

## **BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY GROUP**

March 19, 2025

1:02 to 2:22 P.M.

### **MINUTES**

#### **1. WELCOME AND ROLL CALL**

Mr. Eric Leshinsky (City of Annapolis) welcomed attendees and then Ms. Charlene Mingus (BMC) held a roll call.

#### **2. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

The City of Annapolis was nominated for chair and Queen Anne's County for vice chair. Ms. Mingus asked if there were any additional nominations from the floor. None were offered. Ms. Mingus called for a vote for those in support of the nominations, the response was unanimous in support of the slate offered.

#### **3. APPROVAL OF JANUARY MINUTES**

The minutes from the January BPAG meeting were previously distributed to the group. Mr. Steve Cohoon (Queen Anne's County) motioned to approve the minutes and Mr. Tyler Smith (Baltimore City) seconded the motion. The meeting minutes were approved.

#### **4. PRESENTATION: BALTIMORE CITY DOCKLESS VEHICLE PROGRAM**

Mr. Smith presented on the Baltimore City dockless vehicle program. Mr. Smith began by discussing the goals of the program, which includes providing transportation alternatives to the entire City, including lower-income areas.

Currently, two operators hold dockless vehicle permits, Lime and Spin. These operators have permits allowing a combined fleet of over 1450 e-scooters, 75 seated e-scooters, and 750 e-bikes available for rent in the City. In 2024, the total number of trips exceeded 1.6 million, with an average trip distance of 1.11 miles.

The Baltimore City Department of Transportation (BCDOT) ensures the entire fleet is safe and operable, grows and standardizes low-income and smart phone free scooter plans, and works with stakeholders to address concerns about the program, among other roles. BCDOT is encouraging residents to use the new 311 Service Request to report e-scooter and e-bikes that

are not parked correctly or are in the way. BCDOT is still collecting Link scooters, left by a previous permit holder. Mr. Smith clarified that 311 service requests regarding dockless vehicles are answered by the operators themselves, and operators have access to the system to view and update the ticket.

BCDOT monitors operator's compliance with deployment requirements and vehicle conditions. If operators are repeatedly non-compliant then fines, citations and the loss of an automatic permit renewal are possible.

BCDOT and dockless operators in Baltimore City have successfully promoted income-qualified Access Programs to ensure distribution expands beyond higher income areas as highlighted in this [article](#). Existing programs and policies are detailed on the presentation slides. Ms. Meg Young (MDOT) noted possible causes for change in ridership distribution. She shared that researchers from Johns Hopkins, in collaboration with BCDOT have published a paper titled '[Equity zone policies in Baltimore City for shared e-scooters: Notes from the field](#)' evaluating the program's equity efforts.

Mr. Smith informed the committee that newer Lime bikes have a thumb-operated throttle feature that removes the need for pedaling. In order to change rider-behavior BCDOT has implemented geo-fenced no operation zones, slow operation zones, no parking zones, and parking corrals. Locations of zones and corrals can be seen on the operator app. Ms. Young and Mr. Smith discussed operator business models and how the City is supporting operators, especially regarding low-income scooter programs.

***[PowerPoint: Baltimore Dockless Vehicle Program]***

## **5. PRESENTATION: PATAPSCO REGIONAL GREENWAY: STONEY RUN TRAIL UPDATE**

Ms. Anna Marshall (BMC) presented an update on the [Stoney Run Trail](#) segment of the Patapsco Regional Greenway (PRG), which extends approximately 4 miles from Historic Elkridge to the BWI Trail. Preliminary (30%) design plans for the selected alignment are complete.

From January 2024 to January 2025, the team held three comment periods to get public feedback on trail alignment and features. Ms. Marshall shared that the public conveyed the importance of this trail to connect to existing trails, be inclusive for people of all ages and abilities, limit on-road trail segments and provide barriers to separate the shared-use path. This public feedback was incorporated into decision-making.

Ms. Marshall presented details on the four alignment options for the trail presented to the public, and the preferred alignment, which was created as a combination of two of the options. This preferred alignment has extensive trail length in natural settings, minimizes environmental impacts, connects to residential and commercial properties, uses existing easements, and has minimal safety concerns. Images and maps of the alignment options and final alignment are on the presentation slides.

Ms. Marshall shared that the maintenance road portion of the trail is in Patapsco Valley State Park and not owned by a private utility company. She also described working with private property developers along the route, who are supportive of the trail. Ms. Marshall shared that the trail runs through Howard and Anne Arundel counties, and that the counties would lead and fund final design and construction.

***[PowerPoint: PRG Stoney Run]***

## **6. UPDATE ON BIKE TO WORK WEEK**

Ms. Marium Sultan (BMC) presented an update on Bike to Work Week 2025. Registration will open on April 1, 2025. Bike to Work Week is a nationwide event held each May to encourage and celebrate biking to work, or any other location. The goal is to celebrate biking as an affordable, healthy, and eco-friendly way to travel.

Ms. Sultan presented a recap of last year's Bike to Work Week, which took place from Monday, May 13 to Sunday, May 19 and had 1,687 registrants. The week included 21 celebratory events held through the region and 24 locations where participants could drop by to pick up a free t-shirt.

Ms. Sultan encouraged the committee to Save the Date for this year's Bike to Work Week, taking place from Monday, May 12, through Sunday, May 18. Registration is free and opens Tuesday, April 1 at [BikeToWorkMD.com](https://www.biketoworkmd.com). Anyone who registers can pick up a free t-shirt in the jurisdiction that they choose at registration.

***[PowerPoint: Bike to Work Week]***

## **7. ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION**

**City of Annapolis** – Mr. Leshinsky shared that the City continues to move forward on several capital projects including the West East Express and the Hilltop Lane Connector. The City is working to start the College Creek Connector project. In addition, a project to develop trail, bikeway, and water access signage-standards is continuing. Mr. William Rowel brought up an upcoming press conference to show two new electric buses the City has acquired and to promote alternative transportation.

**Anne Arundel County** – Ms. Tanya Asman shared that the [Safe Routes to School](#) safety-training program wrapped up this month and was very appreciated by students and the school system. The program will be expanded to include pedestrian safety for kindergarten through second grade. The County is reviewing its bike share program and wants to expand its scope.

**Baltimore City** – Ms. Mingus, on behalf of the City, shared a survey for the [Washington Street Bikeway & Traffic Calming project](#). The survey is open until March 28, and the City will use the results in the 60% design process. Mr. Smith shared information about the interactive map where residents can report near misses – locations where they were almost involved in a car crash or witnessed someone almost involved in a crash. The map, [found here](#), will inform the

City's Vision Zero Action Plan, which will create a comprehensive, data-driven strategy to make the City's streets safer for everyone.

**Baltimore County** – Ms. Jessie Bialek shared that the West East Trail in Parkville and two segments of the North East trail in Overlea will be completing 60% design by the end of spring 2025. The County received a Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant for the [Bloomsbury Crossing Project](#), an at-grade crossing at the Short Line Trail. The PRG: Guinness to Southwest Area Park segment is wrapping up 30% design. The Red Run trail in Owings Mills is advancing design plans. Old Court Road, Baltimore County's first Complete Streets project, had a public meeting in February, and is continuing with a feasibility study. Further information and maps of the concept can be found [here](#).

**Carroll County** – Ms. Clare Stewart shared that the County is working on a Bicycle-Pedestrian Master Plan feasibility study in Finksburg. In April, concepts for the Plan will be presented for public comment.

**Howard County** – Mr. Chris Eatough shared that scooter permit applications will be released soon, for a program launch in June. The County will update their Bicycle Master Plan beginning fall 2025 and ending spring 2026.

**Queen Anne's County** – Mr. Cohoon shared that the County is continuing to work on the two-mile extension of the South Island Trail from US 50 to Matapeake Professional Park. The Cross Island Feasibility Study will wrap up this summer. The County is looking to add another segment to get from Kent Narrows all the way to Queenstown.

**Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE)** – Ms. Catherine Salarano reported that they had no updates at this time.

**MDOT Maryland Highway Safety Office (MDOT MSHO)** – Ms. Francine Waters shared a link to register for the Maryland [Highway Traffic Safety Summit](#) on April 29 at the BWI Hilton Hotel. All of the Vision Zero meetings for the year are listed [online](#), and recordings will be posted. MDOT MSHO is updating the [State Highway Safety Plan](#) and is continuing to take feedback.

**MDOT Maryland Transit Administration (MDOT MTA)** – Ms. Brittney Sink reported that they had no updates at this time.

**MDOT Transportation Secretary's Office (MDOT TSO)** – Ms. Francine Waters shared that the [MDOT Complete Streets Implementation Plan](#) is live, and a [new micromobility site](#) has been launched. The [Kim Lamphier Bikeways Network Program](#) grant application window will be open from April to late May. Ms. Waters hopes that applicants will use the Sidewalk Data Collaborative, One Maryland One Centerline, data in their applications.

Tomorrow will be the first [Maryland Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee \(MBPAC\)](#) meeting of the year. A [Sidewalk Data Collaboration](#) Brown Bag will be held on March 21 at noon. There are now over 12,000 sidewalks in the database.

Ms. Waters announced that there is a new process for priority letters, and the deadline for priority letters has been extended until May 15.

Ms. Waters shared that MDOT TSO will be launching monthly webinars. April's webinar will take place on April 3 and cover the [Transportation Trails Plan](#). A future webinar will concern Bike to Work Week.

**Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC)** – Ms. Mingus shared that BMC is soliciting requests for spring active transportation count locations. Count data can be used to assess volume change before and after infrastructure improvements, supporting safety assessments, among many other uses.

BMC has launched the [Getting There](#) survey in order to evaluate regional transportation needs and inform the upcoming Long Range Transportation Plan. Participants can choose to join paid focus groups after taking the survey.

Ms. Sultan shared that design has kicked-off for the [PRG: Cherry Hill segment](#). The project team is accepting comments online through April 14, and will hold a Community Open House on March 24, at the Cherry Hill Branch of the Enoch Pratt library.

## **8. OTHER BUSINESS**

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, May 21, 2025. The meeting was adjourned at 2:22 pm.

## **ATTENDANCE**

### ***Members***

Tanya Asman – Anne Arundel County Department of Planning  
Jessie Bialek – Baltimore County Department of Public Works and Transportation (DPW&T)  
Steve Cohoon – Queen Anne's County Department of Public Works  
Chris Eatough – Howard County Office of Transportation  
Eric Leshinsky – City of Annapolis Department of Planning  
Brooks Phelps – Maryland Department of Planning (MDP)  
Khadija Roeder – Harford County Department of Planning  
Catherine Salarano – Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE)  
Brittany Sink – Maryland Department of Transportation Maryland Transit Administration  
Cynthia Spriggs – Maryland Department of Transportation Maryland Highway Safety Office  
Clare Stewart – Carroll County Department of Planning  
Meg Young – Maryland Department of Transportation the Secretary's Office (MDOT TSO)

### ***Staff and Guests***

Regina Aris – Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC)  
Dan Hudson – Department of Natural Resources  
Keith Kucharek – BMC  
Anna Marshall – BMC  
Charlene Mingus – BMC  
Mitchell Phillips – DPW&T  
Deborah Price – DPW&T  
William Rowel – City of Annapolis

Chris Simon – RK&K  
Patrick Smith – Howard County Office of Transportation  
Tyler Smith – BCDOT  
Marium Sultan – BMC  
Francine Waters – MDOT TSO