



**MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION BOARD
MINUTES July 27, 2021 7:00pm**

Members

Present: Larry Schoen
Ted Cochran
Alice Giles
Monica Simon
Marlene Hendler
David Drasin

Staff: Bruce Gartner, Executive Secretary
Chris Eatough, Office of Transportation
David Cookson, Office of Transportation
Carrie Anderson-Watters, Office of Transportation
Terri Hansen, Office of Aging and Independence
Aphaia Harper, Economic Development Authority

Members Excused: Phillip Dodge
Shahriar Etemadi
David Zinner

Members of the Public:

1. Approval of Agenda for Meeting

The draft agenda for the meeting was revised to include future meeting topics of the transit center in Downtown Columbia, the status of BRT on US 29, the Route 201 Commuter Bus, and resurfacing on MD 103. It was then approved and adopted with no objections.

2. Review of minutes from April 27, 2021

Ted Cochran motioned to approve the minutes and with no objections the minutes carried.

3. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

4. New Business/Ongoing Business

i. RTA Route Modifications – Bruce Gartner

- Public Hearing was held on July 15, 2021.
- Generally, the feedback has been positive, but there is one concern that has been brought up by a condo association adjacent to Carl's Court in Ellicott City. The request is that buses not be allowed to stop at this location and the buses be moved in front of the nearby Walmart. This poses a potential safety issue so OoT and RTA staff have been exploring options.
- The final vote for the modifications will be held on August 17, 2021 by the Central Maryland Transit Commission.
- MTB members are welcome to work with OoT on additional options to resolve the issue.

ii. Regional Transit Financing – Bruce Gartner

- In an earlier MTB meeting, Don Halligan from BMC has presented a progress report on a study to look at options and recommendations regarding transit governance in the Baltimore region.
- The concern is the governor and MDOT have a lot of decision-making authority regarding the MTA so the BMC was asked to evaluate different options, of which the study looked at five, to improve coordination and service.
- The report will be finalized later this month. Our next steps are determining what will be our position.
- MTB members are welcome to study this in greater detail and weigh in on what the county's position should be.

5. Development Updates- David Cookson

David provided information on upcoming public meetings, newly submitted development plans, an overview of the other projects and responded to questions from the MTB members (available for review on audio). No follow up was requested. The Upcoming Public Meeting table presented to the MTB is shown below. Audio starts at approximately 30 minutes on recording.

- Erickson at Limestone Valley is continuing to be heard by the Zoning Board to rezone property in Clarksville on MD 108 to an assisted living community.
- Lakeview is an appeal of a Planning Board decision regarding a retail site on Broken Land Parkway; registration is required to hear that case.
- The first of two new projects is Corridor Square (parcel B) for 20 units of townhouses and a small commercial site on US 1 and MD 103 bounded by Dorsey Road as well. It's part of a bigger project that includes an apartment building; that was part of a previous site plan. We've requested pedestrian-friendly signals and appropriate infrastructure.
- Stonewood Storage is at the end of an industrial park that is off Oakland Mills and right below the CSX corridor. It's of interest because the previous general plan identified this as a possible future transit corridor trying to preserve the corridor for transportation use. The CSX corridor provides a good connection under I-95 for a non-automobile focused to get across the I-95 corridor barrier.
- Woodmere retail: another pad site on Broken Land Parkway next to the Lakeview proposing something similar. We've submitted our comments related to frontage improvements, sidewalks, signal and have asked that they resubmit.
- Paddock Point at the old Laurel Park site includes another round of multi-family housing units (268). We've asked for changes to design of sidewalk network and bicycle parking for the apartments.
- The Enclave at Hines Farm: we have not heard back regarding our request for a resubmission.
- Maple Lawn West is at the Planning Board. Opposition seems to be strong. Our comments included questioning the quality of connections within the community.

Upcoming Public Meetings

Project	Meeting Date	Meeting Type	Notes
ZB 1118M - Erickson at Limestone Valley	July 27	Zoning Board	To rezone 62.11 acres from B-2 & RC-DEO to CEF-M for development of a continuing care retirement community and to permit the expansion/relocation and architectural enhancement of the existing Freestate Gasoline Service Station (MD 108, 12170 Clarksville Pike & p/o 5450 Sheppard Lane)
BA 781-D - AGS Borrower Lakeview, LLC	August 23	Board of Appeals	Appeal of a Planning Board decision letter dated 1/25/21 Where the Planning Board denied SDP-20-042 (Lakeview Retail) - 13.933 acres (9841 & 9861 Broken Land Parkway, Columbia)

6. Office of Transportation Updates

i. Memorandum of Understanding between Howard County Public School System and Regional Transportation Agency of Central Maryland update from Bruce Gartner

- RTA/ Howard County will provide free bus passes for middle and high school students enrolled in Howard County public schools.
- Six high schools and 5 middle schools are within close proximity to RTA routes.
- Data will be collected by the RTA.
- Fiscal impact will be \$25,000 at most which is lost revenue from student bus pass sales.

ii. Resurfacing Updates from Chris Eatough

- Road resurfacing is where we are able to add most of our new on-street bike lanes through striping. It's also the main way we implement recommendations from Bike Howard.
- Centre Park Drive, Columbia 100 Parkway, Warwick Way and Birmingham Way are the four roads that got bike lanes this spring and summer. It adds up to about two miles of roadway.
- The proposed FY22 segments include Harpers Farm Road from Little Patuxent Parkway to Woodlot Road (approx. 1 mile), Patuxent Woods Drive from Broken Land Parkway to end (approx. 1/3 mile), Gerwig Lane from Guilford to end (approx. 1 mile), and Guilford Road from Gerwig Lane to Murray Hill Road (approx. 1 mile).
- Also to be done through resurfacing is the road diet on Oakland Mills Road from Old Montgomery Road to Dobbin Road (approx. 1.75 miles) which also has a separate project to include a shared use pathway up Dobbin Road to the other side of Rt 175.
- Public meetings will be scheduled for this fall (update: possibly in the Spring).
- MD 103 is a state road; they're looking at utilizing the shoulder for bikes, but we aren't calling them bike lanes as they aren't consistently 5' wide.

iii. Complete Streets Calendar Update from Bruce Gartner

- We are still working through edits to various chapters of the Design Manual update which has created a tight timeframe to meet the October deadline.
- We are now looking at a December pre-file for Council consideration in January to give us better opportunity to incorporate the work of the implementation team and to have public workshops in October.

7. Future Meeting Items

- i. Complete Streets Implementation Updates-Ongoing
- ii. Update on Statewide Transit Innovation Grant Projects (Bus Stops)
- iii. Future update on the Transportation Center in Columbia, Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) on US 29, the 201 Commuter Bus.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

9. Next Meeting

The next MTB meeting is scheduled for August 24, 2021 at 7pm.



Bruce Gartner
Executive Secretary

August 26, 2021

Date