

The Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Baltimore Region

# **BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY GROUP**

January 18, 2023 1:03 to 1:29 P.M.

# MINUTES

#### 1. WELCOME AND ROLL CALL

Mr. Chris Eatough (Howard County OOT) welcomed attendees and Mr. Shane Sarver (BMC) held a roll call.

#### 2. APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER MINUTES

The minutes from the November BPAG meeting were previously distributed to the group. Mr. Eatough asked for a motion to approve, Mr. Nate Evans (MDOT TSO) motioned to approve the minutes and Ms. Tanya Asman (Anne Arundel County) seconded the motion. The meeting minutes were approved.

## 3. NOMINATION OF BPAG CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

The current chair (Howard County) and vice chair (MDOT) have each served two-year terms. MDOT has been nominated for chair, and the City of Annapolis was nominated for vice chair. Mr. Eatough asked if there were any additional nominations from the floor. None were offered. Mr. Eatough called for a vote for those in support of the nominations, the response was unanimous in support of the slate offered.

## 4. ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

**City of Annapolis** – Mr. Eric Leshinsky shared that Annapolis along with Carroll County have been testing the Pedestrian Infrastructure Assessment Tool. Funding has been secured for the construction of the West East Express and design of the College Creek Connector. The micromobility program continues to be successful with 150 e-bikes and e-scooters. Annapolis is looking forward to coordinating with Anne Arundel County once they launch their micromobility program. The bicycle facilities standards project which is funded by the BRTB program Transportation Land Use Connection (TLC) kicked off in November 2022.

**Anne Arundel County** – Ms. Asman shared that Walk & Roll Anne Arundel final draft is currently being reviewed and they hope to bring the plan to county council in March. Anne Arundel County is collaborating with BMC on development of a Vision Zero action plan. Ms. Asman

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announced that construction continues on WB&A bridge and Broadneck phase III. South Shore Phase II and Broadneck 1B and 5 will be next to start construction.

**Baltimore City** – Mr. Patrick Patterson shared the project page for the Bikeways funded <u>Wolfe</u> <u>and Washington Bikeway Study</u> and the TLC funded <u>Wabash Ave Separated Bike Lane Study</u> which held a public meeting on February 2, 2023.

**Baltimore County** – Ms. Jessie Bialek shared that the county is working on the final draft of the updated bicycle and pedestrian master plan and hope to have the plan completed by early March. A number of design projects are currently underway; West East Trail, Northeast Trail, Six Bridges Trail and Northern Central Railroad (NCR) Trail Extension.

**Carroll County** – BMC and Carroll County met with the City of Sykesville in December 2022 to discuss funding opportunities. Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Washington Rd Project and SRTS Johnsville Rd Project are progressing.

**Harford County** – Ms. Deborah Price shared that the County is working on the Belair to HCC Connector project and are currently reviewing the draft and receiving comments. The County is also working with BMC on the Concept Plan for Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements along US 40 from Aberdeen to Havre de Grace with a public meeting scheduled for February 9.

**Howard County** – Mr. Eatough shared that the annual Howard County Transportation Open House will be held February 21 at the Elkridge Library from 5:00 – 8:00 P.M. The open house focuses on ongoing and upcoming activities for biking, walking and micromobility. Howard County also received 3 million dollar in funding through the congressional earmark process for the Southeastern Trail which will help the project move from design to construction.

**Queen Anne's County** – Mr. Steve Cohoon shared that the County's Department of Public Works and Department of Transportation are collaborating to include finds in the capital budget for a bicycle and pedestrian master plan for the county and hope to kick off the project late summer/early fall 2023.

**MDOT TSO -** Mr. Evans shared that the <u>MDOT Grants Webinar</u> will be held February 15 as state grant season approaches. The bicycle and pedestrian master plan update is underway and existing conditions reports are being wrapped up and will be available publicly in the spring along with public outreach. The Kim Lamphier Bikeways Network Program is currently accepting letters of intent from interested applicants. The next Maryland Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (MBAC) meeting is Friday, January 27 at 9:00 AM.

**MDOT MDE** – Ms. Catherine Salarano shared that MDOT MDE just released the <u>state</u> <u>improvement program (SIP) for public comment</u> which includes a section on transportation planning in the state.

**MDOT MHSO** – Ms. Julie Kwedar shared that <u>Updated social Media Toolkits</u> to raise awareness about key road safety issues are available online. Also applications are currently being accepted for MHSO grant programs until February 24. MDOT MVA's Highway Safety Office administers grant-funded programs that address priority areas such as impaired driving prevention, occupant protection, aggressive and distracted driving prevention and safety for pedestrians, bicyclists, motorcyclists, young drivers and senior drivers. Grant funds also can be awarded for projects that help improve the quality of traffic safety data. Eligible projects to Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Group January 18, 2023 Page No. 3 of 4

improve the timeliness, accuracy, completeness, uniformity, integration and accessibility of state crash, driver, vehicle, roadway, citation and adjudication, and injury surveillance databases must support and implement strategies outlined in the Maryland Traffic Records Strategic Plan. For information and to apply for a highway safety grant, <u>click here</u> or call 410-787-4050. Learn more about the MDOT

**BMC** – Mr. Shane Sarver shared that BMC on behalf of BRTB is working on a number of bicycle and pedestrian projects including preliminary design of the Patapsco Regional Greenway (PRG) Guinness to Southwest Area Park segment.

## 5. OTHER BUSINESS

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, March 15, 2023. The short meeting was adjourned at 1:29 P.M. in order for a special demonstration and training session to a wider group on the Pedestrian Infrastructure Assessment Tool.

# ATTENDANCE (BPAG ONLY, NOT PIAT SPECIAL SESSION)

#### Members

Tanya Asman – Anne Arundel County Office of Transportation Jessie Bialek – Baltimore County Department of Public Works (DPW&T) Steve Cohoon – Queen Anne's County Department of Public Works Chris Eatough – Howard County Office of Transportation (Howard County OOT) Nate Evans – Maryland Department of Transportation the Secretary's Office (MDOT TSO) Tina James – Maryland Department of Planning Eric Leshinsky – City of Annapolis Department of Planning Patrick Patterson – Baltimore City Department of Transportation (BCDOT) Deborah Price – Harford County Department of Planning & Zoning Catherine Salarano – Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) Clare Stewart – Carroll County Department of Planning

## Staff and Guests

Daniel Allen – Anne Arundel County Office of Transportation Regina Aris – Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC) Marty Baker – MDOT TSO Cindy Burch – BMC Leah Kacanda - Whitman, Requardt and Associates Caitlin Kovel – Howard County Julie Kwedar, MDOT MHSO Barry List – MDOT State Highway Administration (MDOT SHA) Anna Marshall - BMC Molly Porter – MDOT SHA Tina Regester – MDOT SHA Shane Sarver – BMC Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Group January 18, 2023 Page No. 4 of 4

Patrick Smith – Howard County Caitlin Tobin – Kittelson & Associates, Inc. Francine Waters – MDOT TSO