

# National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board

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## MEETING NOTES

### BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN SUBCOMMITTEE

**DATE:** Tuesday, July 16, 2024

**TIME:** 1:00 p.m.

**PLACE:** Virtual

**CHAIR:** Heidi Mitter, VDOT

#### Attendance:

Bryan Barnett-Woods	City of Rockville
Bryce Barrett	Prince William County DOT Bike/Ped Coordinator
Alyssa Beyer	NVTA
Maddy Cirineo	UMD
David Cook	State Bicycle and Pedestrian Planner, VDOT
Griffin Frank	NVTA
Elwyn Gonzalez	Transportation Planner, Arlington DES
Laura Ghosh	Loudoun County DOT
Wade Holland	Montgomery County
Michael Jackson	Prince George's Planning
Tiffany Jennings	Bicycle & Pedestrian Program Manager, Prince George's County DPW&T
Jill Kaneff	Northern Virginia Regional Commission
Joe Kelley	Frederick County DPW&T Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator
Brian Leckie	VDOT-NOVA
Heidi Mitter	VDOT NOVA District Bike/Ped Coordinator
David Patton	Arlington Division of Transportation
Chloe Ritter	City of Fairfax
Shane Sarver	Bicycle and Pedestrian Planner MDOT SHA
Brian Shelton	Active Transportation Manager, Arlington County
Linnea Sherman	NVRC
Anne Welch	DDOT Active Transportation Planner
Ryan Yowell	WMATA

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**COG Staff Attendance:**

Michael Farrell  
Tim Canan  
John Swanson

1. **General Introductions.**
2. **Review of the May meeting notes**

May meeting notes were approved, with suggested changes.

3. **Jurisdictional Updates**

Important updates included the kick-off of Arlington County's master transportation plan. NVRC will hold its third annual recreational summit on September 5 and 9. The fifth will be a virtual event, the ninth will be in person at the Lubber Run Community.

NVTA has adopted its six year program. All 24 project applications received either partial or full funding. Four of those projects totalling \$41 million were primarily bike or ped.

VDOT's W&OD pedestrian/bicyclist bridge over Wiehle Avenue opening has been postponed. On June 20 the Monument Avenue parking garage opened. It includes a bike room and hoop racks. It has close access to the I-66 express lanes. Smartscale applications are due August 1<sup>st</sup>. The state bicycle and pedestrian advisory committee will meet next Wednesday. There will be virtual option.

A pedestrian bridge recently opened on Route 234 in Prince William County. City of Rockville is working on bike lane and shared use path plans, and its Twinbrook Safe Routes to School plan. Rockville has received TAP and Maryland Bikeways funds.

DDOT is applying for an ATIP grant for the design of the Suitland Parkway Trail. A Spring bike count will be held at 50 locations. DC will host the NACTO conference in May of next year.

WMATA held a demonstration last week of new bicycle parking that will be rolling out across the system.

4. **Maryland Bicycle and Pedestrian Priority Areas Applications**

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Mr Sarver spoke to a powerpoint on Maryland SHA's Bicycle Pedestrian Priority Areas. BPPA will fund the plan for bike and ped facilities, but will not fund the projects.

Ms. Mitter asked how long the program has been going on, and how many areas have been designated. 13 areas have been designated, and plans have been developed for two of them. Mr. Sarver briefly scrolled through the Kensington plan. These are small area plans with a focus on pedestrian and bicyclist safety. The application comes from the local jurisdictions, SHA would make the designation, and then work with the jurisdiction to develop the plan. Both the County and the City should be involved in developing the plan. Ms. Mitter praised the plan.

Mr. Swanson asked if access to transit featured in the selection criteria. Mr. Sarver replied that it does, and most of them are connected to transit. The vast majority are in Montgomery County.

#### **5. Other TPB Program Updates**

Project submissions for non-regionally significant projects are due August 2. The presentation posted on the web site shows contacts from the jurisdictions who have access to the project infotrak database. If you have a project that you want included in Visualize 2050, contact that person. These regional plans are updated every two year.

The FY 2025 TAP projects will be presented to the TPB tomorrow. Mr. Swanson briefly presented the projects.

Mr. Farrell briefed the group on the most recent Micromobility Workshop, which took place on June 3. These events take place no more that twice a year. DC covered Capital Bikeshare, which is booming, with numerous new bikes and e-bikes, and ridership records set every month. The e-bikes do not have to be returned to a dock, they can be locked up near your destination for an additional fee. So what has been a fairly rigid dock-based system is becoming partially a dockless system.

We are also working on a regional Curbside Management Forum for August 2, as well are a regional safety summit in the Fall.

The Curbside forum will feature a guest speaker from New York, another city which is dealing with the challenges of competition for the curbside space. All are welcome at the forum.

The Spring Street Smart campaign has been completed, and new creative materials are under development for next Fall. The existing creative, Shattered Lives, has been less memorable than the previous one, so we're looking forward to some interesting new ads.

Street Smart planning meetings will be scheduled based on the availability of the funding

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agencies. However any TPB member agency is welcome to attend. If you are interested in attending I can get you on the distribution list. The initial meeting explained the Sherry Matthews creative approach. Upcoming meeting will present the results of the focus groups. If you are very interested in attending, I can invite you to these planning meetings.

**6. Car Free Day**

Mr. Sheehan spoke to a powerpoint.

- Car Free Day is a worldwide event that encourages people to use alternative forms of transportation.
- The event started in Europe over 20 years ago and now many cities around the world participate.
- Participants are encouraged to take a pledge to go car free or car light for a day.
- This year it will take place on September 23.

Ms. Mitter praised the work that Commuter Connections does to promote transportation demand management in the region, and encouraged people to check out their web site and their other programs. Events like car free day and bike to work day can help moved the needle to reduce auto use. Ms. Mitter asked the group to go to the Car Free Day web site to take the pledge, and promote it to your contacts. Going to the Car Free Day web site will introduce people to services like Guaranteed Ride Home and others that Commuter Connections offers.

Mr. Farrell pointed out that Commuter Connections works with WABA to manage Bike to Work Day, growing the event from a single location at Freedom Plaza to nearly 100 pit stops around the region and thousands of participants.

**7. Announcements and Other Business**

Ms. Mitter asked if Anne Welch might be ready to present DDOT's count project dashboard, but she was not able to commit for September. COG's regional data dashboard won't be far enough along to present in September; November 19 would be more likely. September 17 will be in-person

**Adjourned**