Columbia Road Traffic Operations Assessment and Complete Streets Study

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Project Extent

Traffic Operations Assessment
Themes:
• Vehicle Congestion
• Intersection Delay
• Traffic Safety

Complete Streets Study
Themes:
• Speed Management
• On-Street Parking
• Pedestrian Safety
• Bicycle Connectivity
• Vehicle Traffic Flow
**Project Objectives**

**Traffic Operations Assessment**
- Review traffic counts and crash data to assess current traffic operations.
- Identify needs and opportunities for improvements.
- Quantify safety and operational impacts of possible improvements.
- Develop planning concepts for improvements that may reduce congestion and collisions.

**Complete Streets Study**
- Develop a collaborative vision for Columbia Road, in accordance with community goals and the guidance of PlanHoward, BikeHoward, and WalkHoward.
- Identify cost-effective improvements consistent with this vision.
- Quantify safety, operational, and environmental impacts of proposed changes.
“Complete Streets are streets for everyone. They are designed and operated to enable safe access for all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and transit riders of all ages and abilities. Complete Streets make it easy to cross the street, walk to shops, and bicycle to work.” – National Complete Streets Coalition.

“To ensure that Howard County is a place for individuals of all backgrounds to live and travel freely, safely, and comfortably, public and private roadways in Howard County shall be safe and convenient for residents of all ages and abilities who travel by foot, bicycle, public transportation or automobile, ensuring sustainable communities Countywide.” – Council Resolution 35-2016
Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities
Speed Limits
Traffic Speed and Volume

**Columbia Road at Dorsey Hall Pool**

- About 8,000 Vehicles per Day
- Average Speed: 32 MPH
- 1% Eastbound Drivers and 3% Westbound Exceed Posted Speed Limit by 10 MPH
Traffic Speed and Volume

Columbia Road at Old Dragon Path
About 5,200 Vehicles per Day
Average Speed: 36 MPH
20% Eastbound Drivers and 12% Westbound Exceed Posted Speed Limit by 10 MPH
Traffic Speed and Volume

Columbia Road East of Hemlock Cone

About 5,200 Vehicles per Day
Average Speed: 35 MPH

2% Eastbound Drivers and 24% Westbound Exceed Posted Speed Limit by 10 MPH

27% Eastbound Drivers and 71% Westbound Exceed Advisory Speed Limit by 10 MPH
Project Schedule

**Fall 2018:** Traffic counts, field review, and public input

**Winter 2019:** Traffic analysis and crash data/safety evaluation

**Spring 2019:** Concept development and option evaluation

**Summer 2019:** Presentation of results and concept alternatives

**Project Website:** https://www.howardcountymd.gov/Departments/County-Administration/Transportation/Columbia-Road-Traffic-Operations-Assessment-and-Complete-Streets-Study

**Email:** transportation@howardcountymd.gov

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*Accepting input online through December 31, 2018*
Maps

To provide just a positive or negative opinion about a location, apply a **small** colored dot to the map at that location according to the below color scheme.

- **Something I like**
- **Something I don’t like**

To provide more detail, fill out a comment card and write the number noted on the card on a **large** dot, then apply that dot to the map to denote the comment location.

Boards

- Project Extent and Objectives
- Speed and volume data at three locations:
  - Dorsey Hall Pool
  - Old Dragon Path
  - Hemlock Cone/Kingscup
- Crash Data 2013-2017