



TRANSIT AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY GROUP (TPAG) MINUTES

April 6, 2021 at 2:30 PM

Held via Webex

Members Present: Marlene Hendler, Chair
David Ramsay
Jackie Eng
Marian Vessels
Paul Walsky
Lt. Dombrowsky

Staff: Bruce Gartner, Office of Transportation
Chris Eatough, Office of Transportation
Brooks Phelps, Office of Transportation
Kimberly Woods, Office of Transportation
Molly Nur, Office of Transportation
David Cookson, Office of Transportation
Brian Muldoon, Office of Transportation

Non-Members Present:

Jon Mayer
Ted Cochran
Jason Quan
Matt Tanis
Jack Guarneri
Kris Jagarapu
Kris Singleton

1. Approval of September 15, 2020 Minutes

David Ramsey moved to approve the minutes. Jackie Eng seconded the motion. The minutes were approved with no corrections.

2. Key Topics

a. Disbanding of TPAG and reassigning of duties to MTB

- i. CB 18-2021 - County Council passed CB 18-2021 to disband TPAG and reallocate duties to MTB.
 - An act removing the requirement that the Office of Transportation establish a Transit and Pedestrian Advisory Group; amending the qualifications to serve on the Multimodal Transportation Board; amending the powers of the Multimodal Transportation Board; and generally relating to transportation and the Office of Transportation.
 - This meeting is officially the last and final TPAG meeting.
- ii. Marlene Hendler will become the newest member of the MTB.
- iii. OoT thanked the members for their years of service to TPAG and the County.

- iv. Members are encouraged to consider serving the County with other Howard County Boards and Commissions, RTA Riders' Advisory Council (RAC), and others.
- b. Continued contact with OoT
- c.
 - i. If you do not receive OoT mailings and would like to, please sign up via Constant Contact.
 - ii. Active Transportation Open House was held in February. Materials are still available at: <https://www.howardcountymd.gov/Departments/Active-Transportation-Open-House>
 - iii. OoT staff changes
 - Brooks Phelps started as a Planner in March. Brooks is filling the vacancy left by Rashidi Jackson who left OoT a little over a year ago.
 - Jason Quan now the General Manager for the RTA. Interviews for a new Transit Manager took place last month. OoT has selected a candidate for his replacement, and they should be on board within the next 3 weeks.

3. Remaining Outstanding Issue

- RTA Service Status - Route 402B along with some other routes are not currently running due to the reduced service levels from the pandemic. There is still service in one direction along that route instead of both directions. The OoT is currently evaluating whether or not to restore the route full service in July, when most of the other services go back to normal operations. The OoT is currently waiting to see through the budget process whether they will be doing any kind of service expansion in the future.

4. Upcoming Events

- a. BAG meeting starting today, April 6 at 3:00pm
- b. Bike Month events in May – posted on BikeHoward [here](#)
- c. Next RTA Riders' Advisory Council meeting – May 13 via Zoom

5. Open Discussion Period

- Staff is always available individually by email but OoT also has a group email for the OoT. So, if you are unsure on who to email regarding a specific topic or issue you are encouraged to email the OoT staff at transportation@howardcountymd.gov.
- The MTA is currently still experiencing very low ridership on the Commuter bus, and MARC service (10-15% range). Once the Governor lifts the State of Emergency the MTA

plans to return to normal service on the transit side. Public hearings would be required if the MTA decides to scale back and/or cancel any service.

- Marlene Hendler thanked the TPAG members and expressed excitement to be joining the MTB.

6. Adjournment

The final TPAG meeting adjourned at 2:56 p.m.



Bruce Gartner Date
Executive Secretary



Kimberly Woods Date
Recording Secretary