

# MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION BOARD MINUTES May 25,2021 7:00pm

Members

**Present:** Larry Schoen **Staff:** Bruce Gartner, Executive Secretary

Ted CochranChris Eatough, Office of TransportationAlice GilesDavid Cookson, Office of TransportationMonica SimonKimberly Woods, Office of TransportationMarlene HendlerAllison Calkins, Office of TransportationDavid DrasinBrooks Phelps, Office of Transportation

Phillip Dodge Carrie Anderson-Watters, Office of Transportation
Marlene Hendler- Terri Hansen, Office of Aging and Independence

Shahriar Etemadi

Members Excused:

David Zinner Members

of the **Public:** 

#### 1. Welcome to new MTB Members

Larry introduced Phillip Dodge who was recently appointed to the MTB by the County Executive. Philip spoke about his experience and interest in the work of the MTB as Executive Director of the Downtown Columbia Partnership and as a resident of Kings Contrivance.

## 2. Approval of Agenda for Meeting

The draft agenda for the meeting was approved and adopted with no objections.

#### 3. Review of minutes from April 27, 2021

Alice Giles moved to approve the minutes, Monica Simon seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes carried. Phillip Dodge abstained since he wasn't a member at the time of the meeting.

#### 4. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

#### **5.** New Business/Ongoing Business

i. Spring 2022 resurfacing; developer project impacts on bike lanes and MD 32 Alternate Bike Route

- Chris summarized the ongoing resurfacing projects where the County, through DPW resurfacing
  contracts, will be adding bike lanes. Segments include Centre Park Drive, Columbia 100
  Parkway, Warwick Way and Birmingham Way in Waverly and a segment on Minstrel Way that
  has recently been restriped.
  - Public Meetings were held because we were changing the operational function of the roadways.
  - On Centre Park Drive in the Columbia 100 Parkway, the County will be making a small accommodation for parking at the request of townhome residents.
  - Chris responded to several questions from the members regarding transition points, signage, lane width and pedestrian crossings. Chris also agreed to share cross sections of the Centre Park Drive and Columbia 100 Parkway.
- Chris also provided an update on Grace Drive due to some concerns about the bike lane and reported that the developer is about to resurface the roadway to ensure that the proper width is re-established. Chris and David Cookson also responded to some questions about the nearby Cedar Creek project and access through Robinson Nature Center
- Bruce provided an update on the MD 32 Alternate Bike Route funding. The Maryland Department of Transportation is agreeing to \$3 million in shoulder improvements on Ten Oaks Road at the request of Senator Hester during the last legislative session and is assisting the County with a grant application for design of the shared use path along Ten Oaks. The county match indicated in the application has already been budgeted by the County. Bruce requested a letter of support from the MTB. Shahriar motioned to approve a letter of support and Alice seconded. The MTB approved sending the letter of support without objection.

## 6. <u>Development Updates- David Cookson</u>

David Cookson provided a presentation of the Subdivision and Land Development Review Process (attached) for the benefit of new board members and as a refresher to existing members.

- Projects take many years to go through the process. Different projects take different paths represented by the various boxes in the flow chart within the presentation.
- The vast majority of projects go through this process. This is how the County gets public feedback on various plans.
- A description of the different county agency responsibilities was also provided along with a more detailed discussion of DPZ, OOT and DPW's roles.
- A summary of the Planning Board involvement was provided.
- Key Takeaways are as follows: Multiple iterations of reviews; process balances competing interests; public input is always considered; Planning Board reviews specific criteria in making decisions; constraints.
- In response to a question from Larry, David responded that we come in at the sketch plan level. Shahriar clarified that transportation is just one element of the APFO process.

David provided information on upcoming public meetings and some newly submitted development plans. The tables presented to the MTB are shown below. Audio starts at approximately 58 minutes on recording:

#### **Upcoming Public Meetings**

Project	Meeting Date	Meeting Type	Notes
Review of Plan No. 21-04, Port Capital, Elkridge MD	May 19	Design Advisory Panel	The meeting as not posted at the time of the alst MTB meeting. This is a project for a multifamily housing project on Port Capi9tal Drive. Information of the submission follows: https://www.howardcountymd.gov/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=-OThGGAzaXk%3d&tabid=3031&portalid=0
BA 776-D - Karin Neufeld, et al	May 27	Board of Appeals	Appeal of a DPZ letter approving WP-20-016 for Clarksville Crossing for lots 7-12 to share an access easement instead of providing public road frontage and removal of specimen trees.
ZB 1118M - Erickson at Limestone Valley ZB 1119M - Hickory Ridge Village Center	June 9	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) The Petitioner proposes to demolish the 29,912-square foot multi-unit commercial building and drive through bank, reconfigure the pedestrian promenade into a courtyard plaza, and construct 35,216 square feet of new retail/commercial, a 230 dwelling unit apartment building, and a 3,229 square foot drive through bank.  Webex Link: https://howardcountymd.webex.com/howardcountymd/onstage/g.php?MTID=e137c4d9391dd8f51d1fb2c6def6e38bcLink to Zoning Board

David Cookson provided an overview of the other projects (**attached**) and responded to questions from the MTB members (also available for review on Audio). No follow up was requested.

## 7. Office of Transportation Updates

- i. OOT Staff Update
  - Carrie Anderson-Watters was announced as the new transit planning manager replacing Jason Quan. She is joining us from Frederick County.
- Kim Woods is leaving the Office of Transportation for an opportunity in the private sector.

#### ii. FY22 Operating and Capital Budget

Bruce reported that hearings have been held on both operating and capital and amendments have been offered. OOT is not anticipating any reductions.

There are two new projects being added to the budget because of new state grants. We will be receiving \$1.25 million for the Patapsco Greenways project to cover the local match for a future TAP grant application. We also received funding for a feasibility study for a pedestrian bridge project along US40. Finally, we recently received confirmation from the State that they will be funding improvements for the MD 32 Alternate bike route as mentioned above.

Larry also reminded the MTB that SHA made a recent announcement committing to the funding for the US 1 safety improvements.

#### iii. HoCo by Design Calendar

Bruce and David provided an update (below) on the schedule for development of the General Plan. This is a follow up to the previous presentation by Mary Kendall from DPZ.



- May 26 2021: PAC Meeting #6 -3 PM to 6 PM
- June 15, 16:Virtual New Town Design Discussions
- August 17-29: Public Survey on Big Ideas
- August 24, 25: Virtual Workshop on Big Ideas (public meeting)

## **8.** Future Meeting Items

i. The MTB discussed future meetings and preferences for in-person versus virtual meetings. David Drasin commented on the importance of in-person meetings and Phillip commented on the value of staying off the road. Shahriar's preference was for virtual unless we have a topic that needs to be discussed in person. Alice thought it would be useful to have a consistent schedule for the benefit of the public. Larry asked about what other boards are doing. BAG is sticking with virtual meetings; council is anxious to get back to in-person meetings.

The board consensus is that we should continue to meet virtually and only do in-person meetings quarterly.

- ii. Complete Streets Implementation Updates-Ongoing
- iii. Update on Statewide Transit Innovation Grant (STIG) Projects (Bus Stops)
- iv. Larry requested a future update on the Transportation Center in Columbia and Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) on US 29. David Drasin requested a future discussion of the 201 Commuter Bus.

### 9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

#### 10. Next Meeting

The next MTB meeting is scheduled for June 22, 2021.

/2021

Bruce Gartner

Date

**Executive Secretary** 

