

# Meeting Minutes

This meeting of the Maryland Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (MBPAC) was held online through Microsoft Teams.

## Attendees:

### Members:

Jon Morrison, Chair  
 Lt. Laura Beck  
 Kristy Daphnis  
 Bong Delrosario  
 Marshall Edwards  
 Steve Green  
 Matt Hendrickson

Kandese Holford  
 Patrick Patterson  
 Nigel Samaroo  
 Jim Titus  
 Marian Vessels  
 Michael Jackson

### Non-Members:

Kyle Hearing  
 Owen Bailey  
 Patrick McMahon  
 Jon Korin  
 Daniel Paschall

Brendan Wray  
 Jed Weeks  
 Meshia Sutton  
 Molly Porter  
 Shane Sarver

John Beall  
 Ryan Sigworth  
 Marshall Stevenson  
 Seth Grimes

### Absent Members:

Patti Stevens  
 Antoine RJ Wright  
 Brooks Phelps  
 Sandi Olek  
 Liz Fitzsimmons

Kristi Pier  
 Gabriel Rose  
 Andrew Lingelbach  
 Ndegwa Kamau

### Meeting Staff

Meg Young

## I. Welcome/Introductions

Jon Morrison, Chair of MBPAC, opened the meeting and welcomed attendees. Meg Young led a roll call of committee members with a quorum established.

## II. Agenda Review and Approval of January Meeting Minutes Approval

The agenda was shared on a PowerPoint. It was suggested that this becomes the standard process for MBPAC meetings. Feedback on the guiding powerpoint was welcomed by the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) staff.

Jim Titus motioned to approve January meeting minutes, Nigel Samaroo seconded, and the motion to approve passed without objection. Minutes will be added to the MBPAC website.

## III. Meg Young Introduction

Meg Young was introduced to the committee as the new Deputy Director of the Office of Active Transportation and Micromobility (OATM) at MDOT. She brings 10 years of experience from the Federal Transit Administration, Baltimore City, and the City of New Orleans.

The committee also wished a fond farewell to the outgoing Bicycle Planner, Nate Evans, who moved to a position as an Assistant Division Chief at the MDOT State Highway Administration.

## IV. Annual Report Adoption

The MBPAC annual report, previously viewed in draft form at the January meeting, and a revised final report was emailed to MBPAC members was brought forth for discussion and approval. Jim

made a motion to approve the annual report, the motion was seconded by Kristy, and the motion passed with no objections. The report will be posted online and sent to agencies. Chair Jon Morrison added a note that MBPAC hopes to adopt the upcoming 2024 report by January in 2025.

#### V. **OATM Project Update: Sidewalk Data Collaboration**

OATM gave MBPAC an update on the Sidewalk Data Collaboration Project, with Marshall Stevenson from SHA leading the presentation. This project aims to collect sidewalk data into the One Maryland One Centerline (OMOC) database. The project is modeled after Level of Traffic Stress (LTS) but is more complicated due to the longer history of sidewalks across the state.

A question was asked as to whether or not pavers count as sidewalk. Sidewalks constructed with pavers would be classified as a sidewalk, but under the tier 3 of schema, this would be noted along with the ADA compliance of that sidewalk.

Jim suggested that the maintenance responsibility of the sidewalk be included, noting some frustration around the maintenance of sidewalks on state routes.

#### VI. **2024 General Assembly Legislative Session Review**

Jon Korin, a member of the legislative subcommittee, gave the legislative session review. The summary can be found here: <https://www.bikemaryland.org/2024-legislative-update-part-2/>

For the 2025 session, an update to MBPAC meetings was suggested so that there will be a meeting during session to allow for greater input and possible action on pending legislation.

- Kristy proposed a legislative subcommittee meeting.
- Jon replied that does not allow for a vote for official guidance to the administration, but perhaps a subcommittee meeting could precede the greater committee meeting.
- Jim asked if SHA/MDOT could pose questions to MBPAC for comments on legislation

The review concluded with a 2024 session highlight summary:

- Jon K noted it was a strong session with a coalition of advocates working together. Collaboration with Executive Branch and Pillar Helm at MDOT was particularly notable and helpful. DNR also provided collaboration on the Trails Act.
- Seth shared about the better bus act and the enforcement of bus lanes as a notable accomplishment.
- For 2025, MBPAC is hopeful MDOT will put in for an e-bike program and requested a meeting with Pillar's replacement.

#### VII. **Old Business & Public Comment (10 min)**

- Old business- Jim brought up the issue of shared use path maintenance, specifically the trail on 450 in unincorporated PG County.

- Jim will send his Service Request ticket to MBPAC inbox.
- Michael Jackson asked for the average costs of sidewalk maintenance, which would help local jurisdictions and the state plan for maintenance
- Emails to the MBPAC inbox were shared. Several emails were received about the Francis Scott Key (I-695) Bridge rebuild, one inquiry was about children's bike safety in Howard County, and other emails were from the Governor's Appointments Office.
- Daniel Pascall, representing the East Coast Greenway (ECG), shared that the WB&A bridge is opening this year
- A list of Public Events was shared by MDOT:
  - May 4 – Howard County – Bike Around Town Day
  - May 4 – Montgomery County - Sligo Creek Fest (parkways project)
  - May 8 – Bike to School Day
  - May 11 - Montgomery County – Safety Day
  - May 13-17 - Bike to Work Week – Central Maryland
  - Events across the state
  - May 14 - Baltimore County Public Library Randallstown Branch – Hosting “Street Project” film
  - May 15 – Annapolis – National Ride of Silence
  - May 17 – Bike to Work Day - Metro DC and Central Maryland- Events across the state
  - June 15 – Baltimore BYKE Collective – Crankmasters, wheelie and safety event
- Jon Korin, representing Bicycle Advocates of Annapolis and Anne Arundel (Bike AAA), shared about the Jones Station trail signage, which will unveil a trail sign at the confluence of several regional trails on May 29<sup>th</sup>.
- Seth Grimes, representing the Washington Area Bicyclists Association (WABA), shared an event on May 18 which will feature Joe Moges from MDOT SHA on a panel about addressing equity in bike infrastructure

#### **VIII. MBPAC Subcommittee Reports (15 min)**

- Eastern Shore Subcommittee – update provided by Owen Bailey
  - Work on Trail planning is underway on the Eastern Shore.
    - 6 of 9 counties on the Eastern Shore joined a Trails Day Proclamation
    - A survey was shared at trails day, to be used to reach out to towns and counties, in hopes of creating interest groups like in Queen Anne's and Talbot County
    - National Park Service is providing technical assistance for trails plans
  - Queen Anne's County just issued the first bike-ped master plan on the eastern shore, Worcester County is scoping one and Talbot County is considering scoping a plan.
    - Michael Jackson shared that Cecil County has an older plan which was funded by WaMAPCO about 10 years ago. Owen going to look it up.
- Legislative Subcommittee – covered in Agenda item VI
- Pedestrian Subcommittee – update provided by Marian Vessels

- June 20<sup>th</sup> is next meeting of the pedestrian subcommittee – Jon notes these are all open to the public
- MDOT is preparing for WALKTOBER 2024 with many of the same partners from years past
- Trails Subcommittee- Meg Young announced that MBPAC is taking interest to join the new Trails Subcommittee

#### IX. Partner Agency Updates (20 min)

- Department of Health – Emailed update- The Maryland Department of Health Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Control will continue the Walk Maryland Day activities, which will take place on October 2 this year, which is in collaboration with MDOT's Walktober events. The Center is also planning more Safe Routes programming this summer, and we are hoping to integrate into at least two new communities. The Center is also planning the Walkability Academy, which will be a modified version, probably a one-day event, we will provide more information to the committee.
- Department of Disabilities – Bong Delrosario shared the department has been contacted to be involved in FSK rebuilding efforts.
- Maryland State Police – no updates
- Department of Commerce- no updates
- Department of Planning – emailed update - partnering for WALKTOBER
- Department of Education – no updates
- Department of Nature Resources – emailed update – partnering for Trails Plan
- Maryland National Park and Planning Commission - Michael Jackson shared updates:
  - Department is hosting pit stops for Bike to Work Day (B2WD)
  - Montgomery Put out a great flyer, recapping bikeways constructed and funding, bike parking (100s at purple line), Might be a model. Oct 2023 ped master plan published. Carol Highlands safe mobility study completed, noting pedestrian MD 193 deadly intersection.
- MDOT – updates from Meg Young
  - Everyone is encouraged to take advantage of the Commuter Choice program in the midst of FSK recovery. MDOT is busy calling businesses and encouraging mode shift with the increased traffic.
  - Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) and Rec Trails grant portal open through May 15, 2024
  - Bikeways Grant portal open through May 31, 2024
  - Bike to Work Week events
    - Thursday May 16 - MTA Penn Station 7-9am
    - Friday May 17 - SHA 707 N Calvert 7-9am
    - Friday May 17 – SHA Hanover, along the BWI trail – 8am – 12 noon
  - Coming Soon:
    - Complete Streets Policy – announcements in May
    - WALKTOBER 2024 – announcements in July

**X. Closing Reminders and Adjournment (5 min)**

- Review meeting action items
- Michael motioned to adjourn
  - Seconded by Bong
- Next meeting, Friday, July 26, 2024

**Appendix– Chat Log from the May 3, 2024 MBPAC Meeting**

[5/3 8:56 AM] Meg Young- Good morning all!

[5/3 8:56 AM] Marian Vessels (Guest) good morning!!

[5/3 8:57 AM] Unknown User- Carole Highlands Safe Mobility Study [2024.04.CaroleHighlands\\_web.pdf](#)

[5/3 8:59 AM] Unknown User- For when we get to the legislative update section:

<https://www.bikemaryland.org/2024-legislative-update-part-2/>

2024 Legislative Update - Part 2 - Bike Maryland

A post from Bike Maryland on Bike Maryland provided by: <https://www.bikemaryland.org>

[5/3 9:11 AM] kristy daphnis - Congrats, Meg!!!

[5/3 9:27 AM] Jon Korin, BikeAAA (Guest)- What about bricks or pavers like in downtown Annapolis? Attractive but not ADA-friendly

[5/3 9:30 AM] Seth Grimes, WABA - It would be helpful to capture information on ownership (state/county/municipal/private) and, for state-road sidewalks, whether there's a maintenance MOU with a local jurisdiction.

[5/3 9:31 AM] Meg Young - Marshall Stevenson (Consultant) see above, how will pavers be handled if they are not ADA compliant?

[5/3 9:33 AM] Marshall Stevenson (Consultant) - I can answer when Kyle is done.

[5/3 9:33 AM] Unknown User - Will the sidewalk study include cost estimates for sidewalk and shared-use path maintenance (e.g. per linear distance, annually, etc)?

[5/3 9:33 AM] Daniel Paschall, ECGA (Guest) - For roads with no sidewalks, does MD have data on whether roads have shoulders or not? I'm thinking about the varying walkability of roads with no sidewalks for the gaps between walking facilities. Adding shoulders go a long way as a shorter term safety improvement for both pedestrians and cyclists. See the varying stress of the ECG on road route through Harford and Baltimore County in particular.

[5/3 9:34 AM] Seth Grimes, WABA - You're keeping tabs on local projects? MCDOT is in the midst of a bike lane project for most of that first stretch you show, MD 195/Carroll Avenue, <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/d02dfcab3b2d4c8c944889f39c1519c8>

[5/3 9:34 AM] kristy daphnis - I need to step away for a few moments, but will be back.

[5/3 9:35 AM] Seth Grimes, WABA -My question about recording ownership & MOUs specifically relates to the maintenance question.

[5/3 9:38 AM] Jackson, Michael- Will the sidewalk study include cost estimates for sidewalk and shared-use path maintenance (e.g. per linear distance, annually, etc)?

As a follow up to Michael's question, it would be great to analyze what sidewalks are good candidates for upgrading to shared use paths, which would be transformative for the bike network while dramatically improving pedestrian comfort and access

[5/3 9:38 AM] Seth Grimes, WABA -Roadway maintenace is decoupled from sidewalk maintenance, including on/along Maryland state roads.

[5/3 9:39 AM] Unknown User- is this sidewalk study limited to SHA roadways or all public sidewalks in the state?

[5/3 9:40 AM] Jon Korin, BikeAAA (Guest) -I applaud this Sidewalk initiative! A broad, nuanced and important undertaking!

[5/3 9:44 AM] JimT (Guest) - Just for the records I'll summarize. Please try to include attributes that define who is responsible for maintenane, and the basis for such responsibility. Along a state highway, the responsiibility may be the locality (if built under 8-630 or 8-631), or SHA (if it was build beore 8-630 enacted in some areas), or split between SHA and a private landowner (e.g. old sidewalk in locality that assigns some responsibility to private landowner). Often the answer my be unknown. This would help because SHA often just refuses to maintain on assumption that this is local responsibility--but that is not always true!

[5/3 9:45 AM] Seth Grimes, WABA -Meg, adding to my comment: In Montgomery County, pedestrian improvements are planned or underway in conjunction with BRT construction (MD 355, MD 586/Veirs Mill Road, other), and Purple Line construction (MD 320/Piney Branch Road, MD 193/University Blvd.). Similarly in Prince George's County: MD 193, MD 410, ...

[5/3 9:46 AM] Jon Korin, BikeAAA (Guest) - it would be good to get private sidewalks too. For example there are many paved connectors from neighborhoods to the B&A trail that provide safe, accessible access for people on foot and wheels. Very important for networks from origin to destination.

[5/3 9:48 AM] Jon Korin, BikeAAA (Guest) - I hope there will be a process for updating Google maps and such so walk/bike routing is improved with the most current infra.

[5/3 9:49 AM] Seth Grimes, WABA -Marshall, is that M-NCPPC in both Prince George's and Montgomery Counties or just one county?

[5/3 9:49 AM] Daniel Paschall, ECGA (Guest) I hope there will be a process for updating Google maps and such so walk/bike routing is improved with the most current infra. anyone using Google Maps can also submit new trails and bike lanes -- "send product feedback" in the bottom right corner, "add or fix road" and then you can "add a road" but qualify it as a trail

[5/3 9:49 AM] Unknown User - Eastern Shore would like to include this data in our regional trail map to show sidewalk connection to trails.

[5/3 9:50 AM] Unknown User -

<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/413da86ab8f94d8e801ca66df4787a1f>

[5/3 9:50 AM] kristy daphnis - Definitely would be great to ensure the MoCo Planning work is fully synched up with this! Thank you for the presentation!

[5/3 9:50 AM] Daniel Paschall, ECGA (Guest)- you did great!

[5/3 9:55 AM] Jon Korin, BikeAAA (Guest) - MBPAC - Please do both PROACTIVE and REACTIVE Legislative Advice

[5/3 9:55 AM] Unknown User - <https://www.bikemaryland.org/2024-legislative-update-part-2/>  
2024 Legislative Update - Part 2 - Bike Maryland

A post from Bike Maryland on Bike Maryland provided by: <https://www.bikemaryland.org>

[5/3 10:05 AM] JimT (Guest) - FYI: The sidewalk bill as submitted would have legalized e-bikes on sidewalks in cities that have outlawed ordinary bicycles, including Baltimore. That makes no sense.



[5/3 10:08 AM] Unknown User- The sidewalk bill would have only authorized Baltimore to permit e-bikes. And Baltimore actually does permit some e-bikes on sidewalks on roads 30mph and over--but only rental e-bikes. It makes more sense for it to be consistently applied to all e-bikes and bikes imo.

[5/3 10:10 AM] Daniel Paschall, ECGA (Guest) - Another major portion of the trails act was to advance the next update to the statewide trail network plan, which is also in the 2050 statewide plan

[5/3 10:10 AM] Daniel Paschall, ECGA (Guest) -not updated in over 15 years

[5/3 10:11 AM] Kandese Holford -We will definitely be moving forward with that as well

[5/3 10:13 AM] JimT (Guest) - Next time, the maintenance bill should simply give SHA authority to maintain, rather than require SHA to maintain where no MOA exists. That would have given a \$0 fiscal note. Take baby steps. The Administration would then have the ability to include maintenance on trails in the budget, an authority that is currently precluded.

[5/3 10:13 AM] kristy daphnis -One thought about next year... the review and advocacy action on bike legislation is robust. We do not have that on complete Streets and Pedestrian legislation.

[5/3 10:14 AM] Daniel Paschall, ECGA (Guest) - Related to the lack of safe crossing using MdTA bridges over the Susquehanna, there was a recent earmark request for the Susquehanna Bike and Pedestrian Crossing scoping study, as supported by a resolution from the City of Havre de Grace (you can see the discussion on their youtube channel)

[5/3 10:15 AM] Seth Grimes, WABA - Advocates are looking forward to release of Kandese's complete streets policy work!

[5/3 10:20 AM] Steve Green Western MD -Thanks to everyone who worked on this. Several years ago there was a discussion at a Bike Maryland function about raising the profile of the bike community to where we would be called "Big Bike." This year I saw the bike community called Big Bike on social media which I thought was a win!

[5/3 10:20 AM] Jed Weeks -like Big Oil

[5/3 10:20 AM] Steve Green Western MD - Like Big Pharma

[5/3 10:21 AM] JimT (Guest) -As always, I need to bring up the maintenance issue on sidepaths.

[5/3 10:21 AM] Seth Grimes, WABA - Mike Evans messaged that he isn't able to attend.

[5/3 10:28 AM] Steve Green Western MD - I hope the pedestrian/bike part of the Key Bridge happens!

[5/3 10:32 AM] Daniel Paschall, ECGA (Guest) -kudos to Jon and team to get that trail signage to happen!

[5/3 10:32 AM] Jon Korin, BikeAAA (Guest)<https://bikeaaa.org/2024/04/11/jones-station-crossroads-sign-and-memorial-to-arthur-carter-jr/>

[5/3 10:33 AM] Seth Grimes, WABA - <https://waba.org/blog/2024/05/pgc2024bikesummit/>

[5/3 10:38 AM] Jon Korin, BikeAAA (Guest) -10th annual Anne Arundel County Lifeline 100 Bicycle Event for people of all ages and abilities. Oct. 6, 2024 <https://lifeline100.com/>

[5/3 10:42 AM] Daniel Paschall, ECGA (Guest) -Cecil's plan: <http://www.wilmapco.org/bikececil/>

[5/3 10:42 AM] Daniel Paschall, ECGA (Guest)- PDF: [http://wilmapco.org/BikeCecil/CCBP\\_2012\\_FINAL\\_Endorsed.pdf](http://wilmapco.org/BikeCecil/CCBP_2012_FINAL_Endorsed.pdf)

[5/3 10:43 AM] kristy daphnis -Could you remind us of the date for walktober?

[5/3 10:44 AM] Kandese Holford - It's the whole month! Walk Maryland Day is typically the first Wednesday in October

[5/3 10:45 AM] Meg Young - And there will be Walkinars each Thursday of the month

[5/3 10:50 AM] Unknown User - Hi Meg. I am interested in the Trails Subcommittee membership opportunity but would like to know a little more about it first.

[5/3 10:59 AM] Patrick McMahon - FYI, Patrick McMahon left MDOT MTA in April I taland I expect that MTA will assign another staff member to attend MBPAC in the future, at least when there are major project updates to report.

[5/3 11:00 AM] Daniel Paschall, ECGA (Guest) -Best of luck Patrick, thank you for your work!

[5/3 11:01 AM] Jon Korin, BikeAAA (Guest) -Patrick as been a great advocate for walking and biking! Thank you!

[5/3 11:02 AM] Daniel Paschall, ECGA (Guest) - thanks so much, have a great weekend all!

[5/3 11:02 AM] Unknown User - Thank you, Meg and Jon. Thank you everyone.

[5/3 11:02 AM] Jon Korin, BikeAAA (Guest)- Excellent meeting!

[5/3 11:02 AM] Unknown User - Thanks Meg!

5/3 11:05 AM Meeting ended: 2h 19m 40s