



Baltimore Regional Transportation Board

The Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Baltimore Region

BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY GROUP

Wednesday March 4, 2009

BMC Conference Rooms A&B

1:00 P.M.

DRAFT

ATTENDANCE:

Members:

Jamie Bridges, Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC)	410-732-0500
Amber Blake, BMC	410-732-0500
Barry Childress, Baltimore Bicycling Club	410-919-7695
Anna Ellis, Baltimore Citizen (pedestrian interest)	410-889-4137
Nate Evans, City of Baltimore (Chair)	410-984-4856
Janet Gleisner, Harford County	410-638-3230
Monica Haines, BMC	410-732-0500
Molla Sarros, MDE	410-537-4180
Dan Reagle, MTA	410-767-3771
Mary Davidson, SHA	410-545-5652
Peter Moe, MHSO	410-787-4096

Chairperson Evans called the meeting to order at 1:10 PM

1. INTRODUCTIONS

Mr. Evans welcomed everyone. Introductions took place.

2. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 2009 MINUTES

Ms Janet Gleisner asked that on page 4 "Transit" is changed to "Transportation" Plan. Mr. Barry Childress asked that changes be made on page 6. Ms. Molla Sarros asked to add clarification to her statement that the concerns of a pedestrian tend to be different than those of a cyclist. Minutes were approved with the changed noted above.

3. UPDATE/DISCUSSION OF CURRENT BRTB/BMC ACTIVITIES

Ms. Monica Haines reported that the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board met on February 24th. At the meeting recommendations for the FTA Job Access Reverse Commute and New Freedom Grant program were approved, the BPAG Bylaw changes to add an additional citizen voting member to represent pedestrian interests was approved, and the TIP administrative modification to reflect the stimulus funds was approved. The next BRTB meeting will be March 24, 2009 at 9 a.m.

4. UPDATE ON CITIZEN MEMBERSHIP

Mr. Evans introduced Ms. Anna Ellis as the new pedestrian representative.

5. UPDATES FROM LOCAL/STATE AGENCIES

Mr. Dan Reagle reported that MTA said no to free transit rides for Bike to Work Day. He is looking to have encouragement for Bike to Work Day posted on the MTA web site. Mr. Jamie Bridges reported that Ms. Amber Blake is leaving BMC to move to Colorado with her family. She will be missed.

6. UPDATE ON ACTION PLAN 2001 ASSESSMENT

Ms. Blake reported that she has continued to work on the second draft of the document. Ms. Blake will distribute chapters as they are completed for editorial comments. Ms. Gleisner asked what chapter we were on. Ms. Blake responded Chapter 3.

7. OLD BUSINESS

None

8. NEW BUSINESS

- Bike to Work Day: Material will be ordered and printed in a few weeks. Distribution will follow. Rally sites are providing agendas.
- MDE (Ms. Sarros) will promote B2WD internally. Ms. Sarros raised the issue of how to obtain information on behavioral patterns associated with changing behavior about biking be obtained. Mr. Bridges noted the Victoria Transport Institute as a source. Mr. Peter Moe mentioned the Ped/Bike Info Center and the National Center for Bicycling and Walking.
- Mr. Evans mentioned the grand opening of the first on-street bike parking at Eddies in Charles Village. Mr. Evans announced the upcoming Baltimore Bike Blast in Druid Hill Park on April 25 from 9 am to 3 pm. Bike rides, an MTA Bus, and other educational information will be made available.
- The City is currently reviewing a SE Baltimore Cycling Feasibility Study. The City also announced the Transportation Enhancement Program would fund the Masonville side path project.
- Mr. Childress presented on the ICC and bicycle paths. He stated that BBC was very interested in this project. The issue is how to cross the two parks. Secretary John Porcari asked if cyclists could use the shoulders of adjacent roads for the ICC to cross the bridges across the parks. The use of recreational trails to traverse this area adds an additional 5 miles to the ride, if the bridges could be used it would draw more users. With bridge use the length is 1 mile, the proposed routes through the park in the master plan add half a mile. Cyclists do not want to cross the ramps, the State needs to consider this because if they don't this trail is basically dead. The way the plan is currently designed, the network is viable. Mr. Childress asked the committee to consider writing a letter encouraging the use of the bridges to cross the

parks. Moreover, to keep the master plan as currently written so that one day it can be implemented.

- Mr. Childress raised the concern that traffic calming, i.e. the choker installation at Guilford, can block bike access. More coordination and a review of the latest traffic calming standards was proposed.
- Ms. Gleisner raised concerns that the MD 24/MD 924 and I-95 project reinforces that bike/ped accommodations are not a main concern of major projects in the state.
- Mr. Moe provided an update on the proposed Baltimore region Street Smart campaign. The campaign will target the over-represented bike/vehicle conflicts. Funding for \$100,000 from the Maryland Highway Safety Office (MHSO) will be pursued. Mr. Moe relayed the current Bicycle campaign with Share the Road and that he would coordinate pedestrian enforcement training in the Baltimore City/County this year.

The following legislative matters were summarized:

- SB 15 proposed capital funding for bike/ped facilities within one mile of a school.
- SB 428 proposed a 3 foot passing requirement for vehicles approaching bicyclists.
- HB 1197 proposed to remove mandatory shoulder use requirement.
- SB 539 proposed a driver relief act to reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) per capita.

An additional point was raised regarding how Montgomery County, VA has more stimulus projects proposed than the entire state of Maryland.

The next meeting of the BPAG will be May 6, 2009.

The meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.