



HOWARD COUNTY OFFICE OF TRANSPORTATION
3430 Court House Drive ■ Ellicott City, Maryland 21043 ■ 410-313-4312

Jack Guarneri, Chair
Chris Tsien, Vice Chair

Transportation@howardcountymd.gov
FAX 410-313-1655
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BICYCLE ADVISORY GROUP (BAG)

June 16, 2020 3 p.m.

Held via WebEx event

3430 Court House Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21043

MINUTES

Members Present:

Chris Tsien
Jack Guarneri
Jessica Bellah
Paul Walsky
Larry Schoen
Jennifer Biddle

Office of Transportation Staff:

Bruce Gartner, Administrator
Chris Eatough
Allison Calkins
Kimberly Woods
David Cookson
Jason Quan
Molly Nur

Non-Members Present:

David Zinner
Jason Thompson
Kris Jagarapu
Kris Singleton
Tara Penders
Dennis Brown
John Mayer
Marlene Handler
Raquel Reis
Denis Brown
Felix Facchine



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1. Approval of minutes from January 14, 2020 Minutes

Jack Guarneri moved to approve the minutes from the January 14, 2020 meeting with no amendments. Jessica Bellah seconded the motion and it passed with no opposition.

2. Introduction of New Staff

Chris Eatough introduced Molly Nur as the newest staff member to the Office of Transportation. Molly will serve as the Bicycle and Pedestrian Planner which was previously occupied by Albert Engel. Molly introduced herself to the group. Molly is a Howard County resident. She is a UPenn Alumni with a Master's degree in City Planning with an emphasis in Transportation Engineering, with previous work in the private sector.

3. FY21 Budget Adjustments

Chris Eatough went over a summary of budget cuts for upcoming fiscal year.

- K5066 is the main budget area for bicycle projects. Originally \$1.4 million was requested and approved but has now been reduced to \$0.9 million. Due to the budget cuts there will be changes made to the *BikeHoward Express* implementation schedule. Deferments of projects will be necessary to balance the budget cuts.
- T7017 (South Entrance Trail Project) and J4230 (Sander Rd Project) budgets fortunately remain the same.
- \$3.15 million will available for bicycle projects for FY21.
- Proposals on how to manage budget cuts (reductions/deferments) FY21:
 - Stencils and signs budget reduced from \$150k to \$50k.
 - North Laurel Connection project shifted to grand funding for construction.



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- Robert Fulton Drive Pathway, South Entrance Trail, and Dobbin to McGaw Pathway will all go through final design in FY21, but construction will be deferred.
- Positive note - Oakland Mills Road Complete Streets Road Diet can advance.

4. **Bike Lanes with Resurfacing**

Chris Eatough briefly went over the 2019 Bike Lane Projects that are in the process of being competed and announced two new resurfacing projects for Bike Lanes.

2019 Bike Lane Projects

Road	Limits	Treatment
Rivendell Road	Harpers Farm Road to Cedar Lane	Bike lanes, stencils, and signs
Cedar Lane	Rivendall Road to MD 108	Sharrows
Deerpath Road	Douglas Legum to east turnaround	Bike lanes, stencils, and signs
Douglas Legum	Dorsey Road to Deerpath Rd	Bike lanes, stencils, and signs
White Acre Road	Stevens Forest Road to Basket Ring Road	Bike lanes, stencils, and signs
Volmerhausen Road	Guilford Road to Savage	Bike lanes, stencils, and signs
Old Columbia Rd	Eden Brook Dr to 2000ft west of Riverwood Dr	Some bike lanes, some buffered bike lanes, stencils and signs

New Bike Lane Projects

Road	Comments
North Ridge Road, Ellicott City	-Sonia Trail to Executive Center Drive -OOT will be hosting a virtual public meeting on June 30 th -Comments from the public will be accepted until July 14th



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Marshalee Drive, Elkridge	-Montgomery Road, past Avalon Drive to road across from 6070 Marshalee Drive -OOT will be hosting a virtual public meeting on July 1 -Comments from the public will be accepted until July 15
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5. Bike to Work Postponement and Love to Ride Challenge

Chris Eatough announced that the 23rd Annual Bike to Work Day has been tentatively postponed to September 25th (COVID permitting). Chris encouraged the group to check for occasionally check for updates on www.biketoworkmd.com.

Chris Eatough announced that the Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC) has partnered with Love to Ride. Love to Ride is an online engagement tool that encourages people to bike. The goal of this partnership is to help boost ridership, and business participation in Bike to Work Day. There will be a month-long global workplace challenge, Cycle September. More information including registration can be found at www.lovetoride.net.

6. Complete Streets Update

Chris Eatough gave the group a brief update on the progress of Complete Streets. The Complete Streets Implementation Team has been meeting monthly since January of this year. The team is composed of multiple Howard County government representatives, as well as representatives from HC Public Schools Transportation, Columbia Association, MTB, Public Works Board, Howard County General Hospital, Horizon Foundation, and a private sector Engineer. The CSIT tasks include updating the Design Manual, creating Community Engagement Plan. Creating Performance Measures and Prioritization Process for Transportation Projects, updating Land Development Regulations.

7. Open Discussion Period



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- Jack Guarneri informed the group that he on SHA's Press Release list. He has recently received notification that they are currently working on a sidewalk on RT99 on Maple Wood Drive across from Waverly Elementary School.
- David Zinner wanted to raise awareness of the lack of maintenance on state bridges and roads. Conditions are worsening with trash, dirt, and car parts specifically on the shoulders. David questioned whether the State had a cleaning schedule. Jack Guarneri informed David that according to SHA they are on an annual cleaning schedule.
- Jack Guarneri announced that the Bicycle Advocates of Howard County partnered with the Community Ecology Institute and created a Bike Rest Stop located at Freetown Farm at the end of Harriet Tubman Lane. Race Pace provided the materials needed to complete the project including bike racks. Jack suggested that this Bike Rest Stop be used as a model for other possible bike rest stops throughout the County.
- David Zinner informed the group that he would like for HoCo to look at New Cut Road again regarding bike access without barriers. Kris Jagarapu informed David that DPW is currently in their final stretch of construction. The anticipated completion goal is set for the end of the July. DPW wants to resurface the road before they open it.

8. Maryland 32 Alternate Bike Route Project

Tara Penders went over the "MD32 Alternate Bike Route Study" presentation. The Objectives of the Bike Study are to: Identify bicyclist user types along the corridor, Address operational obstacles with safe bicycle travel, minimize utility and right-of-way impacts, and accommodate the Clarksville/River Hill Streetscape Study along MD108.

Six Pinch Points were identified during the MD32 Study.



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Pinch Point 1	West side between Rye River Dr & Oakwood Overlook Ct
Pinch Point 2	West side between Oakwood Overlook Ct & Rutherford Way
Pinch Point 3	Both sides between Dayton Oaks Park School & Green Bridge Rd
Pinch Point 4	Both sides between Green Bridge Rd and Aerie Ct
Pinch Point 5	West side between Talon Ct & Smallwood Ct
Pinch Point 6	Both sides between Brighton Dam Rd & MD 108

(Presentation slides 6-7 shows map of pinch point concepts overview). Some of the pinch points have multiple concepts developed for them because one side of the roadway has a lot more impact than the other. Concepts are shown on the side of the roadway that addresses the problems and are easier to build.

Pinch Point Criteria:	Narrow Shoulder, Turn Lane Conflict, Steep Road Grade, Steep Slope Along a Side of the Roadway, and Limited Sight Distance.
Impacts Evaluated	Safety, Cost, Traffic, Parcel, Tree and Utility Impacts.

9. Action Items

SHA recently resurfaced Dorsey Road near Route 1

but did not add bike lanes. Why not? Did they follow the SHA Complete Streets Policy to provide bicycle access when the road is resurfaced?

Grist Mill Trail has a blown out section that is not passable by bike. Since this route is used for bicycle transportation as well as recreation, can Department of Natural Resources fix this bridge?

Access to Dorsey MARC Train Station from Deerpath Road. Curb cut exists but MTA sign says maintenance vehicles only. Can MTA update this sign to permit bicycle access?

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:41 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for September 15, 2020.



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Bruce Gartner
Executive Secretary

Date

Kimberly Woods

Recording Secretary

Date