

Frederick County Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

April 13th, 2022

Committee Members	Staff	Guest
Lib Rood Shayne Boucher Dave Ziedelis Barry Salisbury Vaughn Ripley	Joe Kelley DPP Mark Mishler	Madeleine Dolan

Chair's Report: Meeting Called to Order at 6:03 pm.

The Chair welcomed everyone. Lib mentioned she attended the public hearing for the budget and there were many who supported trails. Darius Mark also had some contact with Montgomery County and Lib would like some of those people to come to future BPAC meetings to talk about what they are doing.

Approval of Minutes

Approved of February minutes 5-0 after corrections

Staff Updates

Joe Kelley updated the committee on the Complete and Green Street Manual public meeting that will take place on April 28th at 6PM. Staff will be applying for TAP and Bikeways funding in the next round of grant applications for the F & PL Trail and New Design Road. Maddy Dolan updated the committee on the BMUFL signs that will be installed soon on Old Frederick Road, Ballenger Creek Pike and Opossumtown Pike. Planning has begun for Hessong Bridge Road.

The bridge replacement for the metal bridge on Hessong Bridge Road is in the design phase.

DPW is working on new pedestrian buttons for signalized crossings.

Maddy also updated the committee on missing link sidewalk projects along Crestwood Blvd and Point of Rocks.

Crash reports

The committee discussed the crash report about the fatality near Emmitsburg. Joe informed the committee that getting crash reports from the Sheriff's Department is easier than from the Maryland State Police(MSP)but there is currently no automatic notification of the bike/ped coordinator when bike/ped incidents occur. Joe will have a new contact to work with soon from the Frederick County Sheriff's Office, as the previous contact (Ken Olander) passed away.

That said the MSP did share that the bicyclist was not at fault for the crash near Emmitsburg and that he was riding in a lane with very little shoulder even though the road is a designated Maryland Bike Route –

(perhaps it should be removed from that designation) and was struck from behind. Not blaming the victim MSP did point out that he was wearing dark clothing and they did not find any lights on the bike or in the vicinity that could have been used to help him be seen by drivers. The committee also talked about the recently released Maryland Bicycle Stress Map and that some of the roads shown do not have the proper level of stress that bicycle experience on these roads. It was discussed how this map could lead riders on roads that are not the best areas for riding and to avoid roads that are very good for riding with lower stress than shown. The committee thought that we need to work with the State to make improvements to it.

BPAC Priorities

Shayne

- 5-year review of Bike and Ped Plan in 2023

Mark Mishler from DPW clarified that this update is scheduled for FY2023 and it will likely take about a year. There will be a core committee and public input opportunities. It will need to go through the County Council

Barry

- Would like to see a clarification of roles – “job descriptions” for BPAC members, the Bike/Ped coordinator and DPW. Who does what?
- Would like to also consider the needs of hikers and pedestrians

Vaughn

- How can we improve advocacy and awareness?
- What is mission, vision, goals for committee?

Mark Mishler from DPW indicated there are ways we can improve awareness. The county can send media releases about events. Can use social media to push events.

Dave

- Looking for tourism opportunities. Tourism means economic impact.

Lib

- Would like for us to score all the trails in the plan so we are ready when financial opportunities arise.
- Would like the County to consider natural surface trails to reduce costs.
- Would like to see if the committee can transition to a standing committee
- Have new members received copies of the Bikeways and Trails Plan/

Committee Member Announcements

Shayne stated that Smart Growth Maryland, Frederick Bicycle Coalition, Chesapeake Bay Foundation and Clean Water Fund was going to hold candidate forums on May 23 and May 26 for County Executive and Council at Large candidates. Barry let the committee know that Eastern Shore Land Conservancy would be holding a regional trail workshop on April 28th and would send out a link to the workshop.

Public Comment

No public comment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:13 pm