



MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION BOARD
MINUTES March 23, 2021 7:00pm

Members

Present: Larry Schoen
Ted Cochran
Monica Simon
Shahriar Etemadi
David Drasin
David Zinner

Staff: Bruce Gartner, Executive Secretary
Chris Eatough, Office of Transportation
David Cookson, Office of Transportation
Kimberly Woods, Office of Transportation
Brian Muldoon, Office of Transportation
Molly Nur, Office of Transportation
Brooks Phelps, Office of Transportation
Terri Hansen, Office of Aging and Independence

Members Alice Giles
Excused:

Members Cole McCarren
of the Caitlin Kovel
Public: Jason Quan

1. Approval of Agenda for Meeting

The draft agenda for the meeting was approved by Larry Schoen with no objections.

2. Review of unofficial minutes from February 23, 2021

The minutes were adopted unanimously with minor spelling corrections.

3. Public Comment

Brooks Phelps has recently joined the Office of Transportation. Brooks was previously employed with Baltimore County Government’s Zoning Department. Brooks is the office newest GIS Specialist/Planner 1 which was previously held by Rashidi Jackson. The Office of Transportation is currently recruiting for Jason Quan’s replacement. Interviews have already been held and an offer is expected to be made next week to the top candidate.

4. New Business/Ongoing Business

- i. Presentation on Transit Mobile Payment App and Bus Stop Improvements
 - RTA riders can now purchase tickets through the Transit App. If the Transit App is viewed in the RTA service region users will be greeted with a red buy ticket button at the bottom of the screen. Once the user presses on the buy ticket button they will be routed to a mobile RTA storefront, which displays the fare types (regular, student, seniors, etc.), and available fares (one way, day, and monthly pass) for purchase.

Once a purchase is made it is then added to their digital transit app account wallet. The rider is given two options they can either activate the ticket immediately. Or they can choose to ride later meaning they can activate the ticket once they are actually ready to ride.

- A link will be sent to MTB members so that can view and learn more the about the new Transit Mobile Payment App.
- Ted Cochran suggested renaming the one-way ticket to something along the lines of 90-minute ticket, since riders are allowed to take multiple trips as long as it's within the 90-minute timeframe of the ticket being activated.
- Purchased fare that the rider decides to save for later currently doesn't have a use by date. The purchased fare remains available until the user is ready to activate it.

ii. Public Input on 2021 Priority Letter

- At least 50 people completed part of the online survey, with 23 respondents offering additional written comments.
- Zip codes were very similar to last year's (clustering of responses from 21042, 21043, 21044, & 21045).
- Under the motor vehicle category 52% of respondents ranked safety related projects as their highest priority.
- For the transit category, 32% of respondents ranked improved local transit service as their highest priority.
- For bicycle/pedestrian category, 40% of respondents ranks connections to schools and neighborhoods and access to recreation as their highest priority.
- US1 and US29 corridors are the highest priority areas listed in the letter. The goal is to point out that these are not big giant capital projects. A lot of things can be done and can be funded by the state. The OOT would like for the State to focus on these two corridors, especially with a concentration on safety.
- Any feedback regarding the Priority Letter must be submitted to the Office of Transportation by March 25th.

iii. Age Friendly Community Transportation Workgroup Recommendations

- Goals
 - Implement Howard County Complete Streets Policy to improve access to community services, increase investment in areas with vulnerable populations and allow alternatives to single occupancy vehicle.
 - Prioritize and Implement elements of Pedestrian and Bicycle Masterplans (Walk Howard and Bike Howard) that address either increased walking/bicycling access to schools or increased senior access to services.
 - Maintain and Expand affordable transit options and/or alternatives to underserved areas/corridors with densities and populations that will benefit from access to transit.
 - Increase Promotion/Use of existing services. Enhance training for older adults, persons with disabilities, and disadvantaged populations on suitable transportation options that fit their mobility needs.
 - Foster Innovation in, and the provision of alternative transportation options to supplement traditional fixed route transit, paratransit and single occupancy vehicle trips.
 - Implement Strategic Roadway Safety Plan for roadway elements (visibility, lighting) to create a safe and well-designed transportation system for older drivers.

Terri Hansen and the committee are currently working on consolidating the recommendations from the eight work groups. The recommendations are helpful in contributing to making the community a safer place to live in. In addition to be an accessible place to be able to get around to be more active, social, and healthier. The entire action plan is expected to be ready within the next couple of months. The end goal is to get the age friendly designation from AARP. While the plan will contribute to funding and policy direction it goes beyond just government, private entities will be involved. So other funding besides traditional funding sources will be looked at. In addition to looking at business partnerships and unique ways of doing things because there will never be enough funding in the traditional sense in order to achieve the desired growth. Anyone interested in following up on the Age Friendly Work Group or have any comments are encouraged to email Bruce Gartner.

5. Development Updates- Dave Cookson

Upcoming Public Meetings

Project	Meeting Date	Meeting Type	Notes
ZB-1119M HRVC Ltd. Partnership, c/o Kimco Realty Corp.	March 24	Zoning Board	Redevelopment of Hickory Ridge Village Center to amend the Preliminary Development Plan (6430-6470 Freetown Road, Columbia, MD) Link to Zoning Board Website: https://cc.howardcountymd.gov/Zoning-Land-Use/Zoning-Board
SDP-20-059 East Columbia Library Howard County Public Works	April 1	Planning Board	Department of Public Works is proposing a new 29,468sf senior center and associated site improvements adjacent to the East Columbia Library Attachments: https://www.howardcountymd.gov/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=0ZrDVS_jU8%3d&portalid=0
SDP-20-027 Howard County Housing Commission	April 1	Planning Board	Howard County Housing Commission is proposing a four-story, 70-unit apartment complex and parking improvements adjacent to the existing Ellicott Gardens complex located on Waterloo Road. Attachments: https://www.howardcountymd.gov/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=nA3iFSbREok%3d&portalid=0
ZB 1118M Erickson at Limestone Valley	April 7	Zoning Board	To rezone 62.11 acres from B-2 & RC-DEO to CEF-M for development of a continuing care retirement community and to permit the expansion/relocation and architectural enhancement of the existing Freestate Gasoline Service Station (MD 108, 12170 Clarksville Pike & p/o 5450 Sheppard Lane) Webex Link: https://howardcountymd.webex.com/howardcountymd/onstage/g.ph?p?MTID=e137c4d9391dd8f51d1fb2c6def6e38bc

Newly Submitted Development Plans					
Plan Name	Plan Number	Units	Description	OOT Comments	Next Steps
Willington Farms Phase 1 Section 1 Address/Link: Project 10400-10472 Graeloch Rd, Laurel, MD	F-21-025	45 units mix of detached and attached	The is the road plan for a section of phase 1 of the 395 single family attached and detached development.	Following feedback from DPW related to the capacity at the intersection of Graeloch/Aurora Way. OOT, DPW and DPZ have requested the applicant provide a pedestrian refuge island at the intersection. At this phase of the project, a traffic signal is not warranted by the MUTCD. Addition, the applicant will widen the proposed pathway on Leisher to 10 feet.	Resubmit
Roslyn Rise Address/Link: Project 10339 Twin Rivers Rd, Columbia, MD 21044	SDP-21-030	163	This is a plan to replace a townhome development with a 2 building, 163 unit multifamily development.	OOT requests bike parking in both buildings and questions the redundancy of the two sidewalks leading to Trumpeter.	Resubmit
Dorsey's Ridge Address/Link: Project 3969-3901 Cooks Ln, Ellicott City, MD 21043	F-20-066	N/A	This is the plan for the road/pathway improvements for Dorsey's Ridge.	At this stage, an important outstanding issue relates to the intersection of Brittany Drive and Old Columbia Road. The Zoning Board's decision and order called for a marked	Resubmit

				crosswalk at the intersection. OOT and DPW found the proposed design did not provide for a safe crossing of a four lane 45 MPH lane road. OOT and DPW developed guidance on a proposed design.	
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Dave Briefly went over a few plan review updates that were previously presented to the MTB.

- Columbia EZ Storage (Berger Road/Snowden River Pkwy)
 - OOT requested frontage improvements on Berger Road since the project scope includes all five parcels
 - Update- Approved
- United Way Daycare
 - OOT, DPW, DPZ and the applicant have developed a solution for the applicant install three ADA complaint ramps, new ped crossing paint, a new bus stop pad to ensure and enhance pedestrian access to Columbia Gateway Drive. The plan will also include a note related to coordinating with the county as the Robert Fulton Pathway project advances.
 - Update- Approved

6. Office of Transportation Updates

i. Wayfinding Project Options Presented to FHWA

- OOT is getting close to submitting two options to federal highways.
- The Wayfinding Project is estimated to cost around \$120K-\$130K for signs throughout the County.
- Experimental Sign Design (alternative option) and Community Wayfinding Signs (preferred option) are the two options that will be submitted.
- The Wayfinding Project has been in the bike Howard County Express Plan and is anticipated to be implemented in FY22.

ii. MD 32 Alternate Bike Route Priority Improvements

- Sen. Hester has been diligently communicating with the secretary of Transportation through the budget committee in Annapolis. The Office of Transportation is hoping to get some progress with SHA on this as it was discussed in the prior priority letter process.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

8. Next Meeting

The next MTB meeting is scheduled for April 27, 2021.

Bruce Gartner /2021
Executive Secretary Date

Kimberly Woods /2021
Office of Transportation Date