BICYCLE ADVISORY GROUP (BAG)
January 12, 2021 3 p.m.
 Held via WebEx event
3430 Court House Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21043

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MINUTES

Members Present:  
Jack Guarneri, Chair
Jessica Bellah
Paul Walsky
Jenn Biddle
Felix Facchine (Rep for Christiana Rigby)
Jon Mayer
Larry Schoen
Lt Dombrowsky

Non-Members Present:
Jason Thompson
David Zinner
Matt Tanis
David Ramsay
John Eckard
Ted Cochran
Rob Slivinsky

Office of Transportation Staff:
Chris Eatough
Molly Nur
Kimberly Woods
Allison Calkins

1. Approval of November 17, 2020 and September 15, 2020 (joint) minutes
   a. Jack Guarneri moved to approve the minutes. Jessica Bellah seconded the motion.

2. Brief Updates
   a. E-Scooters
      • One permit application for E-scooters was accepted by the County for a one year permit at this time. SPIN is the vendor.
      • SPIN is expected to begin e-scooter operations in Mid-March.
      • No press release at this time. OoT will wait until closer to launch; February and March.
      • There will both dockless and docked options.
• 15 and under need helmet
• Riders cannot ride in Old Ellicott City
• E-Scooters are expected to have the same restrictions as bicycles regarding Public School property. Few schools in operating zone; possibly Wilde Lane HS
• David Ramsay would appreciate notification prior to implementation

b. Complete Streets

• CSIT updated of the Complete Street Design manual is currently underway (formerly known as the Design Manual III, Roads and Bridges).

• CSIT is currently working on Chapter Two of the Design Manual. It will be reviewed chapter by chapter

• Once CSIT has a more comprehensive update they will solicit public comment on groups of chapters. The information will be posted on the Complete Streets Community Engagement website.

• Larry Schoen suggested that in order to fulfill the Complete Streets Policy the CSIT has to make sure that everyone can get around in the County by the transportation means that they choose.

c. Age-Friendly Action Plan

• December 2019, Dr. Ball announced the launch of our Age-Friendly initiative for Howard County.

• It is 3-5-year plan to join the AARP network of Age-Friendly states and communities.

• It focuses on livable communities that are both a great place to grow up and to grow older.

• Our population is aging. Currently, 21% of Howard County residents are over 60 years old and in 25 years, this number will increase to nearly 30%.

• AARP defines 8 domains of livability, including housing, social participation, communication, transportation. Transportation
includes focus on walking, biking, safe streets for crossing, and public transit.

- More information can be found at: https://www.aarp.org/livable-communities/network-age-friendly-communities/

d. Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC)

- In December 2020, BMC updated their Regional Bike Facilities GIS database. This is done annually. These are existing facilities, not planned.

- The interactive map can be found at: https://www.baltometro.org/about-us/data-maps/interactive-mapping/regional-bicycle-facilities

- If there are any comments or suggestions regarding the map, please let OoT know so that information can be passed along to BMC.

e. Bike Rest Stop

- Rec and Parks are considering additional bike rest stops like the one at the Community Ecology Institute (CSI) on Harriet Tubman.

- Possibility of a Bike Rest Stop at Centennial Park. The rest stop will include a bathroom, water, bike racks, an emergency kit, and a pump for tires and be located near the boat house.

- Glenwood Community Center is a potential site for a bike rest stop since it is commonly used by some of the bike groups in the County. There is a bike rack there currently.

- Possibility of linking bike rest stops to an online map of wayfinding routes (online map is currently unavailable to the public; project waiting on MDOT SHA approval).

- Rockburn is another possibility.

- Paul W. will talk with Bob Linz in his office and report back to BAG.
Advisory Groups - status update

- TPAG interests/issues tends to constantly overlap with the RAC and MTB groups.

- OoT has decided that it would be in the County’s best interests to eliminate TPAG.

- MTB plans to update its duties and responsibilities to better reflect Complete Street priorities like micromobility and underserved communities.

- MTB may be able to fill current board vacancies with former TPAG members.

- County Council is expected to vote on the removal of TPAG in March.

- Larry Schoen suggested to David Ramsay that TPAG gives MTB a status report (list of unresolved things that TPAG would like completed), so that any issues that are currently in progress can bought to the attention of the MTB.

- Larry suggested to make any unresolved TPAG issues a future MTB agenda item.

1. Key Topics: Upcoming Bike Infrastructure Projects

   a. Current projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Current Phase</th>
<th>Estimated Construction</th>
<th>Budget Area</th>
<th>Funding Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cedar Lane Pathway</td>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>2021</td>
<td>K5066</td>
<td>Funded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bike lanes through resurfacing</td>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>2021 and ongoing</td>
<td>K5066</td>
<td>Funded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Countywide Bicycle Wayfinding</td>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>2021 and ongoing</td>
<td>K5066</td>
<td>Funded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Chatham Road Contraflow Bike Lane</td>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>2021</td>
<td>K5066</td>
<td>Funded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Laurel Connections signage and pathway project</td>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>2021</td>
<td>K5066</td>
<td>Funded</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
b. Roadways scheduled for resurfacing in 2021 with recommendation for bike lanes in BikeHoward.
- Chris Eatough reported that we need to be mindful of limited funding.

- There is the potential that with the new administration in USDOT that stimulus funding might become available and we would want to be ready.

- Community meetings will be planned shortly. Chris Eatough happy to review the plans if BAG members are unable to attend the meetings.

- Chris Eatough may ask for input on areas of the County to consider focusing on in master plan since there are still many projects in BikeHoward Express that still need to be built. Connections to neighboring jurisdictions should also be considered, as they are in BikeHoward.

- Initial guidance for master planning raised by BAG members:
Jessica: Crossings over Route 29, especially north at the Pedestrian Bridge still a major issue for 175 100, and 108 for east-west crossing.
Chris Tsien: Martin Rd and 108 are only cross overs. Do whatever we can to preserve and improve especially at Dorsey.

- Jack comment. Open meetings with cyclist and other what roads have changed in last 7-8 years. People should have opportunity to update master plan to supplement the master planning effort from 2016.

- Chris: Equity and the VPI will be used as well in this effort. Also population shifts to consider.

- Chris: BMC Patapsco Regional Greenway - Ellicott City to Elkridge. Connecting Ellicott City to Elkridge all the way into Baltimore City. Will benefit Howard County as well. Potential stimulus grant project if funding becomes available.

2. **Business from last meeting**
   
   a. Howard County Police Department
      
      - Jack Guarneri bought up two recent incidents involving cyclists and aggressive driving. The police department was contacted and provided the drivers license tag information. It still seems to be some confusion and ultimately a training issue concerning the department's policy for aggressive drivers.

      - Lt Dombrowsky told Jack G that while they don’t have a set policy to send out letters to the aggressive drivers, they still try to make contact if possible.

      - David Ramsay requested new material that can be incorporated into HoCo school bus driver training (for the safe schools’ module). Chris Eatough agreed to send David a recent video that the city of Frederick showing drivers how to safely and courteously pass cyclists. The video can be found here: [https://youtu.be/A--CeaeRD1s](https://youtu.be/A--CeaeRD1s)
b. BAG election at next meeting

- Jack Guarneri and Chris Tsien have reached their term limits as Chair and Vice Chair for BAG.

- Chris Eatough would like to give BAG members an opportunity to think about potential candidates for the soon to vacant positions by the next BAG meeting in April.

- BAG also needs to fill vacant member representation slots for an industry rep., and a student member. Additional members can be added to the group at the discretion of the OoT team.

3. **Upcoming Events**

   a. *Active Transportation* Annual Open House (virtual)
      - Formerly known as the Bike Howard Open House.
      - Week long event expected to take back in February.

4. **Open Discussion**

   - Chris Tsien announced that there would be a HoCo night ride tomorrow night around BWI.

   - Other than that group bike rides still seem to be at a quarantine status.

5. **Next Meeting**

   The next BAG meeting will be held on April 6, 2021.

6. **Adjournment**

   The meeting was adjourned at 4:36 p.m.