

BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY GROUP

November 16, 2022

1:03 to 2:55 P.M.

MINUTES

1. WELCOME AND ROLL CALL

Mr. Chris Eatough (Howard County OOT) welcomed attendees and Ms. Charlene Mingus (BMC) held a roll call.

2. APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER MINUTES

The minutes from the September 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 Mr. Matt Hendrickson (Baltimore City DOT) seconded the motion. The meeting minutes were approved.

3. BICYCLE FACILITY INVENTORY

Ms. Mingus presented an overview of the Regional Bicycle Facility Inventory, which is consolidated by BMC based on data provided by member jurisdictions. The inventory began in 2016 and includes existing, planned, programmed, and under construction bicycle and shared-use facilities. An interactive map can be found [here](#). The current categorizations for the inventory are: shared-use path or transportation trail, separated bicycle lane, bicycle lane, signed designated bicycle route, and sharrows or marked shared lane. The inventory is due to be updated, and the inventory will be an important part of the upcoming Vision for a Regional Bicycle Network project.

Mr. Evans (MDOT TSO) shared information about MDOT's bicycle facility inventory. The inventory is a linear referencing system rather than a geographic information system. It is an asset management tool and only contains existing facilities, not planned, programmed, or under construction. It is an important part of the bicycle level of stress calculation, and will also be used to calculate routable networks. Current categorizations are: shared-use paths, protected bike lanes, standard bike lanes, and null values (shared lanes and shoulders). There are also facility subtypes and cataloging of the side of the roadway, traffic flow, and vertical separation of the facility.

Ms. Mingus asked members of the advisory group to consider whether the regional bicycle facility inventory should continue to be updated as it has been historically, or whether the

process should be modified in light of MDOT's new statewide existing bicycle facilities inventory. Further topic discussion will require input from local jurisdictions' data management staff.

[PowerPoint: Regional Bicycle Facility Update]

4. ELECTRIC BICYCLE POLICY

Ms. Mingus presented an overview of state policies for electric bicycles (e-bikes). State legislation allows e-bikes to be operated where bicycles are allowed to travel, with the exception of Class 3 e-bikes, which can only be operated on a bicycle path under certain circumstances. Local authorities and state agencies are also able to regulate the use of e-bikes under certain circumstances, and may prohibit use of e-bikes on bicycle paths and trails. State legislation also defines electric scooters (e-scooters), and allows local authorities to regulate operation and registration of e-scooters. Maryland State Parks prohibit the use of e-bikes on most state park trails, with the exception of the Torrey C. Brown Rail Trail and the Western Maryland Rail Trail which are both considered transportation trails. Mr. Dan Hudson (Maryland Park Service) explained that most Park Service trails tend to be narrow, natural surface, recreational trails, rather than transportation trails, and that e-bike policy was instituted with these types of trails in mind. Other trails open to access or policy changes are potential topics for discussion as the master plan is updated. Ms. Meg Young (Baltimore DOT) shared that the National Park Service and the Maryland Stadium Authority also do not allow e-bikes or e-scooters.

[PowerPoint: Electric Bicycle Legislation And Policy]

5. BIKE TO WORK WEEK UPDATE

Mr. Shane Sarver (BMC) shared an update on Bike to Work Week 2023. The event will be held from Monday, May 15 through Sunday, May 21, 2023. As in previous years, the event will feature locally hosted events and group rides during the week, with celebrations and pit stops held throughout the region on Bike to Work Day, Friday, May 19. Event t-shirts will be available for registrants at Bike to Work Day pit stops and at local bike shops. Bike to Work Week is sponsor funded. To become a sponsor, contact Mr. Sarver at ssarver@baltometro.org. The deadline to register as an event sponsor is Friday, February 3.

[PowerPoint: B2WW 2023 Update]

6. UPDATES ON ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION RELATED UPWP PROJECTS

Ms. Mingus provided an update on active transportation related Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) projects. The UPWP identifies planning priorities and activities within a metropolitan planning area. Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) are required to develop UPWPs to govern work programs for expenditure of Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) planning funds. Ms. Mingus provided a brief

overview of the UPWP projects that are related to active transportation, including: Pedestrian Infrastructure Assessment Tool, LOOK ALIVE campaign, Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Count program, Transportation and Land Use Connection Grant program, Concept Plan for Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements along US 40, Preliminary Design for the Patapsco Regional Greenway (various segments), Vision for a Regional Bike Network, and Safe System Approach.

[PowerPoint: UPWP Active Transportation Projects Update]

7. ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

City of Annapolis – Mr. Eric Leshinsky (City of Annapolis) shared that Annapolis is wrapping up Bikeways grants projects, and they have kicked off their Transportation Alternatives Program project. The shared mobility program in Annapolis is going very well and they have increased the number of vehicles available. Annapolis is helping to test BMC's Pedestrian Infrastructure Assessment Tool. They have also kicked off their Transportation and Land Use grant project, which will help standardize bicycle facility uses.

Anne Arundel County – Ms. Tanya Asman (Anne Arundel County Office of Transportation) shared that Anne Arundel County was awarded a Transportation Alternatives Program grant for the Baybrook Connector and Safe Routes to School funds for sidewalk construction. They are in the process of partnering with Bird for a micromobility program. Their master plan is wrapping up and will be in front of the Council in January. The Vision Zero steering committee will be starting to meet again in January and will start implementation. The county was also awarded a Bikeways Grant to close gaps between the B&A Trail and the South Shore Trail.

Ms. Dawn Thomas (Anne Arundel County Department of Recreation and Parks) shared that they are constructing Broadneck Trail Phase III and the bridge over the Patuxent River into Prince George's County.

Baltimore City – Mr. Hendrickson shared that Baltimore City is advancing their bicycle master plan update. They are also advancing several projects, including a TLC grant on Wabash Avenue. Mr. Hendrickson shared that he will no longer be serving on BPAG, and that Mr. Patrick Patterson (Baltimore City DOT) will be representing Baltimore City moving forward.

Howard County – Mr. Eatough shared that Howard County has received a Transportation Alternatives Program grant for a surface upgrade of the Patuxent Branch Trail. Howard County is currently running a pilot micromobility program. The pilot will end in November 2022 and the county will review and update their process and begin a new permitting process in spring 2023. They are adding buffered bicycle lanes to Hickory Ridge Road in Columbia.

MDOT TSO - Mr. Evans shared that MDOT issued \$2.6 million in Kim Lamphier Bikeways Network Program funding to 22 different projects. MDOT is also beginning the process of updating the statewide bicycle and pedestrian master plan.

Ms. Francine Waters (MDOT TSO) shared an update on Walktober 2022. There were over 6,000 registrants for walkinars, over 150 scheduled walks, and 30 schools participating in Walk to School Day.

BMC – Ms. Mingus reminded members that the BPAG Chair and Vice Chair positions will need to be filled for 2023. Anyone who is interested in one of these positions should contact Ms. Mingus at cmingus@bmc.org.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, January 18, 2023.

ATTENDANCE

Members

Tanya Asman – Anne Arundel County Office of Transportation
Jessie Bialek – Baltimore County Department of Public Works (DPW)
Chris Eatough – Howard County Office of Transportation (Howard County OOT)
Nate Evans – Maryland Department of Transportation the Secretary's Office (MDOT TSO)
Matt Hendrickson – Baltimore City Department of Transportation (BCDOT)
Tina James – Maryland Department of Planning
Eric Leshinsky – City of Annapolis Department of Planning
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
Erin Bolton – BMC
Cindy Burch – BMC
Barry List – MDOT State Highway Administration (MDOT SHA)
Tina Register – MDOT SHA
Charlene Mingus – BMC
Shane Sarver – BMC
Dawn Thomas – Anne Arundel County Department of Recreation and Parks
Francine Waters – MDOT TSO
Meg Young – BCDOT
Patrick Patterson – BCDOT
Dan Hudson – Maryland Park Service
Rob Dike – Maryland Park Service