

Maryland Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Minutes of November Meeting

Thursday, November 9, 2000

10 am till noon

Maryland Department of Transportation

BWI Airport, MD

ATTENDEES

MBPAC Members Present:

Bill Kelly, Chairman, DC Metro Area, 301-441-2740, ws.kelly@worldnet.att.net
Dave Jones, Maryland State Police, 410-582-5618x5605, djones3@sha.state.md.us
Mike Levengood, Baltimore Area, 410-876-3373, rideleader@msn.com
Randy Mardres, Metro DC Area, 301-890-0064, rmardres@juno.com
Bob Moore, Baltimore Area, 410-435-6623, bikemoore@smart.net
Harvey Muller, SHA, 410-545-5656, hmuller@sha.state.md.us
Carl Rebele, Western Maryland, 301-387-6399, creb@mail2.gcnet.net
Bill Siwak, Southern Maryland, 410-757-1318, bsiwak@annapolis.net
Gregg Ukaegbu, Dept. of Health and Hygiene, 410-767-5780, ukaegbu@dhh.state.md.us

MBPAC Members Absent:

Don LaFond, Dept. of Education, 410-767-0209, dlafond@msde.state.md.us
Matt Miller, Dept. of Economic Dev., 410-767-6272, mmiller@mdbusiness.state.md.us
Jim Phillips, Eastern Shore, 410-543-6007, jlphillips@ssu.edu
David Taylor, Dept. of Natural Resources, 410-260-8162, dtaylor@dnr.state.md.us

Visitors from Maryland State Agencies:

Diane Ratcliff, MTA, 410-767-3771, dratcliff@mdot.state.md.us
Sharon Reichlyn, Md, Dept. of Planning, 410-767-4512, sreichlyn@mdp.state.md.us
Gil Weidenfeld, MDOT, 410-865-1281, gweidenfeld@mdot.state.md.us
Gary Wunderlich, DHMH, Div. Of Cardiovascular Health, 410-767-6785,
gwunderlich@dhh.state.md.us

Others:

Bob Chauncey, One Less Car, 215-637-5728, bcrchauncey@aol.com
Stan Doore, Calverton Citizens Association, 301-572-4939, stan.doore@att.net
Michael Flood, Fitzgerald & Halliday, 301-493-5909, mjflood@aol.com
Jim Hudnall, Oxon Hill Bicycle and Trail Club, 301-567-0089, hudnall@concentric.net
Paul Lebow, One Less Car, 202-767-3006, info@onelesscar.org
Steve McHenry, BRTB-CAC, 410-789-8705, srmchenry@mindspring.com
Brian Muldoon, Howard County Transportation Planning Division, 410-313-4363
John Overstreet, Baltimore Bike Club, 410-969-4717
John Z. Wetmore, Perils For Pedestrians TV, 301-654-5305, john@pedestrians.org

MINUTES

October Meeting Minutes

Accepted with corrections.

Director of Bicycle and Pedestrian Access

Michael Jackson reports on November 13 for this position. Michael was Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator in Minnesota.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan

Michael Flood of Fitzgerald & Halliday, Inc. (FHI) reported that he had held the first two of six focus group meetings, one in Baltimore and one on the Eastern Shore. A summary of the two meetings is on FHI Web site for the plan at http://fhiplan.com/md_bike_ped_plan.

Telework in Maryland

Gil Weidenfeld, MDOT Telework Coordinator, gave a presentation on telework. MDOT is promoting telework because of the problems of air pollution and traffic congestion. He pointed out that the term telework is more generic than telecommuting, covering work from home office, a telework center, or satellite office. His presentation covered the benefits of telework to employers, employees, and the public. He described the Telework Partnership with Employers (TPE) grant program that provides free professional telework consulting services to Maryland Employers (more info at www.teleworksmart-md.org).

Paul Lebow asked if people might be forced to telework. The answer was "not likely." Paul also asked about the role of bike/ped groups. Gil said they should promote telework for shared goals, such as better air quality. Sharon Reichlyn asked if telework would lead to a sedentary life style. Gil said no more than other office work and that employees should take breaks for exercise/activity. Steve McHenry pointed out that telework might require mixed-use zoning. He also pointed out that short automobile trips to/from telework centers and transit stations would cause much pollution, because of the pollution associated with cold starts. He pointed out that telecommuting would eliminate the short automobile trips. Stan Doore asked about tax benefits of telework. There are no benefits yet, and a bill by Del. Pitkin did not get out of committee. Randy Mardres called attention to Discovery Communications in Silver Spring, which has only 800 parking places for 2,200 employees. He asked if national guard armories can be used for telework centers. They can be and are, such as the one in Laurel. Gil distributed copies of a press release "Glendening Administration Receives International Award for Telework Initiative." The TPE Program has attracted 24 employers. Within four years, MDOT expects to eliminate eight million vehicle trips annually.

Annual Report Status

Jim Hudnall distributed the final draft of the Annual Report and asked that any changes/corrections to be sent to him at info@ohbike.org.

Bike/Ped Safety Awareness Program

Mike Levengood reported that the Safety and Education Subcommittee and the SHA people working on the Awareness Program will meet Monday, November 20, 2 pm, at the SHA Traffic Operations Center in Hanover. Mike said that SHA has a positive attitude and is enthusiastic about the campaign; it should be effective, not "feel good." Gregg Ukaegbu said that the Department of Health wants to be involved. Randy Mardres said there are other programs for pedestrians, and he would like for the emphasis to be on bicycle safety. Mike said the bike element can be built up and can grow. Paul Lebow asked about the Driver's Manual. Mike said he didn't see anything to add to it and it is not part of the campaign. Gary Wunderlich said that SHA should use professional communicators for the campaign to be effective. Sharon Reichlyn said it is important to understand what audience the campaign is targeting and what is the message.

Elevated Monobeam, End-on Construction, and the 2012 Olympics

Stan Doore showed a video and gave handouts on these topics. Elevated monobeam on 6' by 6' piers with 84' separation causes little disturbance of the ground, has a reasonable cost compared to competing modes, and is an unobtrusive design that that does not partition neighborhoods. (For more info see <http://www.futrexinc.com> and <http://www.monorail.org/brochure.html>). End-on

construction is building an elevated road from the road that has already been built and has many advantages in addition to preserving wetlands and protecting the environment. The 2012 Olympics could be in the Washington/Baltimore region, and bike path and trails proposals should serve what might be the Olympic venues. The Washington/Baltimore Olympic proposal goes to the US Olympic selection committee on December 15. The US committee has two years to make its selection, which goes to the international selection committee for a decision in 2005.

Legislative Meeting with MDOT Sec. Pocari on November 29

MBPAC members, bike/ped advocates and state legislators will meet with MDOT to discuss legislation for the 2001 General Assembly session.

Dan Burden's College Park Workshop on Walkable Communities

Sat. Jan. 13, 2001, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm in the Auditorium of the School of Arch., the Univ. of Md.

Walkable communities are more livable communities, where the streets and roads are safer and more appealing to pedestrians and bicyclists. Dan Burden served for 16 years as Florida DOT's State Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator before forming Walkable Communities, Inc. Dan is nationally known for his success in using *charrettes* - highly interactive workshops - to bring together elected officials, planners, designers, and community interests to look at roads that need improvement and to come up with a solution that meets everyone's needs. Dan has seen success in hundreds of cities across the country and will illustrate his presentations with many examples and photographs of what other communities have done to reconstruct roads so that they better serve all users.

Bill Kelly and the College Park Area Bicycle Coalition (with support from the Washington Area Bicycle Association and other area cycling organizations) are sponsoring this workshop to show how the charrette process used by Dan Burden could be used in the US Route 1 corridor of College Park. US #1 can become a model for road reconstruction in Maryland that will give us more Livable Communities.

Dan's presentations are always interesting, fast-moving, and informative. He is an expert on traffic calming and will present many ideas on how our roads can be made safer and more pleasant. This workshop is for planners, designers, elected officials, bike/ped advocates, business leaders, and anyone interested in the Process of Building Communities for Better Living.

To register for this workshop contact Ellen Jones, 202-628-2500, waba@waba.org. For more info on Dan Burden and Walkable Communities, see www.walkable.org.

Maryland Bicycle and Pedestrian Information Symposium - Wed. Feb 7, 2001 in Annapolis

Format will be same as in 2000, with exhibits in the St. Johns Hall of the Lowe Office Building during the day (9:00 am to 6:00 pm) and a discussion with elected and state officials in the evening (6:30 pm to 9:00 pm).

Bikes on Trains

Diane Ratcliff reported that the effort to get Bike on Trains is "moving ahead" with engineering for bike compartments on trains.

Conference Dates

- January 7-11, 2001 Transportation Research Board, Washington DC (Dan Burden will be the Key note speaker). More info at <http://nationalacademies.org/trb/>
- September 17-21, 2001 Velo-city 2001, Edinburgh and Glasgow, Scotland. More info at <http://velo-city2001.org/>