



# WE WELCOME YOUR COMMENTS!

What do you like about this project or plan?

What suggestions do you have for improving the project or plan?

Do you have any other comments for the BRTB or its members?

Will there be a noise issues with this project. Is there air monitoring going on?

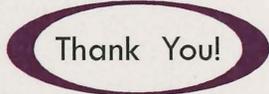
Was this public meeting helpful? Yes. It was good to have the attention of the MTA.

Name: Patricia Tracey

Address: 5424 Frankford Ave  
Balto, MD 21206

E-mail: pmitchet4@jhu.edu

Would you like to be added to our mailing list?  E-mail  Mail



For more info, contact the Public Involvement Coordinator at [comments@baltometro.org](mailto:comments@baltometro.org) or 410-732-0500 x1047 or visit [www.baltometro.org](http://www.baltometro.org).



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**From:** Gloria Moon  
**Sent:** Sat, Feb 6, 2016 at 2:46 PM  
**To:** Laura Van Wert <lvanwert@baltometro.org>  
**Subject:** Fwd: TIP Amendments

The people of Joppa would like to encourage the State to include pedestrian and bike crossing additions during the replacement of the Route 40 Bridges over the Big and Little Gunpowder Rivers. The safety of the citizens who use and enjoy this park system would be greatly enhanced with proper crossings on Route 40.

These crossings would link the hiking trails of the Gunpowder State Park along the river. The Gunpowder State Park is located on both sides of Route 40 and into the Joppatowne area connected to the historic site of the Port of Joppa.

To construct a pedestrian access should be a required element of the bridge replacement. It is the economically the best time to include this safety amenity.

A walking biking trail to connect the State Parks to the historic sites of Joppa would also provide economic development opportunities, increase enjoyment and increased usage of the State Park System.

Please let the citizens of Joppa know what we need to do to promote the accomplishment of these goals.

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**Michael Catalano** <mikecat59@gmail.com>  
To: "Impallaria, Rick Delegate" <rick.impallaria@house.state.md.us>  
Cc: "Jennings, J.B. Senator" <jb.jennings@senate.state.md.us>, risacher17  
comments@baltometro.org

Tue, Feb 2, 2016 at 9:41 AM

Rick,

As we discussed I do not know if our request for protected bicycle and pedestrian crossings at the Rt 40 bridges over the Big and Little Gunpowder Falls has been incorporated into the project.

Since we had a lane of traffic closed down on Rt 40 to discuss the bridge replacement project and make our request for protected bicycle and pedestrian crossings, the East Coast Greenway (ECG) approved the off road concept that the ECG multipurpose trail will pass through the Gunpowder Greenway when completed. The ECG submitted this comment/request for the update of the Harford County master plan due out this month.

Protected bicycle and pedestrian crossings are not only needed for the future ECG route but also for community access to the Gunpowder Falls State Park (GFSP) and connecting the popular long Big and Little Gunpowder Falls Trails to each other and to the historic colonial section of the GFSP in Joppatowne. And let's not forget the existing state Rt 40 bicycle route and the pedestrian traffic along Rt 40 that has resulted in fatalities on these very bridges (including since our meeting at the bridge).

Community access to GFSP is not just safe crossings at the bridges but also the existing parking that Joppatowne offers for all GFSP visitors near and far. Parking for GFSP south of Interstate 95 is less than extremely limited.

I look forward to the update on the project and also request that the public meeting on the project be moved from somewhere north of downtown Baltimore to the adjoining Joppatowne in Harford County. As you pointed out the majority of people including commuters using the bridge are from Harford County.

Thanks Mike

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**From:** Misse Geatty  
**Sent:** Friday, February 19, 2016 11:56 AM  
**To:** Laura Van Wert  
**Cc:** Monica Haines Behkhedda  
**Subject:** Re: Transportation Improvement Program

Please consider building pedestrian & bike access in order to allow people to safely cross Route 40 & Route 7.

This area is in Desperate need of repairs and upgrades. Vehicle & pedestrian traffic has increased substantially over the years. The safety of drivers and pedestrians has deteriorated overtime.

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**leopardluvr** <leopardluvr@>  
To: comments@baltometro.org

Mon, Feb 22, 2016 at 10:28 AM

Dear BRTB, I'm writing as a concerned community member concerning THE RTE 40 BRIDGE REPAIRS FOR BIG AND LITTLE GUNPOWDER FALLS. I'm hoping you will please consider adding pedestrian/bike paths along those bridges as well. Our community is becoming an eye sore over the last few years. I've been so proud to raise my family here in Joppa and wish to continue having pride in my community. It would make a world of difference.

I appreciate your time and consideration.

Donna Woodfield  
Joppa, MD 21085

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**Hayward Hulick**  
To: comments@baltometro.org  
Cc: Ivanwert@baltometro.org

Thu, Feb 25, 2016 at 11:43 AM

From Lynn and Hayward Hulick, Joppa, MD 21085.

We strongly urge that the improvements to the bridges on US Rt 40 over the Big and Little Gunpowder Rivers include provisions for pedestrian and bicycle traffic. US Rt 40 is heavily traveled and so these provisions are a necessity for public safety! Designing them to give access to the nature trails in these areas of the Gunpowder State Park would also be a significant improvement.

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On Tue, Feb 23, 2016 at 12:23 AM, Johnson <[407larkspur@](mailto:407larkspur@)> wrote:

**Dear Ms. Van Wert,**

**I am writing with a request to please include bike or pedestrian crossings on the US 40 bridge replacements over Little and Big Gunpowder Falls. That will make our roads safer the state park more accessible for people wanting to enjoy it!**

**Thank you!**

**Sincerely,**

**Margaret Johnson**

Joppa, MD 21085

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On Mon, Feb 22, 2016 at 11:42 AM, Dorothy Czisny <[dczisny@](mailto:dczisny@)> wrote:

I am writing to inform you of the ardent desire of the Joppa (Joppatowne) community for pedestrian access to and from the Gunpowder State Parks. Many avid walkers from Joppa and from other areas of the state would benefit not only in this generation but in generations to come. As we know obesity and associated health problems are on the rise which now and in the future add monumentally to government costs.

Additionally, our carbon footprint will be reduced when people can walk rather than drive to access the park and existing and planned walking trails.

As a community, we are willing and able to provide physical labor as well as the planning and organizing that will be necessary. The Joppa Development and Heritage Corporation is fully committed to this project.

the Joppa area has suffered greatly with lack of government funds. The citizens of the area are determined to renew our vitality and bring this historic area to it's potential. The state will benefit from the tourism dollars that will be brought in.

In conclusion please make the pedestrian access a high priority when the bridges are replaced.

Sincerely,

Dorothy Waterman Czisny

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On Tue, Feb 23, 2016 at 9:58 AM, Eileen Maas <[eamaas45@](mailto:eamaas45@)> wrote:

Ms. Van Wert,

We, of the Joppa Development & Heritage Organization, respectfully request that, in the interest of public safety, plans be submitted for pedestrian walkways and bike paths to be included in the rebuilding of the Route 40 Gunpowder River bridges. It makes more sense to budget the funds while in the planning stage rather than waiting until after construction is complete. The current bridge situation makes crossing on foot or by bike a perilous prospect. The bridge at Jerusalem Mill is a perfect example of how successful a pedestrian crossing can be. The current Gunpowder bridges have no such safety features.

To add pedestrian walkways under the bridges as well would link the hiking paths in Gunpowder State Park making it an attractive and tourist friendly place to hike. Why waste this beautiful park by making it inaccessible to the public?

Respectfully,

Eileen Maas  
Joppa, 21085

On Mon, Feb 1, 2016 at 4:43 PM, barbara risacher <[risacher17@](mailto:risacher17@)> wrote:

**Re: BRTB SEEKS COMMENTS FOR AMENDMENTS TO BALTIMORELINK, MTA BUS FACILITIES, SHA BRIDGE REPAIR PROJECTS**

The citizens of Joppa and Joppatowne would like to encourage the addition of the replacement of the Rt. 40 Bridges over the Big and Little Gunpowder Rivers. These structures are obviously in need of replacement. While the replacement is going on we would like to encourage the addition of bike and pedestrian crossing of those bridges and across Rt. 40 for the hiking trails of the Gunpowder State Park.

This area is in a historic district and has been designated as such in the Harford County Master Plan for the community. The area is also in Maryland Smart Growth and Neighborhood Conservation Initiative and is designated a State Priority Funding Area. The Gunpowder State Park is located on both sides of Rt. 40 and into the Joppatowne area connected to the historic site of the Port of Joppa.

This time of replacement is crucial for the construction of pedestrian access. A walking biking trail to connect the State Parks to the historic sites of Joppa would provide economic development opportunities.

Please let the citizens of Joppa/ Joppatowne know what we need to do to promote the accomplishment of these goals.

Barbara Risacher  
[Risacher17@](mailto:Risacher17@)

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**From:** Monica Haines Benkhedda  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 24, 2016 3:23 PM  
**To:** 'Nate Evans'; 'risacher17@'; 'jerry fonshell'; 'Emily Ranson'; 'mikecat59@'; 'maryannlisanti@'; 'btemmink@'; 'pmullis1@'; 'Pat Francesco'; 'rparker@'; 'Marie Stobie'; 'Monica Heyl'; 'Gloria Barnhart'; 'Barbara Matusky'; 'jerry.fonshell@'; 'info@'; 'Rick Willard'  
**Cc:** 'tyurek@sha.state.md.us'; Public Involvement Coordinator (comments@baltometro.org); Todd Lang (tlang@baltometro.org); Regina Aris (raris@baltometro.org); zkaufman@baltometro.org; Laura van Wert (lvanwert@baltometro.org)  
**Subject:** FW: FW: PRESS RELEASE: BRTB seeks comments for amendments to BaltimoreLINK, MTA bus facilities, SHA bridge repair projects

On behalf of the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board (BRTB), thank you all for your interest in the amendment to the regional Transportation Improvement Program for the SHA Bridges over Little and Big Gunpowder Falls.

I am writing today to let you know that the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT), on behalf of the Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA), requested the BRTB **WITHDRAW the request to amend the Amended 2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add the project U.S. 40 Bridge Replacement over Little & Big Gunpowder Falls.** The project was open for public review and comments through Friday, March 4.

The BRTB appreciates those who have provided public comments about the project, and will forward those comments to SHA staff. Those interested in the project as it moves forward at a later time should contact Ted Yurek, SHA Regional Planner, at 410-545-5671, or by email at [tyurek@sha.state.md.us](mailto:tyurek@sha.state.md.us).

*Monica B. Haines Benkhedda, MSW*  
*Public Involvement Coordinator*  
Baltimore Metropolitan Council  
Offices @ McHenry Row | 1500 Whetstone Way, Suite 300 | Baltimore, MD 21230  
P: 410-732-0500 x1047 | F: 410-732-8248  
[mhainesbenkhedda@baltometro.org](mailto:mhainesbenkhedda@baltometro.org) | [www.baltometro.org](http://www.baltometro.org)

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**From:** Nate Evans <[nate@bikemd.org](mailto:nate@bikemd.org)>  
**Date:** Tue, Feb 16, 2016 at 7:53 AM  
**Subject:** Fwd: FW: PRESS RELEASE: BRTB seeks comments for amendments to BaltimoreLINK, MTA bus facilities, SHA bridge repair projects  
**To:** Laura Van Wert <[lvanwert@baltometro.org](mailto:lvanwert@baltometro.org)>  
**Cc:** [risacher17@...](mailto:risacher17@...), jerry fonshell <[jerry.fonshell@...](mailto:jerry.fonshell@...)>, Emily Ranson <[emily@bikemd.org](mailto:emily@bikemd.org)>

Hi Laura,

With the changes to the Route 40 bridges, would it be possible to have a community meeting closer to the project site? These bridges can represent access to local businesses for those visiting the park and the Joppatowne community needs to have a more accessible venue for public input.

Thanks for your consideration,  
Nate

**Nate Evans**  
Executive Director, [Bike Maryland](#)  
Our new office over the [HANDLEBAR CAFE](#)  
511 S. Caroline St, Suite C  
Baltimore, MD 21231  
[\(443\) 406-2711](tel:(443)406-2711) main  
[Website](#) [Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) [Contribute](#)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **barbara risacher** <[risacher17@000](mailto:risacher17@000)>

Date: Wed, Feb 10, 2016 at 12:40 PM

Subject: FW: PRESS RELEASE: BRTB seeks comments for amendments to BaltimoreLINK, MTA bus facilities, SHA bridge repair projects

To: Pat Francesco <[926dragon@000](mailto:926dragon@000)>, "Parker, Ronald" <[rparker@000](mailto:rparker@000)>, Marie Stobie <[mariestobie@000](mailto:mariestobie@000)>, Monica Heyl <[monicahey1@000](mailto:monicahey1@000)>, Gloria Barnhart <[gloriabarnhart@000](mailto:gloriabarnhart@000)>, Barbara Matusky <[b.matusky@000](mailto:b.matusky@000)>, "jerry.fonshell@000" <[info@000](mailto:info@000)>, Rick Willard <[vrrick@000](mailto:vrrick@000)>

Hello All,

I need your support for a letter or e-mail campaign. The Rt. 40 Bridges over the Little and Big Gunpowder are slated for replacement without bike and pedestrian access and with out trail access under the bridge. Please write and get this to anyone in the Joppa area who would also send an e-mail to the Senator and Delegates below. You can also write to Co. Ex Barry Glassman as he is serving as chair of the BRTB for now. This is very important as the bridges only get replaced every 75 years or so. This is our opportunity.

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**From:** [Bill](#)

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 10, 2016 7:12 AM

**To:** [barbara risacher](#); [Mullis, Paula](#)

**Cc:** [Rick Delegate Impallaria](#); [maryannlisanti@000](mailto:maryannlisanti@000); [kathy szeliga](#); [J.B. Senator Jennings](#); [comments@baltometro.org](mailto:comments@baltometro.org)

**Subject:** Re: PRESS RELEASE: BRTB seeks comments for amendments to BaltimoreLINK, MTA bus facilities, SHA bridge repair projects

Gentlemen and Ladies of the BRTB,

Senators and Delegates,

Barbara, Paula

I want to echo Barbara's sentiments. We need the bridge to connect the state park areas SAFELY with separate bike/walking paths.

Further, We need to have a public hearing in Joppa, preceded by a chance to show the BTRB officials where these bridges are being built, how they could connect the parklands and the community and what kinds of connections are talking about. This meeting needs to be at the time the public can attend: either after 6:00 on a week night or on a weekend.

At the February meeting of the Joppa Advisory Council, the Paula, the president of the JAC, stated that they wish to meet with the officials concerned. Meeting prior to the JAC meeting at the bridge sites, then finishing the hearing indoors at the JAC meeting would be idea. However, we are open to another time and date, so long as it is in the community and at a convenient time.

Otherwise, it is not at all clear that a meeting at an inconvenient time in an inconvenient location even qualifies as an public hearing.

Sincerely,

*Bill Temmink*

Joppa Development and Heritage Corporation  
[btemmink@](mailto:btemmink@)

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**From:** "barbara risacher" <[risacher17@...](mailto:risacher17@...)>  
**To:** "Rick Delegate Impallaria" <[rick.impallaria@house.state.md.us](mailto:rick.impallaria@house.state.md.us)>, [maryannlisanti@...](mailto:maryannlisanti@...), "kathy szeliga" <[kathy.szeliga@house.state.md.us](mailto:kathy.szeliga@house.state.md.us)>  
**Cc:** "J.B. Senator Jennings" <[jb.jennings@senate.state.md.us](mailto:jb.jennings@senate.state.md.us)>, [comments@baltometro.org](mailto:comments@baltometro.org)  
**Sent:** Friday, February 5, 2016 5:31:32 PM  
**Subject:** RE: PRESS RELEASE: BRTB seeks comments for amendments to BaltimoreLINK, MTA bus facilities, SHA bridge repair projects

To: Senator J.B. Jennings, Delegate Rick Impallaria, Delegate Kathy Szeliga, Delegate MaryAnn Lisanti

**Re: BRTB SEEKS COMMENTS FOR AMENDMENTS TO BALTIMORELINK, MTA BUS FACILITIES, SHA BRIDGE REPAIR PROJECTS**

The citizens of Joppa and Joppatowne would like to encourage the addition of the replacement of the Rt. 40 Bridges over the Big and Little Gunpowder Rivers. These structures are obviously in need of replacement. While the replacement is going on we would like to encourage the addition of bike and pedestrian crossing of those bridges and across Rt. 40 for the hiking trails of the Gunpowder State Park.

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Please let the citizens of Joppa/ Joppatowne know what we need to do to promote the accomplishment of these goals.

Barbara Risacher  
[Risacher17@...](mailto:Risacher17@...)

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**From:** [Michael Catalano](#)

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 2, 2016 11:05 AM

**To:** [Impallaria, Rick Delegate](#)

**Cc:** [Jennings, J.B. Senator](#); [risacher17](#); [comments@baltometro.org](mailto:comments@baltometro.org)

**Subject:** Fwd: PRESS RELEASE: BRTB seeks comments for amendments to BaltimoreLINK, MTA bus facilities, SHA bridge repair projects

Rick,

As we discussed I do not know if our request for protected bicycle and pedestrian crossings at the Rt 40 bridges over the Big and Little Gunpowder Falls has been incorporated into the project.

Since we had a lane of traffic closed down on Rt 40 to discuss the bridge replacement project and make our request for protected bicycle and pedestrian crossings, the East Coast Greenway (ECG) approved the off road concept that the ECG multipurpose trail will pass through the Gunpowder Greenway when completed. The ECG submitted this comment/request for the update of the Harford County master plan due out this month.

Protected bicycle and pedestrian crossings are not only needed for the future ECG route but also for community access to the Gunpowder Falls State Park (GFSP) and connecting the popular long Big and Little Gunpowder Falls Trails to each other and to the historic colonial section of the GFSP in Joppatowne. And let's not forget the existing state Rt 40 bicycle route and the pedestrian traffic along Rt 40 that has resulted in fatalities on these very bridges (including since our meeting at the bridge).

Community access to GFSP is not just safe crossings at the bridges but also the existing parking that Joppatowne offers for all GFSP visitors near and far. Parking for GFSP south of Interstate 95 is less than extremely limited.

I look forward to the update on the project and also request that the public meeting on the project be moved from somewhere north of downtown Baltimore to the adjoining Joppatowne in Harford County. As you pointed out the majority of people including commuters using the bridge are from Harford County.

Thanks Mike

**• US 40 Bridge Replacements over Little & Big Gunpowder Falls**

This \$12.4 million project replaces four bridges along US 40 over the Little and Big Gunpowder Falls. The existing bridges, built in 1935, are structurally deficient.

Bill <Btemmink@comcast.net>

Fri, Feb 26, 2016 at 7:18 AM

To: Monica Haines Benkhedda <mhainesbenkhedda@baltometro.org>

Cc: Nate Evans <nate@bikemd.org>, risacher17@ , jerry fonshell , Emily Ranson <emily@bikemd.org>, "Catacano, Michael" <mikecat59@ . >, maryannlisanti@ , "Mullis, Paula" <pmullis1@ >, Pat Francesco <926dragon@ . >, "Parker, Ronald" <rparker@ >, Marie Stobie <mariestobie@ . >, Monica Heyl <monicahey1@ . >, Gloria Barnhart <gloriabarnhart@ >, Barbara Matusky <b.matusky@ >, info@prizewebworks.com, Rick Willard <vrrick@ . >, tyurek@sha.state.md.us, Public Involvement Coordinator <comments@baltometro.org>, Todd Lang <tlang@baltometro.org>, Regina Aris <rary@baltometro.org>, zkaufman@baltometro.org, "Van Wert, Laura" <lvanwert@baltometro.org>, Dorothy Hinnant <dhinnant34@ . >

Dear Ms. Haines Benkhedda:

Thank you for this information.

I must admit, though, that I am a little confused.

I know there was a lot of interest in adding a separate pedestrian pathway to the Rte. 40 bridges. I don't know that there was Any opposition to building the bridges. Communities on both sides of the rivers are interested.

Has the project been delayed solely to considering adding pedestrian bridges?

Or has it been cancelled until further notice for political reasons?

In either case, what would you suggest as the communities' next steps?

Obviously, we are grateful if this is a delay for reconsideration.  
Equally obviously, this project should not be delayed indefinitely.

These bridges are dangerous now, not only to pedestrians and bikers, but equally to automobile & truck traffic.

The road surfaces are a patched-up mess: maybe the surface is strong enough to hold current traffic, but it is so uneven that it could push traffic sideways.

The side bridges have 15' long stretches of exposed rebar.

There are numerous smaller cracks, breaks and exposed areas on the bridge's sides.

Concrete is falling into the roadway and into the river below.

Metal guard rails have been ripped & now extend into the road shoulder posing a threat to legs & tires alike.

Again, thank you for your information.

Thank everyone for reconsidering the original plan.

Do, please, let us know what is next on the BTRB agenda.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

*Bill Temmink*

Joppa Development & Heritage Corporation

410 679-1524 home/office  
btemmink@