



Howard County Office of Transportation

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Howard County Priority Letter FY 2023-2028

Public Input Summary

In response to the public outreach for this year's priority letter, we received twelve (12) responses to the survey and fourteen (14) total open-ended comments between our multiple outreach efforts. More specifically, six (6) open-ended comments were received within the online survey, four (4) comments within the paper survey at our Open House, three (3) comments came via email, and one (1) comment was expressed via a physical letter. Most of the comments received focus on pedestrian/bike improvements to various planned projects. This included the following:

- Suggestions that paths be improved to alleviate overcrowding/congestion and on-street bicycle facilities, especially in the River Hill/Clarksville area, be cleared of debris and low-hanging branches.
- Support for the Red Branch Road crosswalk and multi-use path improvements.
- One comment suggested to improve bike/pedestrian connections to Laurel, especially Laurel MARC Station.

Other comments varied in terms of location and project focus, but mainly referenced specific roads/corridors throughout the county. This included the following:

- Support for US 29 Jug Handle connection into Downtown Columbia, but to be sure a bike/ped sidewalk/crosswalk over Broken Land Parkway is incorporated.
- To ask SHA for Technical Assistance on the Dobbin and MD 175 intersection reconstruction to accommodate SUP.
- A general support for anything that isn't car infrastructure.
- Improved safety on US 29 was brought up and it was suggested the traffic signal at Rivers Edge Road must be removed. They suggested to require traffic exiting the Rivers Edge community to be directed south on US 29 and circle back via the interchange at Johns Hopkins Road.
- Specific suggestion to work on improving bike/ped connections across 108 at Columbia Rd. to give people easier access to the Dorsey Search Village Center and Centennial Park.
- Additionally, another comment highlighted the relationship between development in the County and improvements to two areas: (1) Rt. 40-Marriottsville Rd. to Rt. 70; (2) Columbia Rd. & 108 exit ramp to alleviate issue with Dorsey Overlook at Old Annapolis/Columbia Rd.
- A final comment, received via a physical letter, requested the study and implementation of noise abatement solutions, including barriers, along MD Rt. 32.