

## Howard County Active Transportation Open House 2022

February 25, 2022 - Howard County Office of Transportation

The second virtual Howard County Active Transportation Open House was successfully held in February 2022 and visited by over 250 people. It was hosted by the Office of Transportation (OoT) superseding the *BikeHoward* Open House held annually from 2017 to 2020. The annual *BikeHoward* open house required by the bicycle master plan legislation, [CR35-2016](#), addresses *BikeHoward* recommendations and projects, as well as issues related to biking in the County. In 2020, the Open House was expanded to include the County's Complete Streets implementation; in 2021 it was expanded further to include *WalkHoward* and shared micromobility and was held virtually due to the constraints of the pandemic. This year the Open House was again held virtually due to the pandemic and included many aspects of Howard County's active transportation plans, programs, and infrastructure.

The Open House was held for a one-week period from February 12 to February 18 at the website, [www.howardcountymd.gov/ATO2022](http://www.howardcountymd.gov/ATO2022).<sup>1</sup> The Open House included a welcome video from County Executive Calvin Ball and three sections:

- Discussions,
- Self-guided tour, and
- Online surveys.

The three sections are described in greater detail below. The content from the Open House is still available at the same website for the public to access during the year - with the exception of the live surveys. An image of how the site appeared during the week of the Open House is included in Appendix A. The survey questions and a summary of responses are included in Appendix B.

This year's attendance was notably lower than last year's attendance of over 700, but still two and times times what it had been at the last in-person *BikeHoward* open house. This may be due to a number of factors, such as the newness of the virtual open house format last year when people were still unvaccinated and less likely to attend in-person events, as well as greater promotion of the Open House by requested community organizations at a time when they had fewer events themselves to promote.

**Discussions.** Three live sessions were included this year to provide additional information to the public about specific areas of interest and to give the public the opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback on any topic related to active transportation. The sessions were each an hour long, staffed by two members of OoT plus guest speakers, included visuals, were interactive, and responsive to questions from the public. They were held on three different days of the week and at two different times of day (evening and mid-afternoon) to accommodate different schedules. A total of 21 members of the public attended. The sessions were recorded and posted to the Open House website the following day for others to watch. The Tuesday meeting had the greatest number of attendees with 18. This may have been because the session also served as a project public meeting, whereas the other two were purely

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<sup>1</sup> The Open House opened early – starting at approximately 4:30pm on February 11.

informational. The topics and speakers included:

- *County Capital Projects to improve biking and walking, including the Patapsco Branch Trail Surface Upgrade project* - with Kris Singleton from the Department of Public Works, Jason Thompson from the Department of Recreation and Parks, and two representatives from RK&K, the consultants engaged on the project. This session was held February 15, Tuesday at 7:00 pm.
- *Enforcement, Education, and Safety* - with Cpl. Pete Monti from the Pathway Patrol Unit of the County Police Department. This session was held February 16, Wednesday at 7:00 pm.
- *Walking and Biking to School* - with Doug Kampe from Howard County Public School System Student Transportation Office. This session was held February 17, Thursday at 3:00 pm.

Additional information on the discussions is available in Appendix D.

**Self-Guided Tour.** The materials were organized by topic area and were easy to access, navigate, and follow. There were a total of 25 boards plus supplementary materials. The topics and sub-topics covered included:

1. **Welcome**
2. **WalkHoward** - Master Plan, Implementation, Projects, Resources
3. **BikeHoward** - Master Plan, Projects, Master Plan Update, Resources
4. **Complete Streets** - Policy & Vision, Implementation, Projects, Related Projects, Resources
5. **Shared Micromobility** - Bikeshare and Shared E-scooters
6. **Public Engagement** - How to Reach the County, Websites, etc.
7. **Partners in Active Transportation** - In the County, In the Region, Non-profits and advocacy
8. **Safety** - Plans and analysis, Educational resources
9. **Upcoming Events**

The images and supplementary materials included pictures, videos, charts, spreadsheets, maps, graphics, and logos. The pictures represented County users of different backgrounds, ages, genders, and ableness engaged in biking, walking, and shared micromobility use. Technical assistance for the Open House platform and conference call support was provided by the Department of Technology and Communication Services (DTCS).

**Surveys.** Eight online surveys created in Survey Monkey were available to facilitate public feedback. A total of 61 surveys were completed. The Biking and *BikeHoward* survey received the most responses with 15, and the evaluation survey received the least with 3.

The surveys included:

1. Welcome – 6 questions collecting contact information, preference for receiving emails from OoT, and general feedback
2. Walking and *WalkHoward* – 4 questions on challenges to walking in Howard County, preferred routes, and feedback on pedestrian facilities

3. Biking and *BikeHoward* – 5 questions on challenges to biking in Howard County, level of bicyclist, preferred routes, and feedback on bicycle facilities
4. *BikeHoward 2022* – 5 questions collecting contact information and preferences concerning prioritizes for the bicycle master plan update
5. Patuxent Branch Trail Surface Upgrade – 5 questions collecting contact information and input on what the public liked and what could be improved on the *BikeHoward* trail project. This survey was included at the request of Department of Public Works (DPW).
6. Complete Streets – 4 questions soliciting feedback on awareness of the County’s Complete Streets policy, street design, and feedback on current projects
7. Shared Micromobility – 4 questions on Bikeshare and shared electric scooter locations and operations
8. Open House Evaluation – 9 questions on their evaluation of the Open House (e.g., format, content)and if they wish to be included on periodic emails from OoT.

The results of the surveys are included in Appendix B.

**Attendance.** According to information provided by DTCS, the Open House website was visited by 253 people, accessing the site a total of 391 times. The most popular day to visit was Friday. The three locations within Howard County with the greatest number of visitors were Columbia (81 visitors), Ellicott City (38 visitors), and Elkridge (14 visitors). Details provided by DTCS can be found in Appendix C.

Twenty-one members of the public attended the discussions. Details are available in Appendix D.

**Outreach.** OoT made a considerable effort to inform the public about the Open House and was greatly assisted by other departments and community organizations who promoted the Open House on OoT’s behalf, including the Horizon Foundation, Bicycling Advocates of Howard County (Bike HoCo), Downtown Columbia Partnership, the Local Health Improvement Coalition (LHIC), and at least one County Council member. Outreach, following the requirements of the Complete Streets Community Engagement Plan, included the following:

- **Listserv.** Sent Open House flyer via OoT Constant Contact to over 1,080 people.
- **Social Media.** Posted four times on OoT Facebook and on Twitter with 571 followers and 455 followers respectively, plus one target boosting. Howard County Government also promoted the event on their social media.
- **The Ball Bulletin.** Included in the Office of Transportation section of the Ball Bulletin for 3 weeks.
- **Website calendars.** Posted on the website calendars of Howard County Government and OoT, and the following County websites, *BikeHoward*, *WalkHoward*, Complete Streets, and Go Howard.
- **Community organizations.** Sent to over 130 community organizations, boards, departments, and County Council members, asking them to distribute the information to their members, contacts, and constituents via social media, email, etc.
- **Media.** Posted to the online community calendars of *Baltimore Sun* and Patch.com and the

printed version of *Howard County Times*.



The graphic features the Howard County Office of Transportation logo in the top left, with the text "Howard County" in a large, bold, blue font and "Office of Transportation" in a smaller font below it. To the right, the text "ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION OPEN HOUSE 2022" is displayed in a bold, blue font. Below the text are three circular images: the first shows two people on a bicycle, the second shows a group of people walking on a sidewalk, and the third shows two people on scooters. At the bottom of the graphic, the event dates "Saturday, February 12 to Friday, February 18 at 4pm" are listed, followed by the topics "Biking, Walking, Complete Streets and Shared Micromobility". Below this, it states "Held online with opportunities for live discussions with staff" and provides the website [howardcountymd.gov/ATOH2022](http://howardcountymd.gov/ATOH2022). Finally, it includes the contact information "Questions? Transportation@howardcountymd.gov".

**Howard County** ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION  
Office of Transportation OPEN HOUSE 2022

**Saturday, February 12 to Friday, February 18 at 4pm**  
**Topics include: Biking, Walking, Complete Streets and Shared Micromobility**  
Held online with opportunities for live discussions with staff  
[howardcountymd.gov/ATOH2022](http://howardcountymd.gov/ATOH2022)  
Questions? [Transportation@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:Transportation@howardcountymd.gov)

**Follow up.** This report will be posted online at the Open House website. Organizations and individuals who were informed prior to the event, will also be notified that the survey results, recordings from the discussion sessions, attendance statistics, and the Open House materials (minus the live surveys) are available at the same website.

**Next year.** OoT is committed to expand the learnings and continues to increase outreach and engagement with the community. OoT is open to ideas and feedback for future open houses and seeks to make the Open House accessible and available to all members of the community. It seems likely the constraints surrounding the COVID crisis will have abated by next year and that both virtual and in-person open house options will be possible.

OoT will continue to strengthen relationships with community organizations so as to better inform the community about the Open House in the coming years.

# Appendix A

## Howard County Active Transportation Open House Website



### Welcome!

The Active Transportation Open House is now open through February 18 at 4pm. Please listen to a warm welcome from our County Executive Calvin Ball below. Scroll down to learn about the Open House:

- Discussions,
- Self-Guided Tour, and
- Surveys

We welcome your [questions and feedback](#). **Be sure to take our surveys at the end of your tour!**

### Open House Video from County Executive Calvin Ball

Howard County Executive Calvin Ball welcomes you to the Active Transportation Open House 2022. Please use the link below to watch the video.

[WATCH VIDEO](#) 

### Open House - Discussions

**All discussions will be held virtually** via Webex video conferencing. Pre-register (or simply attend) the one-hour sessions by clicking on the links provided. Each discussion will be followed by an opportunity to ask questions, make comments, or provide feedback to County staff on any aspect of active transportation in Howard County. The sessions will be recorded and posted the following day.

- **February 15, Tuesday at 7:00 pm** - *County Capital Projects to improve biking and walking, including the Patapsco Branch Trail Surface Upgrade project* - with Kris Singleton from the Department of Public Works. To pre-register (or to attend), click [here](#) .
- **February 16, Wednesday at 7:00 pm** - *Enforcement, Education, and Safety* - with Cpl. Monti from the Pathway Patrol Unit of the County Police Department. To pre-register (or to attend), click [here](#) .
- **February 17, Thursday at 3:00 pm** - *Walking and Biking to School* - with Doug Kampe from Howard County Public School System Student Transportation Office and Betsy Schultz, teacher and organizer of Bellows Spring Elementary School "walking school bus." To pre-register (or to attend), click [here](#) .

(continued on the next page)

## Open House - Self-Guided Tour

Click on the links below to explore the topics that interest you. Words that are underlined in the Open House boards are links that will take you to additional videos, tables, and resources.

1. [Welcome - Welcome](#)
2. [WalkHoward - Master Plan](#) | [Implementation](#) | [Projects](#) | [Resources](#)
3. [BikeHoward - Master Plan](#) | [Projects](#) | [Projects \(continued\)](#) | [Projects, Master Plan Update](#) | [Resources](#) | [Patuxent Branch Trail - Surface Upgrade webpage](#)
4. [Complete Streets - Policy & Vision](#) | [Implementation](#) | [Implementation \(continued\) & Projects](#) | [Related Projects](#) | [Resources](#)
5. [Shared Micromobility - Bikeshare and Shared E-scooters](#)
6. [Public Engagement - How to Reach the County](#) | [Websites & More](#)
7. [Partners in Active Transportation - In the County](#) | [In the County \(continued\)](#) | [In the Region](#) | [Non-profits & Advocacy](#)
8. [Safety - Plans & Analysis](#) | [Educational Resources](#)
9. [Upcoming Events - Events](#)

Please note: Adobe can read text aloud. Open the document in Adobe. Go to: **View**, then select **Read Out Loud**. Repeat to turn off this feature.

## Open House - Surveys

There are several opportunities embedded in the Open House - and included here as well - to provide us with your valuable feedback. The surveys will remain **open through February 18 at 4pm**. Click on the links below to access the surveys.

1. [Welcome](#)
2. [Walking and WalkHoward](#)
3. [Biking and BikeHoward](#)
4. [BikeHoward 2022](#) - Update of Master Plan
5. [Patuxent Branch Trail Surface Upgrade](#) - public input on *BikeHoward* trail project
6. [Complete Streets](#)
7. [Shared Micromobility](#)
8. [Open House Evaluation](#)

## Resources

The County maintains different websites that address different aspects of active transportation. We encourage you to visit them all and learn more about the County's commitment to the health of the community and its residents.

- [BikeHoward](#) explains the County's Bicycle Master Plan addressing improvements for both transportation and recreational bicycling
- [Complete Streets](#) describes our Complete Streets policy and implementation efforts to create County roadways that are safe and convenient for residents of all ages and abilities traveling by foot, bicycle, public transportation or motor vehicle
- [Complete Streets infrastructure improvement projects](#) described projects promoting the Complete Streets policy by the different phases of concept, design, and construction. A chart with the status of bicycle and pedestrian projects is available [here](#).
- [Go Howard](#) outlines the County's ridesharing, transit, biking, and other alternatives to driving
- [WalkHoward](#) reviews the County's Pedestrian Master Plan which continues our efforts to improve walkability in Howard County

## Questions and Sign-ups

If you have any further questions or comments, please email us at [transportation@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:transportation@howardcountymd.gov). If you wish to be notified of future Open Houses, meetings, or events hosted by the Office of Transportation, please click [here](#).

## Active Transportation Open House 2021

Click [here](#) to see the website and materials presented at the Active Transportation Open House held in 2021.

### Stay Connected!

Sign up for the County Executive's weekly newsletter and stay up to date on everything Howard County.

# Appendix B

## Howard County Active Transportation Open House

### Summary of Survey Results

Notes: Minor edits have been made to spelling and grammar for clarity.  
Due to rounding, sums may not always equal 100%.

#### 1. Welcome Survey

##### Q1 What is your first name?

Answered: 7 Skipped: 0

##### Q2 What is your last name?

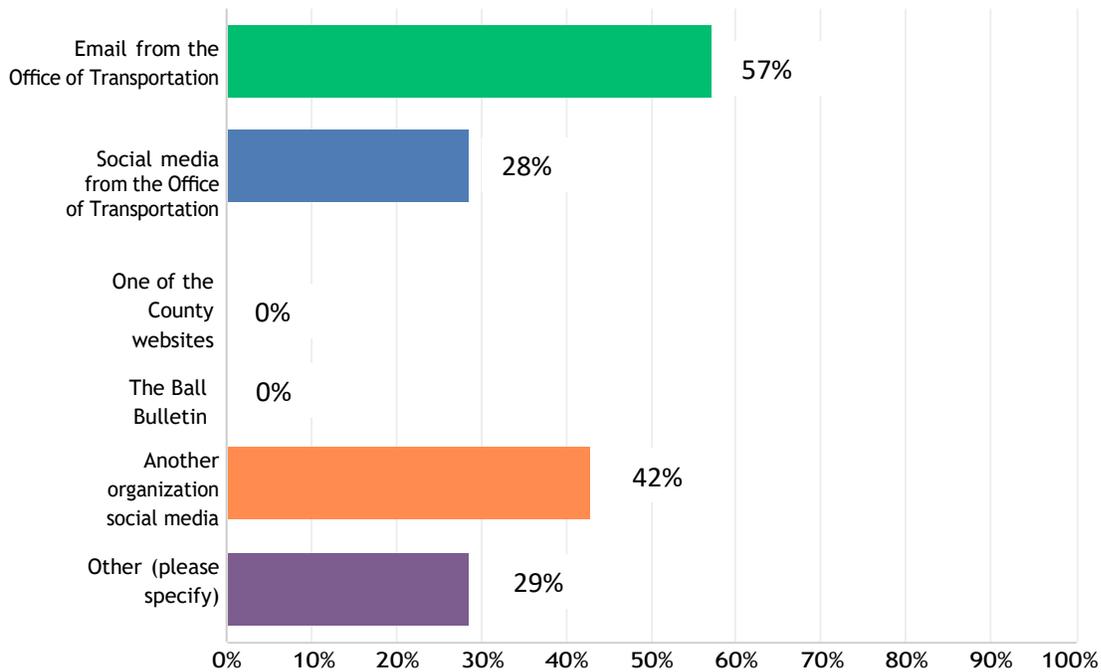
Answered: 7 Skipped: 0

##### Q3 What is your email address?

Answered: 7 Skipped: 0

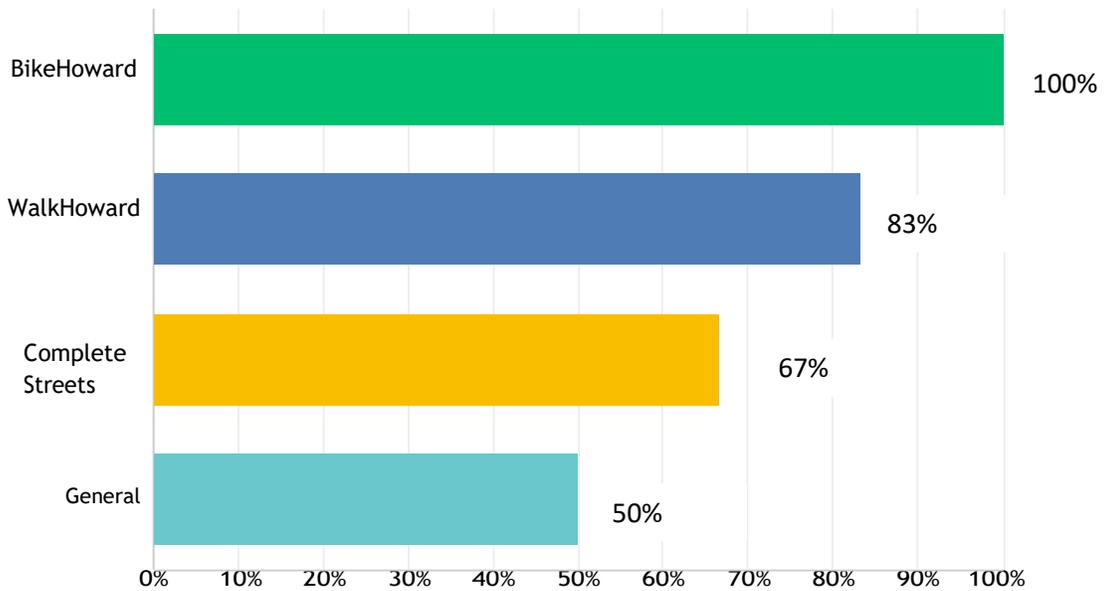
##### Q4 How did you hear about our Open House today?

Answered: 7 Skipped: 0



**Q5 If you would like to be included on our distribution list to hear about other projects, plans, and events from the Office of Transportation, please tell us all the areas which interest you:**

Answered: 6 Skipped: 1



**Q6 Do you have any general concerns or comments you would like to share with the Office of Transportation?**

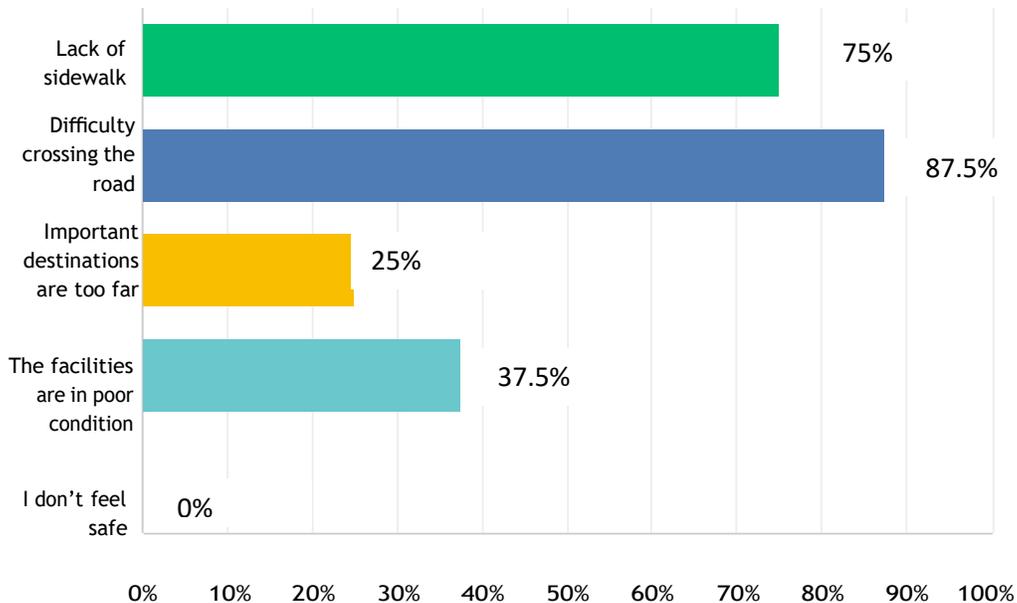
Answered: 3 Skipped: 4

- I strongly support active transportation for everyone. And everyone means everyone in all parts of the county on a fair and equitable basis. That means Elkridge gets a fair share, and the needs of Elkridge residents are as important as everyone else's.
- I would really like to see folks being encouraged to walk or bike rather than drive where possible. I should be able to bike to any library in the county safely.
- Thank you for the updates about the projects and plans.

## 2. WalkHoward Survey

### Q1 What are your main challenges when walking in Howard County now?

Answered: 8 Skipped: 0



### Q2 Are there other challenges you face when walking in Howard County?

Answered: 5 Skipped: 3

- Difficulty crossing the railroad at Route 1 in Elkridge

### Q3 Where do you most enjoy walking in Howard County and why?

- Walking is not very enjoyable at all near my home in Elkridge due to a lack of sidewalks and road crossings.
- Kings Contrivance loop because the trees and the river are very beautiful.

Answered: 5 Skipped: 3

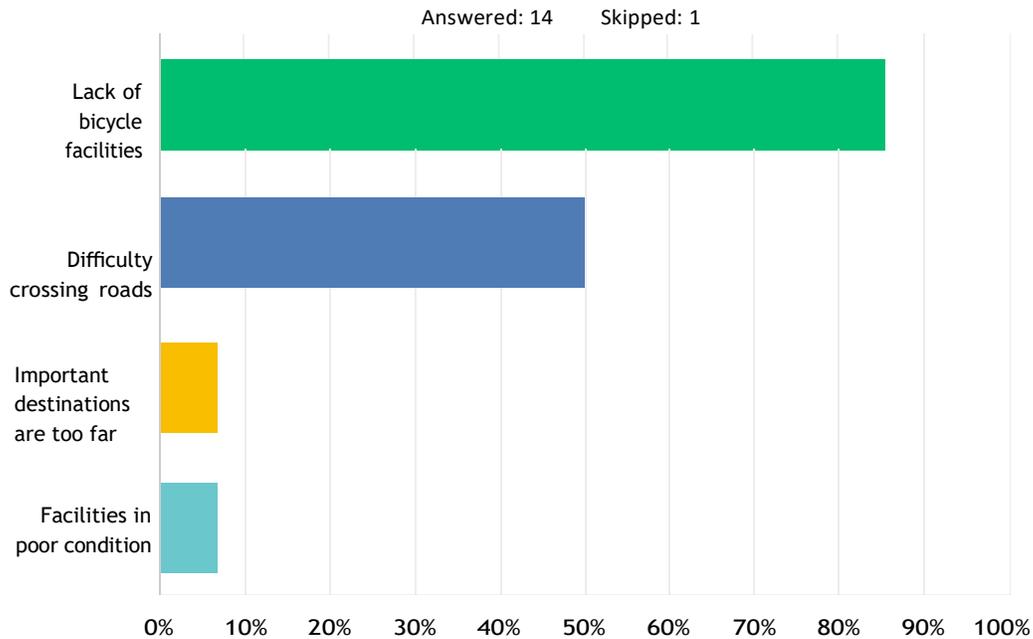
### Q4 Is there anything else you want to share with the Office of Transportation about walking or pedestrian facilities (e.g., sidewalks, crosswalks, shared-use pathways) in Howard County?

- The railroad crossing at Route 1 needs to be recognized as a critical missing connectivity point. It's not even mentioned, which is appalling. Also, traffic generators just outside the border of the county need to be recognized - ignoring these creates a bias against the needs of those of us who live at the edges of the county.

Answered: 5 Skipped: 3

### 3. BikeHoward Survey

#### Q1 What are your main challenges biking in Howard County now?



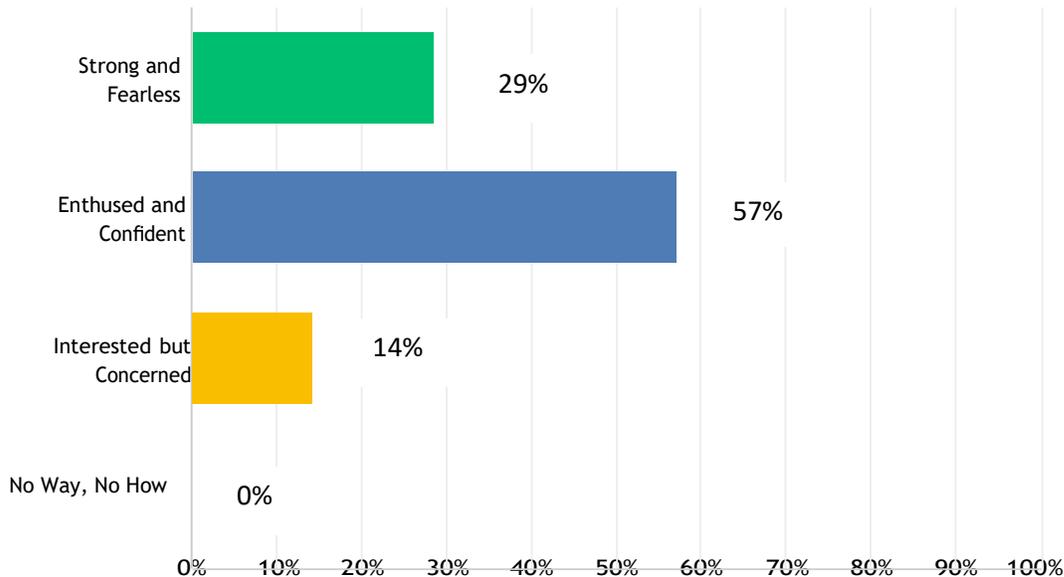
#### Q2 What other challenges do you face when biking in Howard County?

Answered: 11 Skipped: 4

- A place to lock up my bike when I use it to run errands
- Aggressive and distracted drivers
- Crossing the CSX railroad tracks at Route 1, Crossing MD 100 at Route 1, Crossing I-95 at Montgomery Road, Lack of shoulders on Route 1 and Montgomery Road, Disrepair of River Road in Patapsco State Park
- Dangerous roads, e.g., Cedar Lane, Little Patuxent Parkway (175) NE of downtown Columbia
- Disconnected bike facilities
- Enforce no parking in bike lanes.
- It's too dangerous to bike on roads, and we don't have any dedicated bike trails (such as the rail trails in Anne Arundel County, etc.)
- Road hazards, debris
- There are too many hills, but I know you can't do anything about that!
- Using unbuffered bike lanes
- Very narrow shoulders on many roads

### Q3 How do you classify yourself as a bicyclist?

Answered: 14 Skipped: 1



### Q4 Where do you like to bike best in Howard County and why?

Answered: 12 Skipped: 3

- Around Lake Kitt, HCC, and then over 29 to Oakland Mills area
- Columbia - the trails are easily accessible and it feels very safe
- Gray Rock neighborhood
- Grist Mill Trail to Ellicott City. (I know the trail itself is in Baltimore County, but the access to it via Levering Ave. is in Howard.) Race Road. Lawyers Hill Road. These routes are scenic with low traffic.
- I like to bike all over, but prefer less traveled roads (see #2 above) and wider paths
- King Contrivance, trails, and roads
- Patuxent Branch Trail. It is the path that connects me to basically anywhere I want to go by bicycle. I like to bicycle for running errands and commuting and this trail is a great connector.
- South and west of Columbia, some to the north. It is scenic and drivers are generally considerate.
- There is no good place to bike in Howard other than the Lake Elkhorn to Savage trail. I usually travel to other counties or PA to bike on "rail trails."
- Western HoCo because of rural scenery and quieter roads.
- Wider trails and low-volume roadways
- You know me, I go anywhere, but now more than ever with my e-bike

### Q5 Is there any anything else you want to share with the Office of Transportation about biking or biking facilities (e.g., bike lanes, shared-usepathways) in Howard County?

Answered: 11 Skipped: 4

- Bike lanes are just a stop gap and should be considered a short-term solution only. A side path on one side of the road takes the same space as opposing curbside bike lanes, but has the benefit of actually being usable to the majority of cyclists
- I find it difficult to turn left from Sterling Road onto Stephens Road during the afternoon/evening rush hour. I know it would also be difficult during the morning rush hour, but I am usually going the

other way. I would like to see some traffic control. I haven't used the new Stephens Road bike lane yet, but I expect to use it 50 or more times per year. However, I notice that water is not draining properly from the bike lane on the East side of the bridge. The intersection of Oakland Mills at Deer Pasture could use a better crossing for bicycles. I would like a bicycle crossing of Dobbin Road between the Howard County Health Department and the MVA. I don't like the proposed crossing of Vollmerhausen at the Patuxent Branch Trail. I would rather see improved lighting and signs at that intersection. Typically, putting islands in the middle of the road makes the situation more difficult for bicycles. I am concerned about how islands were used on the Stephens Road project. Perhaps you can find another alternative when there is not enough space for the island with bike lanes on both sides of the road. Trash and broken glass are a problem on Guilford Rd near the Rt. 32 bridge.

- I think residents in Howard County should be able to bike to their school or any library safely
- I would like bike lanes on route 99 between Marriottsville Road and Route 32. There is a high school, middle school and Alpha Ridge park on this route. I don't let my kids ride on 99 since there are no bike lanes.
- In the absence of rail trails, a shared-use pathway (bicycles and walkers only) is preferable.
- N/A
- New initiatives are promising. More funding is needed for the larger projects that provide for better connections (e.g., Hickory Ridge Corridor to connect River Hill to the rest of Columbia and Columbia to APL). More attention could be paid to intersections of the legacy paths in Columbia with roads--curb ramps, painted crosswalks, signage.
- Please widen Gorman Road from Skylark Blvd at least to Leishear Road or, better yet, to Rt 29. It is very narrow and drivers go too fast and pass bikers dangerously.
- Thanks for the nice pathway to HCC.
- The PHG project is nice, but it doesn't actually do much for Elkridge due to the challenge of crossing the CSX tracks. There should be more recognition that those of us who live near the borders of the county benefit by safe bike routes to MARC stations and employment centers (BWI, Arundel Mills, Ft. Meade) that are in other counties. BikeHoward and the selection of bike and complete streets projects show a ridiculous bias in favor of Columbia at the expense of the rest of the county. To ride on all those nice bike paths in Columbia, I have to ride on Montgomery Road across 95 to get there, which is a horror show. Not worth it. It's much nicer to ride in Anne Arundel and Baltimore Counties.
- There are some roads (e.g. Rt 103 near rt 29, all of Broken Land Parkway, Rt 108 over Rt 29) which are totally unsafe for cyclists and should be MARKED as such to prohibit cyclists.

#### 4. BikeHoward Master Plan Update

##### Q1 What is your first name?

Answered: 5 Skipped: 0

##### Q2 What is your last name?

Answered: 5 Skipped: 0

##### Q3 What is your email address?

Answered: 5 Skipped: 0

##### Q4 What are some changes you would like to see on the Bicycle MasterPlan?

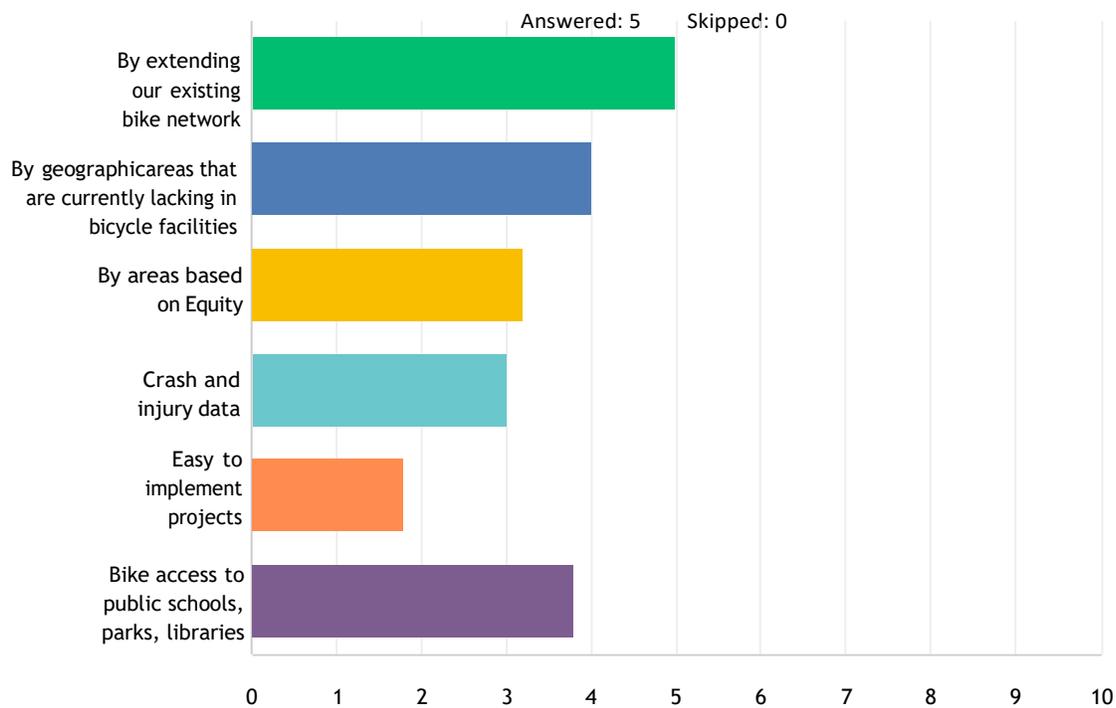
Answered: 5 Skipped: 0

- Emphasize having connectivity among communities with routes suitable for commuting and

transportation as well as recreation. More emphasis on crossings of natural and artificial barriers (highways, rivers).

- I don't like the proposed crossing of Vollmerhausen at the Patuxent Branch Trail. I think the island will make it more difficult for bicycles.
- I would like to see bike lanes on route 99 between Marriottsville road and route 32. There is a high school, middle school and Alpha Ridge park on that segment of the road.
- More focused and dedicated implementation
- Shift the focus from sharrows and non-buffered bike lanes to buffered bike lanes and barrier separated cycle tracks/shared use pathways. Provide an E-W crossing over I-95 near MD 175. A considerable amount of residential development occurred within the last 10 years between US Rt 1 and I-95 and north of MD 175. A bike/ped connection along the historical "Old Waterloo Road" alignment would provide an extremely high-quality connection between ~10k people and (1) Waterloo Park (2) Gateway Overlook Center, and (3) a connection to the future Dobbin Rd. Path. (This is already mentioned in the Pedestrian Master Plan under Priority Connection 4, it should be mentioned in the Bicycle Master Plan as well)

**Q5 What criteria are most important to prioritize projects in BikeHoward? (use the ranking numbers or drag the criteria to change the order, with number 1 being the most important).**



**5. Patuxent Branch Trail Surface Upgrade Survey**

**Q1 What is your first name?**

Answered: 5 Skipped: 0

**Q2 What is your last name?**

Answered: 5 Skipped: 0

**Q3 What is your email address?**

#### Q4 What do you like about the design and/or the project?

- Links currently separated areas
- Wider, safer trails suitable for use when wet; gravel shoulders for walking; important connection with existing routes
- Improvement of bridge/boards and safety for road crossing
- I like the widening of the path and the drainage control. This trail is my favorite in the county, but I avoid it when I expect it to be too muddy.
- Nice connectivity for the area of the county which it serves. I wish my part of the county had infrastructure like this. But I live in Elkridge. We get "Share the Road" signs and sharrows, not trails like this.
- Very little, but I do support trails and I do like that this will make it easier for wheelchair users
- I am in support of paving.

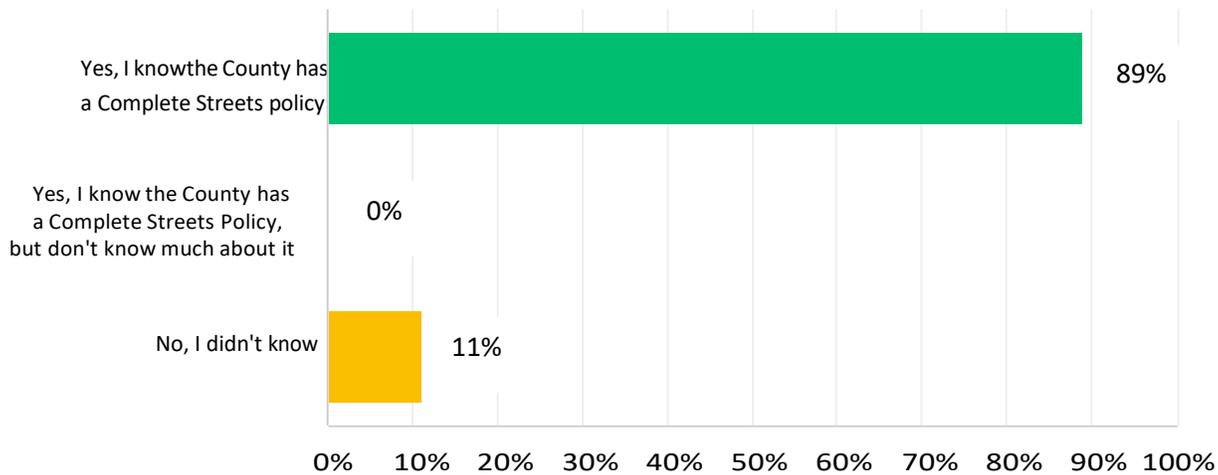
#### Q5 How could the project be improved?

- A stripe down the middle of the path would help encourage folks to stay on one side and reduce passing conflicts
- Widening to 10 ft with asphalt and 2ft gravel shoulders takes out and disturbed too much of the surroundings! The one slide said zero environmental impact- what a joke! Permeable pavers instead of asphalt and narrower trails would lessen the impact. As it is you are taking out lots of native plants on both sides of the trail and trading them for invasive silt grass, garlic mustard etc.!
- I don't like the crossing of Vollmerhausen. Adding an island in the middle of the road probably won't be good for bicyclists. Perhaps lighting and better signs would suffice here. I also want the trees to be preserved as much as possible.
- From where I live in Elkridge, I don't have a safe route to this trail. All parts of the county need to be connected. I used to commute from Elkridge to an office near Kings Contrivance, using Montgomery Road, the Lake Elkhorn trail, and the Patuxent Branch Trail. The Montgomery Road part of this commute was far more dangerous and scary than the rest, and yet this part gets no attention from Howard County. And it is heavily traveled by people on bikes because it is the only way to cross I-95. Also, maintenance of the Pax Branch needs to be to the same standard as the Columbia Trail network. Many times in winter, I traveled nicely plowed Columbia paths to find that the Pax Branch trail was untouched. Meaning I had to take Snowden River Parkway to cross Broken Land Parkway to get to my office.
- Narrow the path to eliminate and/or reduce tree removal, find ways to preserve more of the local ecology. Seems like the opposite side of the river would have made a much easier corridor for this trail - already cleared for the sewer work, any prior native plants and wildflowers already destroyed, fewer trees to remove, fewer areas of habitat to remove, and less shady so less likely to stay wet, sunnier.
- Quickness to completion

## 6. Complete Streets

### Q1 Are you aware the County adopted a Complete Street Policy (in 2019)?

Answered: 9 Skipped: 0

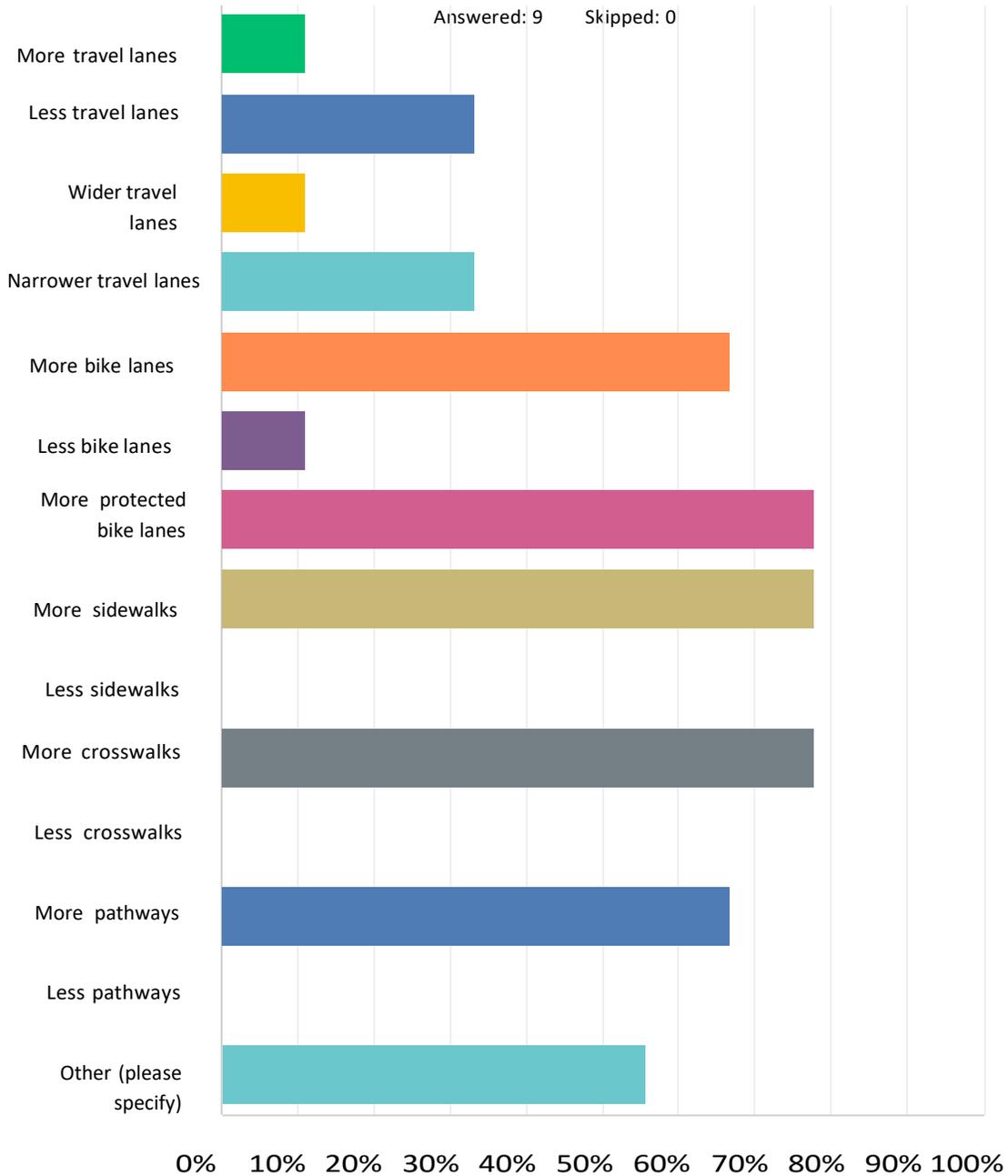


### Q2 Do you think street design in Howard County could be improved?

Answered: 7 Skipped: 2

- Absolutely
- Buffer between sidewalks and road. Smooth 90-degree curbs at sides of roads so cyclists can "bail out" without crashing. Cedar Lane in Columbia is an example of what a road should NOT be--narrow sidewalks, no buffers between pedestrians and speeding cars and trucks.
- Howard County needs to actually do complete streets for everyone in the county, not just talk about it. Complete Streets projects are overwhelmingly in Columbia, and never in Elkridge where I live. Providing access to destinations outside the county is not a priority, which biases the process against those of us who live near the edges of the county.
- Integrate comprehensive APFO tests including transit and developer mitigation.
- More protected intersections, better pedestrian access, traffic calming at bust intersections.
- Should have been done three years ago.
- Yes. More bike friendly.

### Q3 What street design changes would you like to see?



Other:

- Bike lanes that don't stop and start repeatedly along a road. That creates too much merging which seems unnecessarily dangerous. Often it seems the bike lanes drop away to accommodate islands in the center of the street. I wouldn't put islands in the street if they eliminate the bike lanes.
- Roads designed to reduce speeds (chicanes, refuge islands, etc.)
- Safe railroad crossings, especially the CSX tracks at Route 1.
- Slower speeds
- Zoning appropriate for constrained transit corridors

**Q4 Is there anything else you want to share with the Office of Transportation about Complete Streets projects underway in Howard County?**

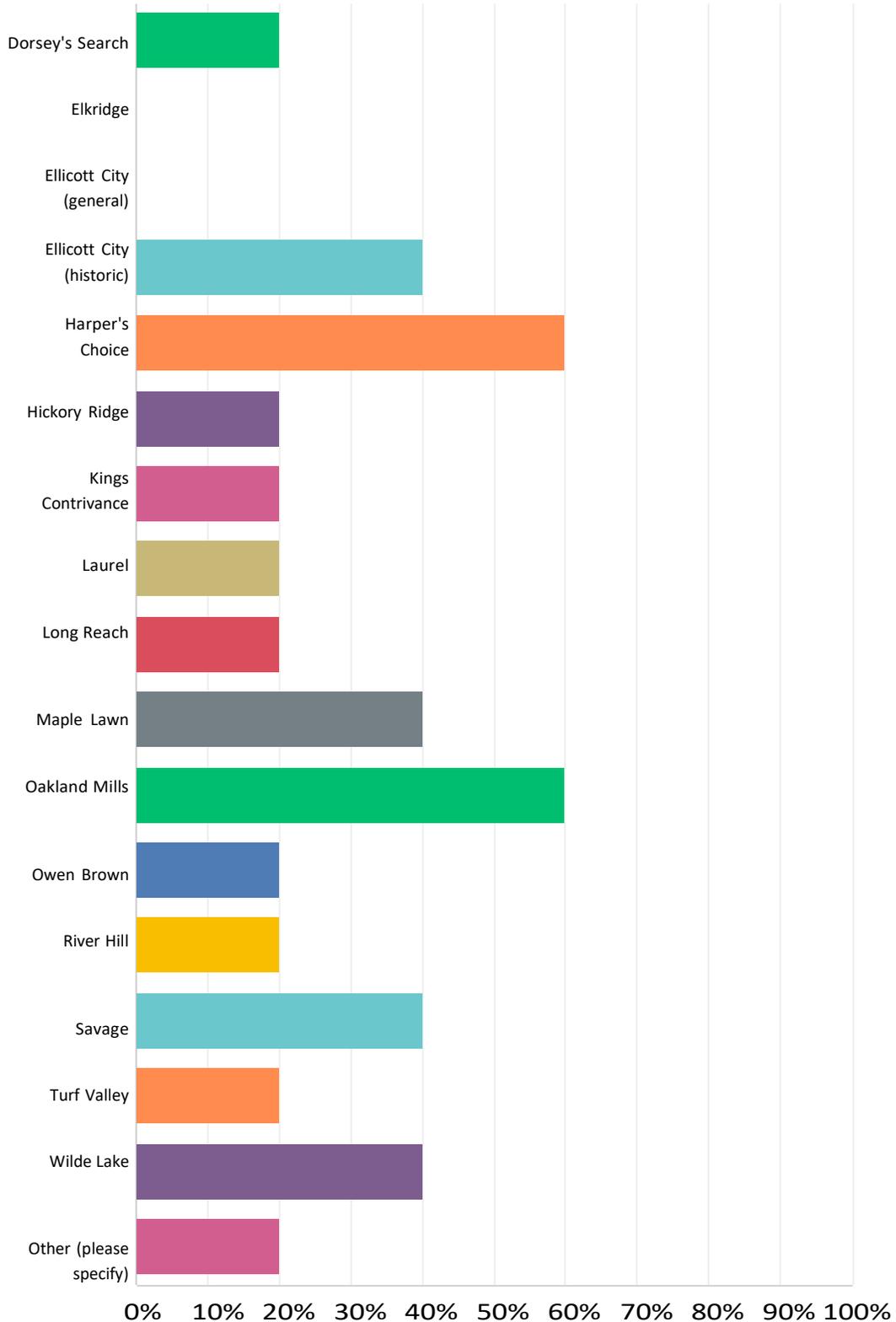
Answered: 5 Skipped: 4

- Has the use of HAWKs (high-intensity activated crosswalk) been evaluated? (even as a test/pilot)
- I want complete streets project to be underway in Elkrige, and I want all parts of the county to receive a fair share of the investment in Complete Streets. I feel like all my taxes are spent to make nice things in Columbia, and never where I live.
- I'm happy to see this coming. We can't build our way out of vehicle congestion, but we can enable people to make fewer trips
- People I know are frustrated with the Stephens Road project because they expected the bike lane to be continued throughout the length of the project and not be eliminated to accommodate islands in the center of the road. In future designs shared with the public, it should be clearer where there is a bike lane and where there is not a bike lane.
- Where is the APFO background traffic study publicly available?

## 7. Shared Micromobility

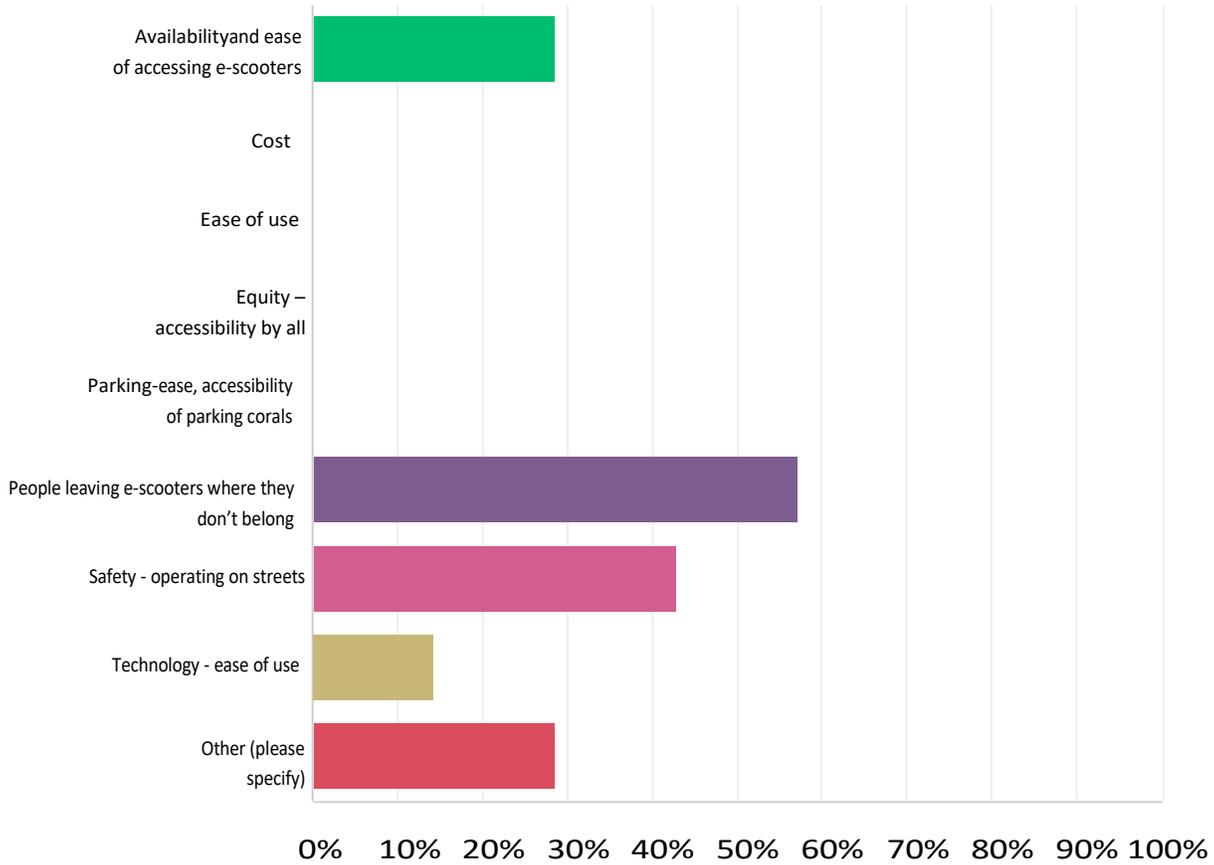
Q1 Currently, shared electric scooters have been approved for Downtown Columbia and Gateway Business Park communities. Are there other areas of the County that you would like to see shared electric scooters?

Answered: 5 Skipped: 2



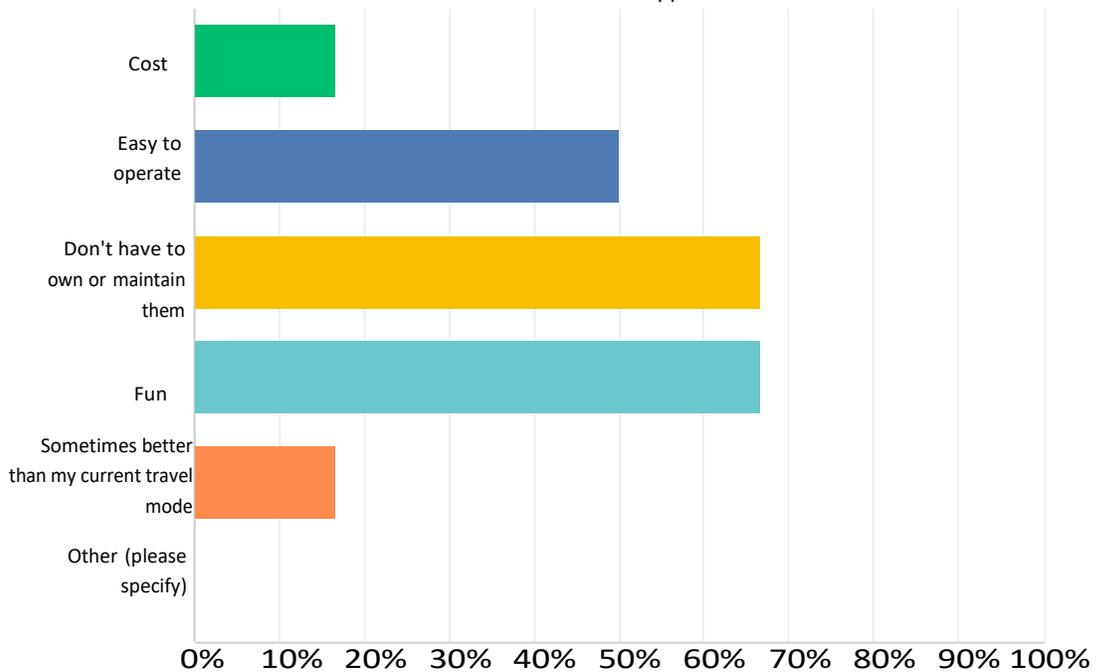
## Q2 What are your greatest concerns about shared electric scooters?

Answered: 7 Skipped: 0



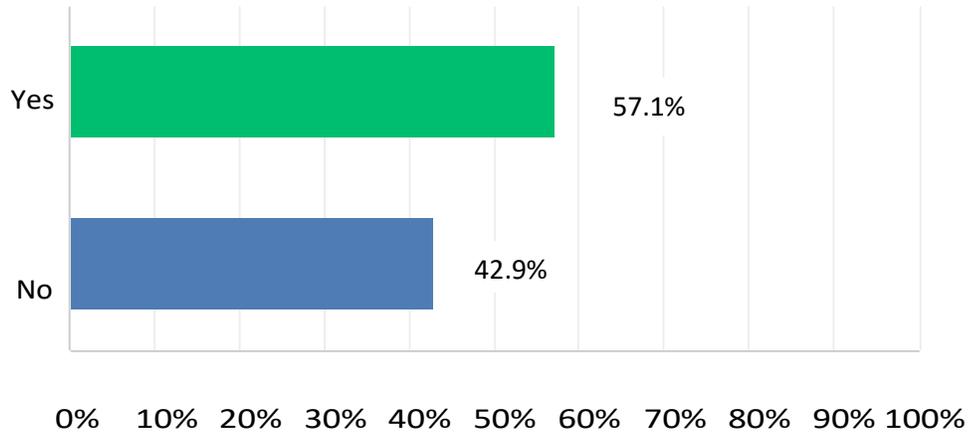
## Q3 What do you like about shared electric scooters?

Answered: 6 Skipped: 1



**Q4 Would you like to see a new bikeshare program in Howard County?**

Answered: 7 Skipped: 0



**8. Open House Evaluation Survey**

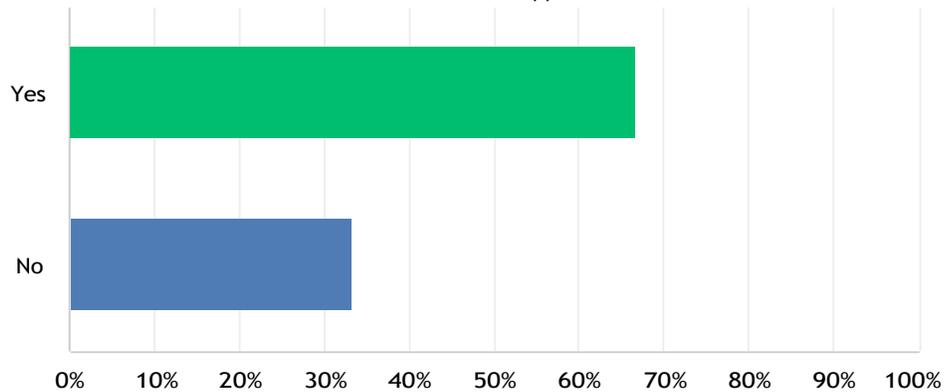
**Q1 How well did we do communicating about walking, biking, Complete Streets, and shared micromobility in Howard County? (1 Poor, 5 Great)**

Answered: 1 Skipped: 2

**5 -- Great 100%**

**Q2 Was the Open House Self-Guided Tour easy to navigate?**

Answered: 3 Skipped: 0



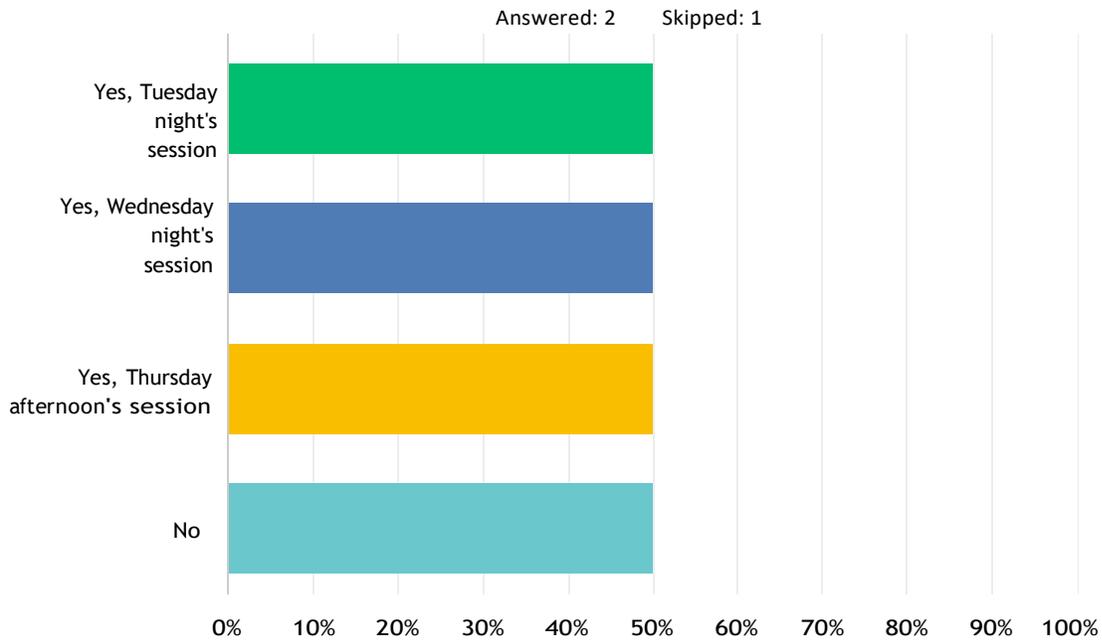
**Q3 Did the Open House Self-Guided Tour cover all the topics you wanted?**

Answered: 3 Skipped: 0

**Yes – 100%**

**No – 0%**

### Q4 Did you attend the Open House Discussions?

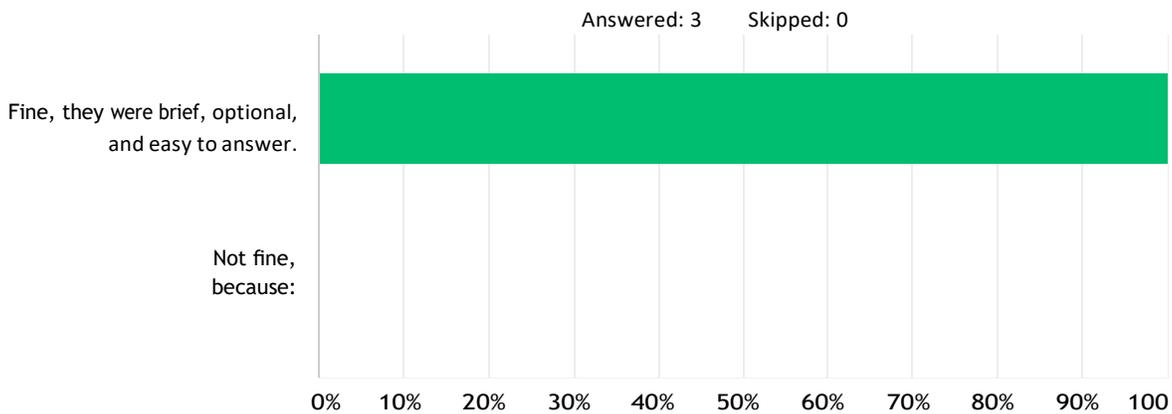


### Q5 What Discussion topics should we include in next year's Open House?

Answered: 2 Skipped: 1

- I would like to see budgetary data that demonstrates that all parts of the county get an equitable share of county investment. By both Council District and Planning Region.
- Transit

### Q6 What did you think of the Open House Surveys?



**Q7 Were there other topics you thought the Open House Surveys should have addressed?**

**Please list below:**

Answered: 1 Skipped: 2

- It is very hard to navigate online. It's not clear whether I am in the Open House, or in the supporting data. It's hard to find the surveys.  
(Editor's note: All materials in the Open House used the same layout and had the title Active Transportation Open House 2022. Supporting materials did not. All surveys were posted to the Open House website.)

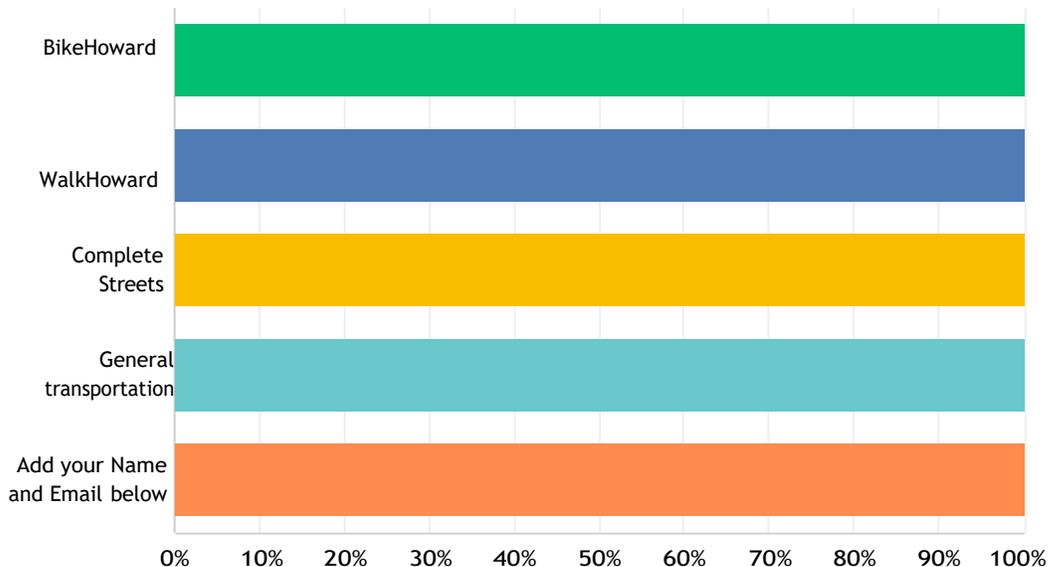
**Q8 Is there anything else about the Open House or about transportation in Howard County that you would like to share with us today?**

Answered: 1 Skipped: 2

- I think the policies used to score projects need serious scrutiny because they result in bias favoring one part of the county over another. For example, in Elkridge, we are very underserved with public transportation and schools. But having many bus stops and neighborhood schools entitles those favored communities with more active transportation investment. This is wrong and it is unfair.

**Q9 If you would like to receive occasional emails from the Office of Transportation about future Open Houses and transportation events, projects, and public meetings in Howard County, please provide your name, email, and the areas you would like to be notified about.**

Answered: 1 Skipped: 2



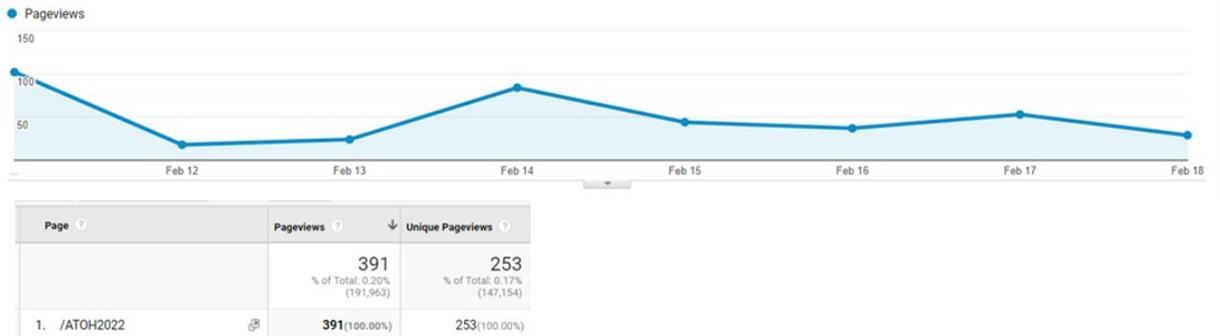
**Q10 Are there any transportation needs, opportunities, or facilities in the County you would like to tell us about before you leave?**

Answered: 2    Skipped: 1

- A Wilde Lake/Downtown Columbia to River Hill shared path across the Patuxent River would be worth considering
- Access to MARC stations needs attention, including those outside Howard County. Safe railroad crossings needs attention. It's not all about Columbia.

## Appendix C

### Howard County Active Transportation Open House Analytics



**Summary:**

The Open House hosted 253 individuals visiting a total of 391 times. Friday, February 11 had the greatest number of unique visits with over 100.

**Note:**

- The Open House opened early – beginning on Friday, February 11 and ended Friday, February 18 at 4pm.

**Key:**

- Pageviews is the total number of times the page was viewed.
- Unique pageviews is the number of times the website was viewed from a different user.

## Appendix D

### Howard County Active Transportation Open House Summary of Attendance at Discussions

Attendance by Date	Day of week	Time	Attendees from Public
February 15	Tuesday	7pm	18
February 16	Wednesday	7pm	3
February 17	Thursday	3pm	2

Note: One member of the public attended all three sessions, resulting in a total attendance of 23 (by 21 individuals).

#### Discussion 1: County Capital projects to improve biking and walking, including Patapsco Branch Trail Surface Upgrade project

Held: February 15, Tuesday at 7pm

##### County and Consulting Staff Attending:

- Chris Eatough, Howard County Office of Transportation, Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator
- Molly Nur, Howard County Office of Transportation, Bicycle and Pedestrian Planner
- Kris Singleton, Howard County Department of Public Works, Transportation and Special Projects, Project Manager
- Jason Thompson, Department of Recreation and Parks, Park Planner
- Rick Adams, RK&K, Project Manager
- Bibhuti Baral, RK&K, Engineer

#### Discussion 2: Enforcement, Education, and Safety

Held: February 16, Wednesday at 7pm

##### Staff Attending:

- Chris Eatough, Howard County Office of Transportation, Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator
- Molly Nur, Howard County Office of Transportation, Bicycle and Pedestrian Planner
- Cpl. Pete Monti, Howard County Police Department Pathway Patrol Unit

#### Discussion 3: Walking and Biking to School

Held: February 17, Thursday at 3pm

##### Staff Attending:

- Chris Eatough, Howard County Office of Transportation, Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator
- Molly Nur, Howard County Office of Transportation, Bicycle and Pedestrian Planner
- Doug Kampe, Howard County Public School System Student Transportation Office