

Meeting Minutes

This meeting was held both online through Microsoft Teams and in-person at the Prince George’s County Planning Department HQ Auditorium (1616 McCormick Drive, Largo, MD 20774).

Attendees:

Members:

Jon Morrison, Chair	Sandi Olek
Lt. Laura Beck	Jim Titus
Ali Macstudy	Brooks Phelps
Bong Delrosario	Kristy Daphnis
Marshall Edwards	Gabriel Rose
Liz Fitzsimmons	Patti Stevens
Matt Hendrickson	Antoine RJ Wright
Kandese Holford	Ndegwa Kamau
Michael Jackson	Cindy Miller

Absent Members:

Andrew Lingelbach	Sarah Myers
Nigel Samaroo	Marian Vessels

Non-Members:

Derek Davies	12402283845
Deron Lovaas	Aviva Klugh
Carl Chamberlin	Dharm Guruswamy
Cynthia Spriggs	LargoHQ Auditorium
Shane Sarver	Molly Porter
Jim Hock	Jennings, Tiffany W.
Sean Adkins	Crystal Hancock
Toluwani Awosika	Achyut Neupane
Francine Waters	Nasim Samadi
Jon Korin	

Meeting Staff:

Meg Young
Quinn Wallace

I. Welcome, Roll Call, Introduction of Quinn Wallace

Jon Morrison, chair, opened the meeting and welcomed attendees. **Meg Young** confirmed that the meeting was being recorded solely for note-taking purposes and reminded participants that chat messages are part of the official record.

Meg introduced **Quinn Wallace**, a new MDOT staff member who will be involved with MBPAC. Quinn shared her background as an Active Transportation Planner with prior experience at the Federal Transit Administration, local government, and consulting.

II. Agenda Review and Approval of Minutes

Jon Morrison asked committee members if all were in favor of the agenda and meeting minutes from April, distributed on July 3rd with corrected attendance. The agenda and meeting minutes were approved.

III. Go! Prince George’s

Dharm Guruswamy, the project manager for the draft Functional Master Plan, welcomed everyone and introduced a brief video outlining the plan’s multimodal focus—moving beyond the 2009 roadway-only approach to include transit, bikeways, sidewalks, micromobility, water trails, and emerging modes such as urban air mobility. He explained that the plan emphasizes sustainability, innovative infrastructure, safety, and equitable access across the county. Key priorities include closing gaps in pedestrian and bicycle networks, developing a “15-minute city” concept around transit, expanding bus rapid transit and microtransit, integrating micromobility

with bike-share and e-scooters, and applying Maryland's Complete and Green Streets standards with enhanced tree canopy coverage. Dharm noted that the plan consolidates all previous transportation policies into one document, includes implementation tools for capital projects, and establishes performance measures tied to recent zoning updates. He reviewed the project timeline and noted the upcoming joint public hearing with the County Council in early 2026, followed by a 15- to 30-day comment period and final adoption.

MBPAC members suggested adding "All Ages, All Abilities" language and assistive device imagery, inquired about similar plans in other counties (with Anne Arundel's Blue Plan noted), and clarified that formal comments must be submitted during the public hearing. Dharm encouraged continued engagement and formal testimony when the hearing record opens.

IV. Vulnerable Roadway User (VRU) and MDOT Programs

Meg Young introduced MDOT's Serious About Safety initiative as the overarching framework for all multimodal safety efforts. **Achyut Neupane**, Multimodal Team Leader with the State Highways Administration, explained the federally mandated VRU Assessment update (every five years, with the first in 2023 and the current in 2025) under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. The team collected input through regional consultation meetings and an online survey to identify high-risk corridors for pedestrians, cyclists, and micromobility users irrespective of roadway ownership. These areas of need were mapped and compared to the 2023 assessment, revealing substantial overlap and some new corridors. **Aviva Klugh** provided an overview of how VRU data now feeds directly into MDOT programs: the Pedestrian Safety Action Plan, Complete Streets Policy implementation, various funding sources (e.g., System Preservation, HSIP, multimodal grants), and project initiation checklists that reference local and state plans. Applications within VRU-identified zones receive scoring priority.

MBPAC members discussed local equity concerns, the challenge of balancing community preferences with data-driven safety needs, and gaps in behavioral crash data. MDOT is committed to following up on neighborhood-specific safety inquiries, digitizing and sharing local planning inputs with the help of a new GIS intern, and integrating VRU findings into the upcoming Bicycle & Pedestrian Master Plan update.

V. State Agency Updates

• MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Michael Jackson began by noting that the Prince George's County Planning Department has rolled out new green-stormwater infrastructure markers ("rain buttons") along high-risk corridors to raise awareness of flooding hazards. He then announced that the Washington–Annapolis Trail bridge over the Severn River quietly opened in May and that a formal ribbon-cutting ceremony is planned for October 16. New wayfinding signage was also recently installed along the bridge segment.

• MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Ali Macstudy reported on two new grant programs aimed at improving walking and biking safety across Maryland. First, competitive Bike & Pedestrian Safety Grants are now open

to fund projects that enhance pedestrian safety around elementary, middle, and high schools; Washington County and the Hagerstown School District have already advanced to final planning stages, with a progress review scheduled for next week and additional awardees to be announced. Second, the department will launch a rolling application in October for Walking Day Planning Grants, offering \$5,000–\$10,000 to up to five local health departments to support planning, implementation, or awareness campaigns tied to Maryland Walking Day; this initiative will incorporate disability-inclusion strategies in partnership with the Varnish Foundation. Ali noted that detailed outcomes and next steps will be shared at the upcoming quarterly meeting.

• **MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

Vote: MDSE Recommendations for PE Curriculum Framework

Gabriel Rose reported that the Department has placed new emphasis on active school travel: they secured a governor’s proclamation recognizing World Bicycling Day with students from Germantown Middle School, and several local education agencies including Howard County are re-evaluating and revising their school transportation distance policies to encourage more walking and biking. The Department’s Division of Instructional Programs is drafting revised Physical Education (PE) standards and a framework that would allow but not require districts with access to safe riding areas to integrate bicycle safety and riding skills into their PE curricula. MBPAC members reviewed a draft letter of support for these revisions and proposed minor formatting and terminology edits. **MBPAC unanimously voted to approve a motion, with Michael Jackson of M-NCPPC abstaining, to send the finalized letter—addressed to the State Department of Education, affirming the Committee’s endorsement of the proposed PE standards update.**

• **MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

Sandi Olek announced a ribbon-cutting last week for the Magraff Trail System, a new 2-mile adaptive mountain biking and hiking trail in the Savage River State Forest for wide, rolling access. She encouraged MBPAC members to try the trail and noted it represents a first step toward more adaptive facilities on state lands. Sandi also reported that new e-bike regulations have been published in the Maryland Register and are now open for public comment. Finally, she previewed the upcoming Outdoor Recreation Summit in Baltimore City in October. The summit will feature urban-focused talks, excursions, and a call for volunteer leaders to guide a group bike ride or demonstrate programs like Cycling Without Age. Members interested in participating were invited to contact her directly.

• **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

Cynthia Miller reported that the Office of Tourism is awarding \$2.8 million from an EDA grant to market and promote the state’s 18 federally designated scenic byways highlighting off-roading opportunities for women athletes, the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Byway, Chesapeake Country, and the National Road and is coordinating with MDOT on statewide electric-vehicle charging maps to support driving

tours. She also announced the June opening of the National Road Museum in Boonsboro with a virtual tour available online. She reminded members that October is Maryland Horse Month, celebrating the Horses & Hounds Byway and new riding and walking trails at Pimlico and Laurel racetrack. Finally, under the “Last Accessible Maryland” initiative, she showcased the new Margraff Trail System in Western Maryland, designed for inclusive, wheelchair-accessible hiking.

- **MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

Shane Sarver from the State Highway Administration opened by announcing that MDOT will soon accept applications for the new Bicycle & Pedestrian Priority Areas program, which will run from mid-September through mid-October and offers designated communities the chance to secure dedicated funding for multimodal improvements. He explained that SHA’s bike and pedestrian design guidelines are currently under revision, and that the updated Complete Streets decision-making tool will require engineers to consult local and state plans at the very start of any roadway project.

Meg Young added that MDOT is building on last year’s Smart Growth America leadership academy. Six “quick-build” pedestrian and bicycle improvements are slated to break ground across five counties in the coming weeks, with exact locations to be shared via MDOT’s project portal. Meg also highlighted the launch of the first Pedestrian Safety Action Plan corridor: a \$15 million, 2.5-mile upgrade to MD 650, which expands the initial five safety corridors to a total of 13 based on the latest Vulnerable Roadway Users Assessment data.

Meg noted that the Highway Safety Office distributed grants for helmets and bike lights, partnering with local organizations for outreach, and encouraged any interested groups to get in touch for collaboration. The 2026 Lifesavers Conference will take place in Baltimore and recently received national recognition for its ModeShift Complete Streets quick-build initiative. She also introduced MDOT’s newest team member, Nasim Samadi, a Morgan State University doctoral student, who will digitize local bike/ped plans and advance the sidewalk-data initiative.

Right-of-way safety grants and Transportation Alternatives Program awards are set to be announced by late September, while the MDOT In Motion webinar series will resume with “Back-to-School Safety” on August 7, followed by sessions on transportation trails in September and “WALKTOBER” programming in October. By the end of 2025, MDOT plans to roll out its updated Complete Streets policy, Strategic Highway Safety Plan, Bicycle & Pedestrian Design Guidelines, and a new communications toolkit to support these efforts.

- **MARYLAND STATE POLICE**

No updates.

- **MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITIES**

No updates.

- **MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING**

No updates.

VI. Old Business, Public Comment, Engagement Opportunities

Meg Young provided updates on the two vacant committee seats for the Baltimore Metropolitan Area and Southern Maryland, noting that they are still awaiting appointments from the Governor's Appointments Office. She mentioned that the MBPAC inbox has been relatively quiet, mostly receiving event invitations since the launch of the MBPAC calendar.

Quinn Wallace presented an overview of the newly launched MBPAC Calendar, explaining how events can be submitted by sending invitations to the designated MBPAC email. Quinn encouraged agencies and stakeholders to share public engagement opportunities for inclusion and highlighted several upcoming events.

Jim Titus shared two public comments/updates:

1. A letter from 56 organizations was sent to MDOT and NBPA advocating for a separated bicycle and pedestrian facility on the new Chesapeake Bay Bridge.
2. The ad hoc MUTCD committee has not yet made progress but will prepare a draft by the next meeting.
3. He reiterated concerns about SHA's failure to maintain the Maryland 450 Trail in unincorporated Prince George's County, stating that the documentation provided so far does not justify SHA's position.

Meg responded that a renewed request has been sent to District 3 to obtain further documentation regarding the Maryland 450 Trail maintenance issue.

VII. MBPAC Subcommittee Reports

• Eastern Shore Subcommittee – Pattie Stevens, chair

Patti Stevens reported on several upcoming activities and initiatives for the Eastern Shore. She noted that the Worcester County Bike and Pedestrian Quarterly Meeting is scheduled soon and will feature Sandi Olek from the Department of Natural Resources' Outdoor Recreation Division. As part of this meeting, attendees will participate in a walk along the Trail of Change (Raised Wildland Trail), a project that has been in planning and development for five years and will connect the Pocomoke River State Forest to the Snow Hill Trail system celebrated last summer. Patti also announced that the Iron Furnace Fifty event will take place on August 23rd and will be added to the MBPAC calendar. Additionally, she shared details about the third Eastern Shore Trails Workshop, to be held at Chesapeake College. This workshop, which is open to all participants, aims to advance the Maryland Eastern Shore Trails Network toward a regional structure with a governing body, with plans to sign the network's Charter during the event.

• Pedestrian Subcommittee – Bong Delrosario, new chair

Bong Delrosario reported on recent activities of the Pedestrian Subcommittee. He shared that the subcommittee received a presentation from Judy Shanley on a holistic approach to creating accessible and safe communities, which included several valuable resources. Maryam Sultan from the Baltimore Metropolitan Council also shared information regarding the Transportation Improvement Program's open comment period, which has

since closed. Additionally, Meg provided updates on the subcommittee's website and calendar. Bong announced that the next Pedestrian Subcommittee meeting is scheduled for September 18th, and he is working to secure two guest speakers for that meeting.

- **Legislative Subcommittee – Nigel Samaroo, Chair, Jon Korin, Reporting**

Jon Korin provided an overview of the recent legislative session, noting that it was a challenging year due to the state budget deficit and ongoing federal issues. Despite these challenges, several bills successfully passed, including the long-awaited legislation permitting bicycles on sidewalks (with requirements to yield to pedestrians and individuals using assistive devices), which was signed by the Governor and will take effect on October 1st. Other legislative successes included graduated speed fines and a few local speed-related bills.

Jon reported that some initiatives advanced through the House but failed to receive a vote in the Senate, such as the bicycle safety yield bill, which had strong support in the House but did not pass in the Senate committee. He also noted that some proposals, including contributory negligence reform, did not receive votes at all. Jon emphasized that many of these bills are likely to be reintroduced next year and that conversations with sponsors and legislators are ongoing to build additional support.

He shared a link to a Bike Maryland document summarizing all the session's legislative outcomes and encouraged members to review it. Finally, Jon invited a pedestrian-focused advocate to join the Legislative Subcommittee to help ensure that the committee effectively represents pedestrians and individuals with all abilities, in addition to bicyclists.

- **Trails Subcommittee – Meg Young**

Meg Young reported on the activities of the Trails Subcommittee, which was formed to inform the development of the MDOT Transportation Trails Strategic Plan. She shared that the subcommittee has been meeting every other month at various locations across the state, including Easton, Frederick, and Garrett County, with the most recent meeting hosted at Garrett College. Meg noted that the subcommittee's work is nearing completion, with the final plan scheduled to be presented on September 4th via a webinar. Throughout the process, the Trails Subcommittee has served as an advisory body, reviewing the existing conditions report, contributing to the development of the Transportation Trails database (which includes planned and proposed trails), assisting with survey distribution, and informing toolkits featuring case studies.

She emphasized that the plan includes a clear vision and goals: creating a safe and accessible statewide transportation trail network connecting Marylanders to opportunities within their communities and across the state. The toolkits provide guidance for local jurisdictions on building support, securing funding, and maintaining transportation trails. They also address long-term maintenance concerns and offer recommendations to MDOT and other agencies. Meg shared that at the next meeting, the subcommittee will request an official vote to make the Trails Subcommittee a permanent subcommittee of MBPAC beyond the completion of the strategic plan.

Additionally, recommendations include continuing state agency collaboration on transportation trails and leading participation in the state's Trails Day program.

VIII. Closing Reminders and Adjournment

Next Meetings: Pedestrian Committee: September 18, 2025

Eastern Shore Committee: TBA

Legislative Committee: TBA

Trails Committee: Webinar, September 4, 2025

Next Full Committee Meeting and seeking a host agency: October 24, 2025

Following the MBPAC meeting, several in-person attendees walked the campus to audit and discuss opportunities and challenges to multimodal connectivity. The attendees made note of potential improvements to bike parking, sidewalks, micromobility, and crosswalks on MD 202.

TEAMS Meeting Chat:

Meg Young: good morning everyone!

We are going to get started at 9:05, since we have some people in person getting settled in PGC!

Laura Beck: Sorry, I could not log into teams using my work email. This is Laura Beck with Maryland State Police.

Meg Young: can you all hear jon?

Cynthia Spriggs: Yes

a little feedback again

Ndegwa R. Kamau: Good morning. I'm present.

Aviva Klugh: Welcome, Quinn!

Antoine RJ Wright: Welcome Quinn

Ndegwa R. Kamau: Slight echo again

Jon M: Please let us know if you are unable to see or hear us in the room

Or if there is an echo

Jon Korin: Suggestion for the Go Prince George's video: I don't think I saw or heard anything about "all ages, all abilities". For example, I don't recall seeing any assistive devices. (unless i missed it)

Patti Stevens: This is a great plan. Thank you for sharing. Does MDOT know how many counties have a robust plan like this for multi-modal safety?

Jon Korin: Anne Arundel has a multimodal transportation functional plan call MOVE ANNE ARUNDEL and also a Ped/Bike Master plan called Walk & Roll Anne Arundel

Ndegwa R. Kamau: Will you be providing education for pedestrians on shared trails.

Patti Stevens: Was the plan developed by staff or by consultants?

Antoine RJ Wright: Hoco By Design is Howard County's plan Patti

Jon Korin: MOVE ANNE ARUNDEL: <https://www.aacounty.org/transportation/move-anne-arundel>

WALK & ROLL ANNE ARUNDEL: <https://www.aacounty.org/sites/default/files/2023-05/walk-and-roll.pdf>

Antoine RJ Wright: <https://www.howardcountymd.gov/planning-zoning/general-plan> And HoCo has office of Active Transportation

Jennings, Tiffany W: Go Prince George's is a great plan. DPW&T transportation planners and engineers participated in planning meetings for the plan and provided comments throughout the process.

Patti Stevens: were municipalities consulted on the plan as it was being developed?

Antoine RJ Wright: Can we add the Go Prince George's group as one to give regular updates at upcoming MBPAC meetings as a means to help with "getting the word out?"

Patti Stevens: would be great if the plans being noted in the chat could be shown on the MDOT active recreation /micromobility site for reference.

Jon M: <https://montgomeryplanning.org/planning/transportation/bicycle-planning/bicycle-master-plan/>

<https://montgomeryplanning.org/planning/transportation/pedestrian-planning/pedestrian-master-plan/>

Bong Delrosario: Has outreach gone out to Prince George's County Commission On Disabilities for input from the disability communities?

Jim Titus: Here are the two questions I was trying to ask. First, is the plan addressing the problem of widespread cul-de-sac designs for subdivisions during the period of rapid growth in the late 20th century, which deliberately make places inaccessible without a long drive even if the destination is very close. That problem also extends to National Harbor, and communities along many trails.

That was for GOPG.

Cynthia Spriggs: I have to jump off to attend another meeting. Have a wonderful and safe rest of the summer!

Patti Stevens: <https://www.2050marylandbpmp.com/>

Achyut Neupane: An online survey is open until August 7 to gather your concerns and suggestions for improving conditions for people walking, biking, and rolling along these identified high-risk corridors. We welcome your input on any of the listed areas. VRU Safety Assessment -2025 Consultation Online Survey - <https://bit.ly/MD-VRU-survey>

Patti Stevens: How does the VRU assessment timetable related to BIKE /PED Master Plan?

Jon Korin: In a VRU Assessment meeting a few days ago I suggested that Ped/Bike Network Gaps be added to the prioritization criteria. This would include sidewalk, SUP and bike lane gaps. These segments have high VRU demand but may have low crash stats because it is too dangerous to walk or roll there.

Achyut Neupane: Thank you for your suggestion. We will carefully consider it for inclusion in our upcoming updates.

Patti Stevens: love hearing support to local jurisdictions.

Brooks Phelps: Hi everyone, my camera and mic aren't working in Teams right now. No updates from MDP

Jon Korin: DNR: Any update on the ebike policy?

Patti Stevens: Ali - can you share link to info about support for local schools safety events.

Ali Mac: I don't have a link but feel free to email me at ali.macstudy1@maryland.gov for any information

Kandese Holford: Here's a great local org that provides support and gear for group rides [Home - Explore Exciting Cycling Adventures - Zoaroo](#)

They are staffed by local youth so a worthy cause

Jon Korin: Google maps shows EV charger locations

Shane Sarver: <https://roads.maryland.gov/mdotsha/pages/Index.aspx?PageId=693>

Deron Lovaas: So here is our recently updated site with a ton of information about EVs and EV charging: <https://marylandev.org> and here is the specific page with a map of charging stations: [AFDC Map – Maryland EV – Zero Emission Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Council](#). Please let me know if you have any questions!

Shane Sarver: <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/bf45bd3dc623428bb05c5290687a742d/page/Complete-Streets-Quick-Builds>

Laura Beck: No updates!

Jon Korin: 56 orgs on Chesapeake Bay Bridge Protected Bike/Ped Lane Letter: <https://bikeaaa.org/2025/06/12/56-organizations-insist-on-a-bike-ped-facility-on-new-chesapeake-bay-bridge/>

MD 2025 Legislative Update: <https://www.bikemaryland.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/Bike-Maryland-2025-Legislative-Recap.pdf>

The Trails Plan and formation of Trails Subcommittee is a great initiative and good example of how legislative action can stimulate executive action without enacting a bill!

Bong Delrosario: I have to hop off for another meeting

Ndegwa R. Kamau: Thanks everyone!!