

MD 99 INVESTIGATION

DRAFT LIST OF STUDIES AND PROJECTS COMPLETED

IMPROVEMENTS COMPLETED ALONG MD 99 SINCE 2005

2009:	MDOT SHA modified the signal phasing at Marriottsville Road providing an E/P phase for northbound left-turn. (In 2015 this intersection was reconstructed as part of the Waverly Woods development to provide a second through lane along Marriottsville Road)
2011:	MDOT SHA installed a "No Handheld Cell Phone Use" sign along eastbound MD 99 east of St. Johns Lane
2012:	MDOT SHA installed additional chevron signs Along MD 99 WB east of Alpha Ridge Park entrance
2012:	Howard County widened westbound MD 99 to provide right-turn only lanes at the entrances to the Mount Hebron High School
2012:	MDOT SHA upgraded the existing signalized pedestrian crossing on the west leg of MD 99 at St. Johns Lane to countdown signals with Audible Pedestrian Signal
2013:	MDOT SHA removed the passing zone along MD 99 west of Marriottsville Road beginning at residence # 11420 and extending westerly for 670 feet. The zone did not meet minimum passing zone length for the posted speed limit
2013:	MDOT SHA installed signs and pavement marking along eastbound MD 99 at Old St. Johns Lane to delineate a short deceleration lane and removed a portion of the center-line to indicate to motorist the existence of intersection at this location
2013:	MDOT SHA also modified the pavement marking along the Bethany Lane and Old Mill Road approaches to MD 99 as part of the Enclave at Ellicott Station property redevelopment project located in the northwest corner of the intersection providing a separate left-turn lane and a through/ right turn lane along both side road approaches
2014:	MDOT SHA installed No Outlet signs along Butterfly Court at MD 99
2015:	MDOT SHA adjusted the signal timing during the evening peak hour at Bethany Lane to help the left turns at MD 99/Bethany Lane intersection
2016:	MDOT SHA adjusted the signal phasing for MD 99 at US 29 to increase the number of gaps at St. Johns Lane
2016:	MDOT SHA modified the pavement marking along WB MD 99 at Melba to allow a through movement from the left lane. Before this improvement, through vehicles merged into the outside through lane while residents turned left at the intersection causing traffic operation issues during the peak evening hours
2016:	MDOT SHA installed new School Photo Enforced signs along MD 99 at North Farm Road, Weatherburn Road, and Waverly Wood Drive

MDOT SHA also provides routine maintenance and operations along MD 99 including, review and upgrade of existing signs, pavement marking, delineators, pavement markers, signal retiming and repairs, intersection lighting repairs, selective tree trimming and brush control to improve sight distance, and pavement repairs/rehabilitation. Last preventive maintenance to pavement along MD 99 was done in 2015.

STUDIES PERFORMED

- **Sand Hill Road, Request for Traffic Signal** - In December 2017, MDOT SHA evaluated the intersection at Sand Hill Road for a signal. The evaluation included 13-hour volume counts, a compilation of crash data, and field observations. Signals/Flashing warning device was not warranted

- **Sidewalk** - In November 2017, MDOT SHA received a request for sidewalk and street lights between McKenzie Road and the Mount Hebron High School Parking Lot. No sidewalk construction is currently planned at this location

- **Request for Speed Limit Reduction** - Received numerous requests for speed limit reduction along MD 99. Most recently, MDOT SHA performed a 48-hour Speed Study (October 3, 2017 - October 6, 2017) between Tiller Drive and Litter Drive, near St. Johns Lane and Mount Hebron High School. The 85th percentile speed along eastbound MD 99 was recorded as 44 mph. Along westbound, the 85th percentile speed was 50 mph. The posted speed limit is 40 mph in this section. In December 2016, MDOT SHA evaluated a request for reduction of the posted 50 MPH speed limit along MD 99 from Wetherburn Road to MD 32. The results of the SHA radar survey indicate that the 85th percentile speed was 53 MPH in this area

- **Woodstock Road, Request for Left-Turn Phase** - In August 2017, MDOT SHA received a request from a citizen for a left-turn phase in the eastbound direction at Woodstock Road. MDOT SHA completed the signal evaluation in December recommending the installation of an Exclusive/Permissive left-turn phasing in the eastbound direction. The Design Request is pending approval by the Director, MDOT SHA - Office of Traffic and Safety

- **Sight Distance** - On July 7, 2016, MDOT SHA reviewed a complaint of limited intersection sight at a private driveway at 9573 Old Frederick Road. MDOT SHA cannot assist with improving sight distance as the required regrading of embankment slope would go beyond the existing MDOT SHA right-of-way

- **Request for Traffic Signal at Mount Hebron Drive, Tiller Drive, McKenzie Road, and Green Clover Drive/Waverly Woods Drive** - In June 2016, MDOT SHA evaluated the intersections at Mount Hebron Drive, Tiller Drive, McKenzie Road, and Green Clover Drive/Waverly Woods Drive for the signal. The evaluation included 13-hour volume counts, a compilation of crash data, and field observations at (Signals/Flashing warning devices were not warranted at all locations except at Mount Hebron Road, site observations did not support the use of signal at this location)

- **Bracken Drive, Request for information related to a traffic crash** - Received request for information on a crash in February 2017 at Bracken Drive. MDOT SHA did not find any records of this crash. MDOT SHA evaluated this intersection in January 2011 for a traffic signal. This involved performing traffic counts during 13 continuous hours on a typical weekday to capture the volume on each leg of the intersection. Also, on-site observations were conducted during the peak travel, crash patterns were analyzed, and investigated delays, speeding, and school bus operation. The evaluation did not support a traffic signal or any other traffic control device enhancements at this location

- **Mount Hebron HS, Traffic Pattern** - In January 2017, MDOT SHA received citizen complaint regarding traffic operation on the Mount Hebron High School parking lot related to the new traffic pattern and drop-off pick-up protocols established by the school. Additionally, there was a request for temporary directional signs, which we agreed to review if requested by the school

- **Melba Road, Intersection Lighting** - In November 2016, MDOT SHA evaluated a request for intersection lighting at Melba Road. Melba Road has a new LED type lighting planned to be installed by the Howard County DPW that may illuminate the street entrance sufficiently not requiring a separate light over MD 99. Our records indicate that the County anticipates installing the new light by the end of January 2017, at which time MDOT SHA will conduct a review of the additional intersection lighting needs

- **Bethany Lane/Old Mill Road Request for a left-turn phase** - MDOT SHA evaluated this signal few times in the past. In February 2015, our recommendation for this signal was to implement an exclusive/permissive left-turn phasing. However, the left-turn phase has not been implemented at this location yet as we were hoping that this improvement can be constructed as part of traffic relief for the Bethany Glen development

- **Dorchester Way, Request for information related to a traffic crash** - In August 2016, MDOT SHA responded to a citizen's request and received information from the Howard County Police regarding this crash. This incident occurred at Dorchester Way and was not related to traffic operations at the intersection of MD 99 and Green Clover Drive/Waverly Woods Drive

- **Emily Fox Court, Complaints of Aggressive Driving** - In July 2016, we received complaints of aggressive driving along MD 99 near Emily Fox Court and reviewed existing traffic controls in the area. Our review indicated that the existing traffic control devices along MD 99 at Emily Fox Court should adequately draw attention to situations that may require the motorist to exercise caution approaching the intersection

- **Congestion along MD 99** - In June 2016 MDOT SHA received citizen concerns about recurring morning and evening congestion along MD 99. MDOT SHA responded that while there is currently no funded project to relieve congestion along MD 99, the Howard County and MDOT will continue to partner in prioritizing projects in the county to address the congestion issue

- **Marriottsville Road Request for Advanced Warning Signal and No Turn on Red restriction** - In April 2016, MDOT SHA reviewed a request for advanced warning signal along westbound MD 99 before Marriottsville Road. The review concluded that additional traffic control devices at this location were not recommended. In February 2015, MDOT SHA reviewed a citizen request for No Turn on Red restriction. MDOT SHA performed field observations and recommended against installing No Turn on Red at this location

- **School Bus Operation between MD 32 and US 29** -In April 2009, MDOT SHA investigated congestion along MD 99 between MD 32 and US 29 due to school bus operations. The review did not reveal any conflict in traffic operation. School buses were observed to be stopped on acceleration/deceleration lanes along MD 99. The school bus stopping did not affect or hinder traffic operation along the roadway. The review was conducted between the hours of 7 AM and 9 AM. Some queues developed at signal controlled intersections due to traffic volume, however, all vehicles were served by one green cycle

- **Wetherburn Road Request for information related to a traffic crash** - In August 2012 MDOT SHA responded a to citizen regarding crashes at this location. MDOT SHA reviewed crash data and found that between 2009-2011 this location had one police reported an intersection-related crash in 2011