

BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY GROUP

March 20, 2019

Baltimore Metropolitan Council

1:05 to 2:51 P.M.

MINUTES

Ms. Tanya Asman, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:05 P.M.

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Ms. Asman welcomed attendees and asked everyone to introduce themselves. Included among the attendees were three special guests, an instructor and two students from Morgan State University's Transportation Engineering program.

2. APPROVAL OF JANUARY MINUTES

The minutes of the January meeting were presented. Mr. Russ Ulrich noted two minor corrections to the draft minutes, which were suggested earlier by Ms. Molla Sarros. Mr. Peter Sotherland made a motion to approve the minutes as amended and Ms. Sarros seconded the motion. The amended minutes were approved unanimously.

3. STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION

Continuing the work done at January's meeting, Ms. Regina Aris led members in a strategic planning exercise. Attendees were asked to prioritize the top ideas from that strategic planning session. The top three were:

- Assisting with grant applications and developing typical costs for projects
- Encouraging and promoting a regional dialog on Complete Streets
- Setting a baseline for walking and biking in the region

Three work groups were formed. Each group was assigned one of the priority tasks and was asked to begin crafting a work plan. The groups worked for about 30 minutes. Ms. Aris asked that the groups continue to work electronically and submit a draft plan to Mr. Ulrich by late April.

Ms. Asman then made a brief announcement about the upcoming meeting of the Maryland Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee, which will be hosted by the BRTB and the BMC

on Friday, April 26, 2019 at 9:30 AM. Ms. Marty Baker explained that the meeting is one of MBPAC's scheduled visits to MPOs throughout the state. By visiting Maryland's metropolitan areas, the committee hopes to get a better understanding of local bicycle and pedestrian issues. She encouraged all BPAG members to attend.

4. PRESENTATION: CHANGES TO ASSHTO'S GUIDE TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF BICYCLE FACILITIES

Mr. Anikwenze Ogbue of Toole Design, as well as a BPAG member, explained changes that Toole is drafting under contract to the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO). He stated that because this is a draft document, which is currently under review by several AASHTO committees, an electronic version will not be available for BPAG members. Toole Design began work on the document in 2017 and completed a first draft in May 2018. Mr. Ogbue and his colleagues have just completed the third draft, and he expects it to be published by early 2020.

Highlights of the document include the following:

- New content on traffic signals, selecting the right type of facility, and best practices on shared-use paths.
- Discouraging the use of minimum design values as defaults.
- Promoting desirable design values geared toward the "Interested but Concerned" cyclist (or would-be cyclist).
- Accommodating different types of trips and considering cycling as a social activity.
- Considering operating space needed by riders in different contexts.

Mr. Ogbue reminded members that the document is not a replacement but rather a compliment to the MUTCD and the ASSHTO Green Book and will not supersede any design guides.

He shared his contact information and asked that any member with questions contact him directly.

5. ROUNDTABLE UPDATES

Ms. Asman asked for brief updates. Highlights include the following:

- Ms. Dawn Thomas said that South Shore Trail Phase I – was waiting to officially open this segment until a few items were corrected/completed: broken concrete ADA ramp, landscaping, and reseeding. Broadneck Trail Phase II - the winter shutdown has been lifted and work has resumed. Broadneck Trail Phase III - design continues and is nearing 95%. The County will apply for a single TAP grant this year for the project.
- Mr. Scott Hansen told members that the Maryland Department of Planning launched its latest version of the Transit Station Area Profile Tool (TSAPT) and accompanying [Planning Tools for Transit-Oriented Development](#) page in mid-March. The Department will begin a promotional campaign in mid to late April, after concluding a series of presentations with various MDOT and MDP stakeholders and partners.

- Mr. Ulrich gave a quick update on Bike to Work Day (B2WD): The event secured its second titanium sponsor when Baltimore City DOT pledged \$5,000. The B2WD website registration went live at the beginning of March. Mr. Ulrich also mentioned the upcoming *Look Alive* safety campaign, and Ms. Asman told the group that she was applying for grants to help place campaign creative in her county.
- Ms. Asman reported that Anne Arundel County's Transportation Master Plan, branded as Move Anne Arundel, is moving along and a series of public meetings are scheduled through April. The County has purchased about 50 bike racks to scatter throughout the County as pop up locations for bike share. They are looking at applying for several grants, including MHSO and Bikeways, which would be a partnership with the City of Annapolis to connect the Poplar Trail with both the B&A Trail and the South Shore Trail. The County is also moving forward with current bikeways grant money for a study to evaluate bike/pedestrian connections between BWI and Odenton.
- Ms. Sarros said that the Maryland Department of the Environment is continuing to promote alternative transportation, including bicycling and walking, to its employees and continues to encourage increased bicycling and walking statewide as part of the Maryland Climate Plan.
- Mr. Sotherland said that MDOT SHA conducted several meetings and an open house throughout the state explaining grant application procedures for local governments.
- Mr. Albert Engle stated that Howard County is moving forward with its partnership with MDOT-SHA for pedestrian improvements at four locations along U.S. 1, Brewers Court, Guilford Road, Rowanberry Drive, and Doctor Patel Drive. He also said that the county completed initial public outreach for three complete streets projects, Oakland Mills Road, Tamar Drive, and Columbia Road. Public outreach and engineering work are being done ahead of time, even though exactly when the roads will be resurfaced has yet to be determined. The public has been very supportive of complete streets, and people are happy with more detailed outreach.
- Mr. Matt Kropp and Mr. Jon Leishman gave an update on the Ma & Pa Trail activities in Harford County: Segment 1, which runs from Williams Street to just across Main Street is 100% county funded. The electrical work has begun and the road work is expected to begin April 1st. Segment 2, which runs from Main Street to the north of North Avenue is in final design. Construction is to begin in late spring and will take approximately 1 year. Segment 3, which runs from North Avenue to Blake's Venture Park is in design. The current schedule has design to be complete by early 2020 and construction to begin in spring 2020. Construction will take approximately 1 year. Additional county funding is being scheduled in the FY 2020 budget. The county has also reached out to MDOT to discuss if there are any additional funding options through MDOT or TAP.
- Mr. Eric Borchers told the group that the Annapolis bikeshare program has been successful and that the city is working on a comprehensive bicycle and pedestrian plan.
- Mr. Patrick McMahon said that MDOT Maryland Transit Administration was now offering full-sized bike service on most weekday Penn Line trains.
- Ms. Clare Stewart reported that Carroll County's first Bicycle Master Plan is nearing completion. Final design for the Washington Road SRTS project is in Public Works and that MDOT SHA has approved the consultant for the Johnsville SRTS project.

- Mr. Kris Nebre reported that Baltimore County is awaiting direction from its new County Executive, Mr. Johnny Olszewski, Jr.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Asman adjourned the meeting at 3:00 PM.

ATTENDANCE

Members

Tanya Asman – Anne Arundel County Office of Transportation
Marty Baker – Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT)
Eric Borchers – City of Annapolis
Albert Engle – Howard County
Scott Hansen – Maryland Department of Planning
Jon Leishman – Harford County Department of Planning & Zoning
Patrick McMahon – MDOT Maryland Transit Administration
Kris Nebre – Baltimore County Department of Public Works
Anikwenze Ogbue – Bicycle Advocate
Clare Stewart – Carroll County Department of Planning
Molla Sarros – Maryland Department of the Environment
Peter Sotherland – MDOT State Highway Administration
Dawn Thomas – Anne Arundel County Department of Recreation & Parks

Staff and Guests

Regina Aris – Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC)
Charlene Ben – Morgan State University (MSU) (Instructor)
Pauline Edwards – MSU (Student)
Dan Janousek - -MDOT
Matt Kropp – Harford County Department of Planning & Zoning
Richard Pitts III – MSU (Student)
Russ Ulrich – BMC