:22 AM] Morrison, Jon (Asbury) Lets salvage the Nice Bridge (existing span)

[10/22 10:22 AM] Brigitte Carty -LSHG- (Guest)

We were awarded a \$50k Bikeways grant in 2012 but the project wasn't completed. I believe it was related to Hatem Bridge renovations and the addition of bike access.

[10/22 10:23 AM] Daniel Paschall, ECGA (Guest)

Anyone interested in attending the MD/DC East Coast Greenway Progress webinar on Nov 10th at 11am -- please email me at daniel@greenway.org

[10/22 10:24 AM] Dianne Klair (Guest)

I like you, Patti! Thanks for raising these questions. Dianne, Havre de Grace

[10/22 10:24 AM] Chris Reno (Guest)

Good point about the MARC trains, but the stations are Perryville and Aberdeen. That cuts out a significant portion of the ECG route. A backtrack along US 40 would be necessary.

[10/22 10:24 AM] Daniel Paschall, ECGA (Guest)

I've been digging through comments from the FONSI in 2017 too: http://susrailbridgetest.amtrak.com/content/dam/susrailbridge/pdfs/fonsi-2017/Appendix A Response to Comments FINAL.pdf

[10/22 10:25 AM] Brigitte Carty -LSHG- (Guest) Thank you, Marty!

[10/22 10:25 AM] Daniel Paschall, ECGA (Guest)

"Susquehanna River Rail Bridge Project Bicycle/Pedestrian Crossing Hazard Analysis and Security Risk Assessment"

[10/22 10:26 AM] eric brenner (Guest)

Patti: Good point, seems like a nice time for an update, doesn't have to be a huge amt. of time/work. Even just rehashing and combining past studies and documents.

[10/22 10:26 AM] Dianne Klair (Guest)

To my understanding, the FONSI does not preclude a third span crossing.



[10/22 10:27 AM] Jon Korin

I suggest MBPAC send a letter to MDOT recommending a policy to adopt ROUTINE Bike/Ped ACCOMODAATION on major crossings (water, interstates, rail)

[10/22 10:29 AM] Patti Stevens (Guest)

I support such a letter and a recommendation to include Rail TRail in the State Rail Plan

[10/22 10:30 AM] Heather Ersts

Great information and conversation!

[10/22 10:32 AM] Jim Brown

Much more information on railbanking and how to sign up for corridor alerts here:

https://www.railstotrails.org/build-trails/trail-building-toolbox/acquisition/railbanking/

Railbanking | Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

Understand the

www.railstotrails.org

[10/22 10:33 AM] Jim Brown

and Rail-with-Trail here: https://www.railstotrails.org/build-trails/trail-building-toolbox/basics/rail-with-trail/

Rail-with-Trail | Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

Read about rails-with-trails, their benefits and concerns that arise when considering a rail-with-trail project.

www.railstotrails.org

[10/22 10:33 AM] Daniel Paschall, ECGA (Guest)

Thanks Jim! Do you have links to the MD maps with the rail lines and the trails from your presentation?

(1 liked)

[10/22 10:34 AM] Morrison, Jon (Asbury)

<u>TrailLink: Trail Maps & Guide for Biking, Hiking & Running Trails | TrailLink</u> (1 liked)

[10/22 10:35 AM] Patti Stevens (Guest)

I concur with Jim's suggestion. I had previously asked if MBPAC could provide comments on the MUTCD..

[10/22 10:38 AM] Jim Brown

Daniel, Nate has my presentation which has those maps of the active and inactive rail lines + trails. He can distribute to this list.

[10/22 10:39 AM] Daniel Paschall, ECGA (Guest)



Thank you!

[10/22 10:43 AM] Brigitte Carty -LSHG- (Guest)

Yes, we have Star-Spangled, Washington-Rochambeau, and, as you mentioned, Captain John Smith Chesapeake running through Harford and Cecil Counties. Excited to have the 9/11 officically designated!

(1 liked)

[10/22 10:44 AM] Chris Reno (Guest)

I had a chance encounter with two cyclists one morning that stayed in Elkton overnight and planned their arrival in Perryville to match the bus across the Hatem bridge. Not all are avoiding, but it definitely is still a challenge.

[10/22 10:45 AM] Heather Ersts

National Trails in Maryland:

- Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail
- Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail
- Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail
- Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail
- Appalachian National Scenic Trail

(2 liked)

[10/22 10:49 AM] Jon Korin

A milestone on Critical Crossings: Invitation for construction bid is now open for the WB&A hiker/biker bridge over the Patuxent River connecting Anne Arundel and PG Counties. Hope to see shovels in the ground and water next year!

[10/22 10:49 AM] Dianne Klair (Guest)

The Walktober Walkinars are excellent!

[10/22 10:49 AM] eric brenner (Guest)

to Chris Reno's point, the more typical issue with the long distance bikers who I deal with using the ECG/9-11 route over the Hatem bridge involves coordinating the crossings...particularly if they can arrange for a vehicle to protect them (from the back) when they cross. But also w/timing of MARC trains.

[10/22 10:52 AM] Heather Ersts

Blue Ridge Outdoors video Rain or Shine: Bike Packing the C&O Canal Trail - YouTube

[10/22 10:54 AM] Jim Brown

Heather, I can connect you with our communication team if you'd like to talk about the marketing video with them

[10/22 10:55 AM] Heather Ersts



Definitley Jim! heather.ersts@maryland.gov

[10/22 10:56 AM] Kristi Pier

Maryland Virtual Walkability Academy overview presentation,

https://health.maryland.gov/phpa/ccdpc/Documents/WVA%20Info%20Session%20v3.pdf

[10/22 10:58 AM] Kristi Pier

https://health.maryland.gov/phpa/ccdpc/Pages/ccdpc home.aspx

Pages - Chronic Disease

An official website of the State of Maryland.

health.maryland.gov

[10/22 11:01 AM] Patti Stevens (Guest)

could we have the new Director of the Office of Outdoor recreation as a future speaker, consider how we might work together?

(1 liked)

[10/22 11:04 AM] Nate Evans

https://maryland.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=6281df9033f54f12a1a14ee5 9a5f855a

Story Map Series

This story map was created with the Story Map Series application in ArcGIS Online. maryland.maps.arcgis.com

[10/22 11:11 AM] Nate Evans

Your Participation » Upcoming Events » Op Lanes Maryland (oplanesmd.com)

[10/22 11:14 AM] Patti Stevens (Guest)

thank you Nate and Jon for a great meeting!!

[10/22 11:14 AM] Brigitte Carty -LSHG- (Guest)

Thanks, everyone, for a great meeting!



JON MORRISON

CHAIRPERSON

9:00 AM

October 22, 2021

JEFF HIRSCH

DIRECTOR OF BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ACCESS, MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF **TRANSPORTATION**

Maryland Department of Transportation Headquarters, 7201 Corporate Center Drive, Hanover MD 21076, Richard Trainor Conference Room

KRISTI PIER

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Join online with Microsoft Teams https://tinyurl.com/r4a9ha68

Join by Phone: 443-409-5228, Phone Conference ID: 453 344 752#

LT. LAURA BECK MARYLAND STATE POLICE

AGENDA

HEATHER ERSTS

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

SARAH LIPKIN SULARZ

I. Welcome & Introductions (10 min) Jon Morrison, Chair and MDOT Staff

II. Agenda Review and Approval of Minutes (10 min)

GABRIEL ROSE

MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF **EDUCATION**

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING

Panel Discussion: Rail Trail Possibilities in Maryland (60 min) III.

Jim Brown, Rails to Trails Conservancy John Bolecek, Virginia Department of Transportation Nate Evans, Maryland Department of Transportation Will White, City of Salisbury

ANDREW MENGEL

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

CHELSEA HAYMAN

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITIES

IV. Old Business & Public Comment (20 min)

V. MBPAC Subcommittee Reports (15 min)

ELI GLAZIER

MARYLAND NATIONAL PARK AND **PLANNING COMMISSION**

VI. Partner Agency Updates (20 min)

MARSHALL EDWARDS STEVEN FRIEDMAN

STEVE GREEN

MARQUETTE ROGERS

KAREN SCHONFELD

JIM SMITH

PATTI STEVENS

PIERRE STEWART

JAMES TITUS

MARIAN VESSELS

JOHN WETMORE

ANTOINE RJ WRIGHT

VII. Closing Reminders and Adjournment (5 min)

a. Review meeting action items

b. Next meeting, Friday January 28, 2022

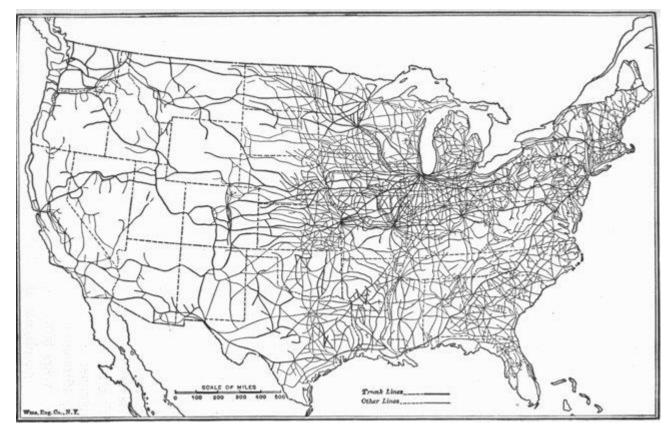
Intro to Rail Trails Maryland and Beyond

Jim Brown
Director of TrailNation Projects
Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
jim@railstotrails.org









U.S. Railroad System - 1918

1916:
250,000+ miles
active railway
(Association of American Railroads)





Today: 140,000 rail miles operated by Class I railroads (Federal Railroad Administration)



Success Stories in Maryland and Beyond



GAP Trail



Route of the Hiawatha

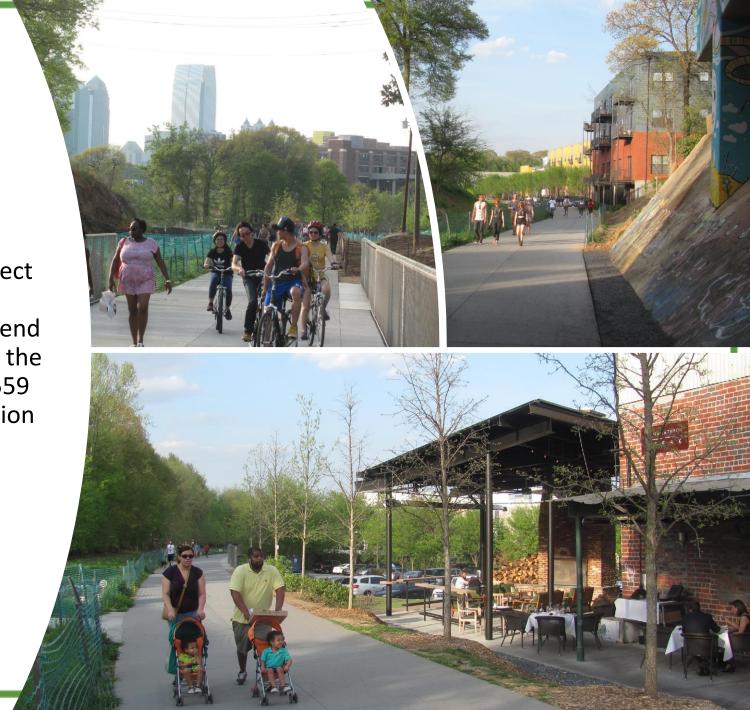


The HighLine



Economic Impact of Trail Networks

The **Atlanta BeltLine** has generated a direct economic impact of nearly \$4.6 billion dollars in private development as of the end of 2018. This is seven times greater than the total public and private investment of \$559 million to date invested in trail construction and private real estate.



Economic Impact of Trail Networks

The Laffite Greenway in New Orleans has spurred more than \$100 million in public and private projects adjacent to the short 4-mile trail connecting downtown to City Park.



Baltimore Greenway Trails Network



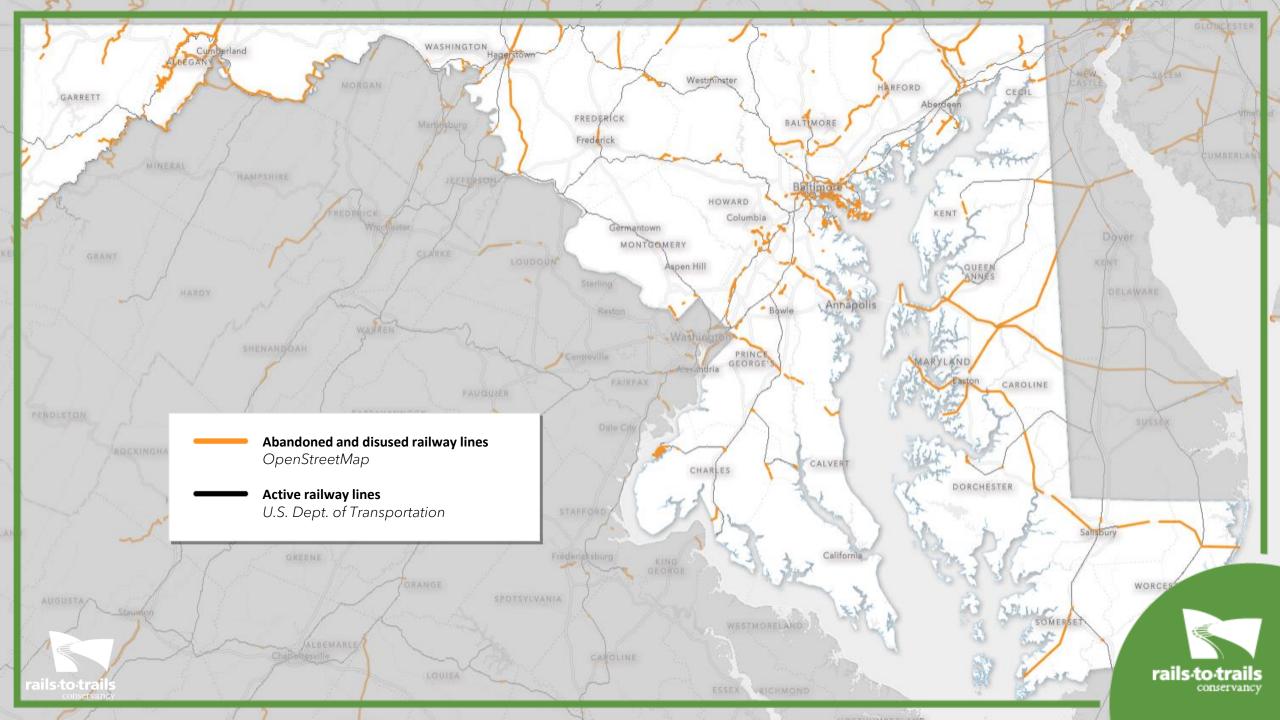


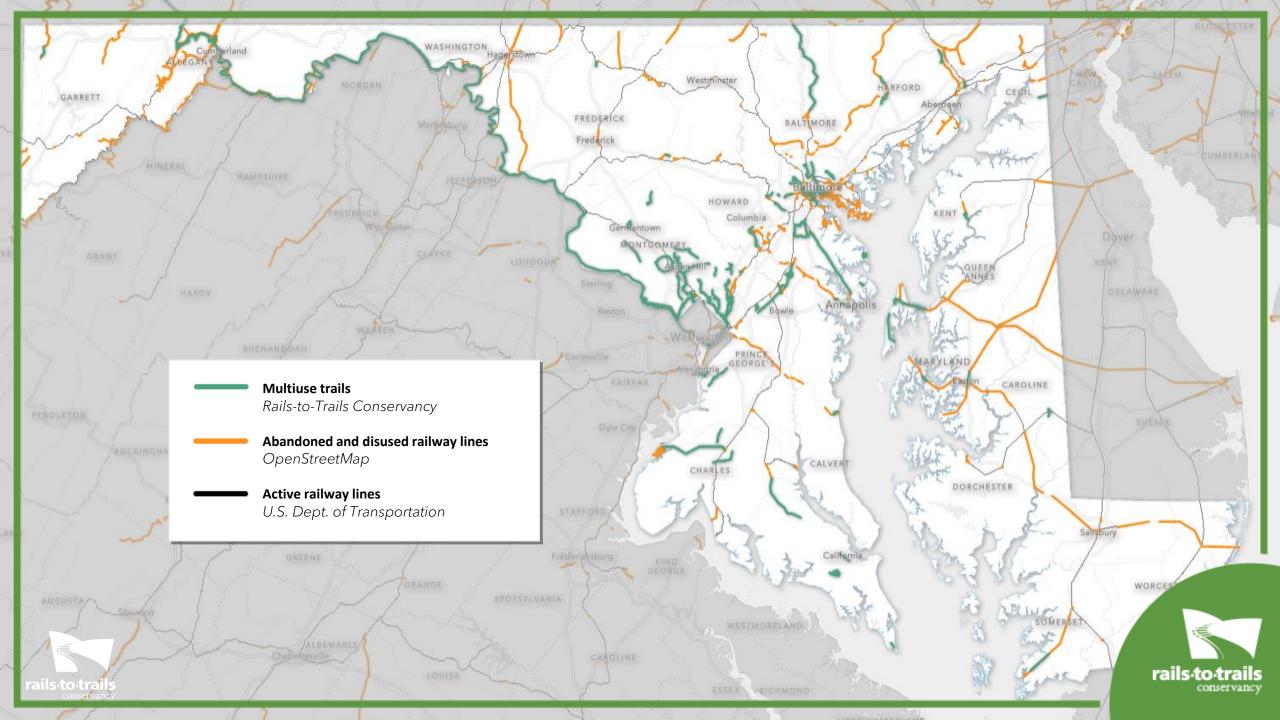
Baltimore Greenway Trails Network











Acquisition Methods and Corridor Status

- Fee or Easement
- Abandoned, property ownership may vary
- Railbanking
- Active, but in abandonment process
- Rail-with-Trail (Easement, Lease, e.g.)
- Active



Abandonment

Once abandoned:

- Corridor no longer regulated by STB
- Returns to status of private land/original ownership
- Negotiations by become more complicated with multiple property owners
- State property law comes into effect



What is Railbanking?

- Part of National Trails System Act Amendments of 1983
- A voluntary agreement between a railroad company and a trail agency to use an out-of-service rail corridor as a trail until a railroad might need the corridor again for rail service.
- Retains the STB jurisdiction over the corridor
- Can be reactivated for later rail use
- Available for Interim Trail Use

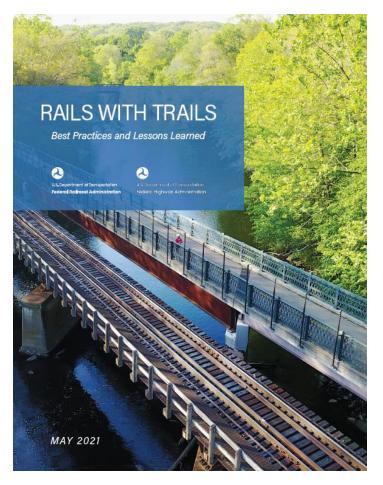


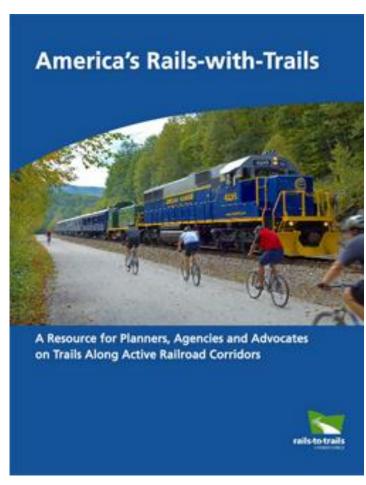
What is Railbanking?

- Railroad Files for Abandonment with STB
- Trail group or local municipality has 30 days to request a Notice of Interim Trail Use (NITU) (RTC Early Warning System)
- Within 10 days, railroad notifies STB its willingness to negotiate
- If railroad agrees, STB issues a NITU for 180-day period (can be extended to continue negotiations)
- Railbanking occurs if negotiations are successful. Railroad notifies STB that agreement was reached.
- RTC's Trail Building toolbox: https://www.railstotrails.org/build-trails/trail-building-toolbox/



Rail-with-Trail





400 +/= RWTs in the U.S.

Over 5000 miles of RWT in the U.S.



https://www.railstotrails.org/build-trails/trail-building-toolbox/basics/rail-with-trail/





Jim Brown

jim@railstotrails.org

Railstotrails.org







Rails to Trails

- Northern Central Railroad Trail one of first rail-trails
- Opened in 1984
- 20-mile trail to Mason Dixon Line and continues as York Heritage
- Renamed in honor of Torrey
 C. Brown in 2007



Rails With Trails

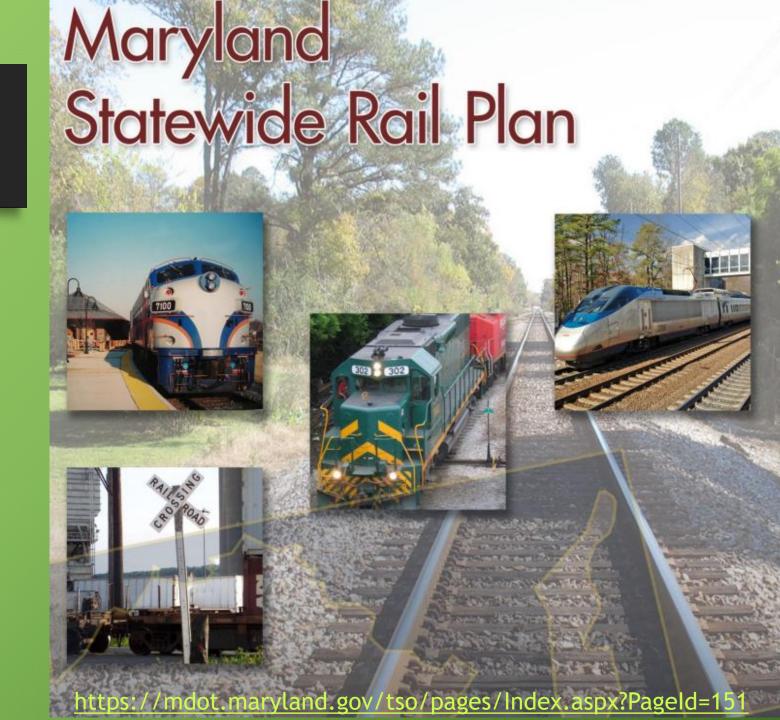
- Great Allegheny Passage Trail
- Parallel to Western Maryland Scenic Railroad
- 16 miles from Cumberland to Frostburg
- Completed in 2006



Photo by visitmaryland.org

State Rail Plan

- Four-year update
- Federal Railroad Administration requirement
- Passenger and freight railroad status and planned improvements
- Identifies railbanked properties but does not propose trail improvements



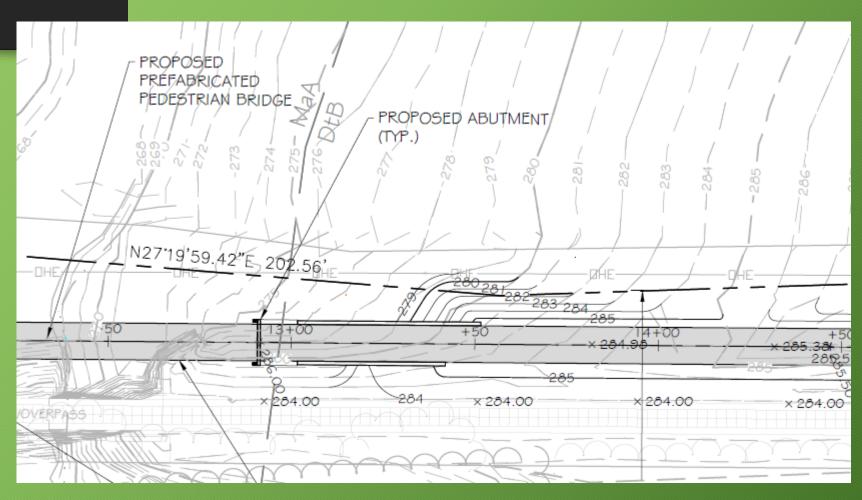
Frederick Douglass Rail Trail

- Railbanked property owned by MDOT Maryland Transit Administration
- Established section of Easton Rail Trail and Ridgely Rail Trail
- FY16 Bikeways award for bridge construction over Tuckahoe Creek
- FY21 Bikeways award for design of two bridges between Cordova and Queen Anne

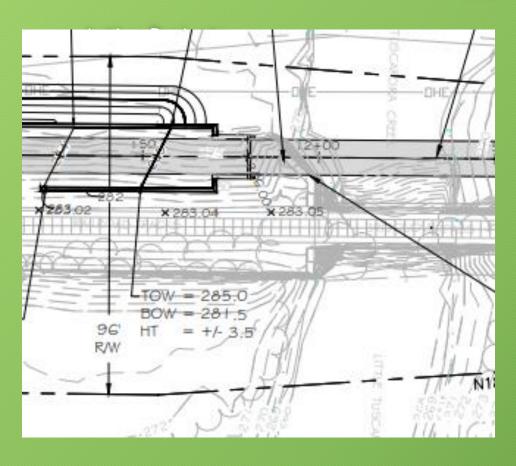


Frederick & Pennsylvania Railroad Trail

- MDOT MTA owned rail corridor north of Monocacy Boulevard
- Walkersville Southern Railroad operates
- FY20 Bikeways award for rail with trail project between Monocacy Boulevard and Fountain Rock Park
- MDOT MTA reviewing for constructability, safety and legal responsibilities
- Updated FHWA design guidance



Future Considerations





Future Considerations





