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**BALTIMORE COUNTY PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
*Sheldon S. Epstein, Chair*

**-Approved on September 10, 2013-**

**MEETING NOTES**  
**April 23, 2013**  
**4:00 p.m.**

**Attendees:** Chair Sheldon Epstein, Ray Bahr, Jay Burman, Laura Cook, Jim Kelly, Ted Levin, Carol Silldorff, Myron Williams, and Bob Barrett.

Absent:

Gene Bertoni  
Jesse Fields  
Linda Grossman

Thomas Henry  
Pat McDougall  
Stephen Weber

Department of Planning staff present included Jeff Mayhew, Kathy Schlabach, Jenifer Nugent and Janice Graves

**1. Opening Remarks**

Mr. Sheldon Epstein opened the meeting at 4:15 p.m. once a quorum of members had arrived. After introductions, Mr. Epstein made the following announcements.

- Applications are due June 5<sup>th</sup> for the next round of the Maryland Bikeways Program.
- Funding for the completion of Catonsville Park improvements has been identified in the County Executives' Capital Improvement Program for FY 2014 and is currently under consideration by County Council as part of their budget review.

**2. Approval of the Meeting Notes from the March 12, 2013 Meeting**

Mr. Ted Levin made a motion to approve the meeting notes of March 12, 2013. Mr. Jay Burman seconded the motion and the meeting notes were approved unanimously.

### **3. Potential Priority Bicycle and Pedestrian Projects: Staff Recommendations, Discussion and Vote**

Ms. Kathy Schlabach stated that the recommendations from the March 12, 2013 meeting were reworked to focus on projects that could be proposed to receive funding from the Maryland Bikeways Program. Ms. Laura Cook questioned whether consideration was given to the suggestions made at the Citizen Input Meeting. Ms. Schlabach stated that not all interests in the county were represented at the CIM and that staff is recommending the projects that are the most feasible to implement this year with state funding.

The five projects staff proposed are:

- Arbutus/Patapsco Route – exclusively an on-road bike route with a signage connecting to Patapsco Valley State Park
- Security/Ingleside Loop – Heavily supported by the community, Phase One of this project consists of signage and striping and would connect neighborhoods to the Gwynns Falls Trail
- Kenilworth Avenue – part of the Towson Spokes project, which was presented at the CIM. This portion is just signage and would extend what is being planned as the Towson Loop
- Dundalk Loop – Mr. Gene Bertoni had expressed interest in getting business community funding to do bike lane striping on Dundalk Avenue from the city line to Sollers Point High School
- North Point Heritage Greenway Trail – Also presented at the CIM, it may be possible to conduct a feasibility study since there could be funding available for a match through grants the county has received associated with the War of 1812 bicentennial efforts.

Ms. Schlabach suggested that for next year, the Cromwell Valley and Northeast Trails could be the focus and allow time to garner more citizen involvement for fundraising and support. It was explained that since implementing trails is a very costly undertaking and that the county cannot meet the match requirements for funding of trails, the communities could lead on those efforts. Ms. Schlabach suggested the Catonsville Rails to Trails work effort to use as a model.

Questions and discussions followed regarding the proposed projects and the funding needs. It was expressed by several of the committee that the five proposed projects were not enough considering the pot of money coming from the MD Bikeways Program and that a potential opportunity could be missed.

Mr. Ray Bahr motioned, and Mr. Jim Kelly seconded, that more projects should be bundled together to maximize state funding. Mr. Bahr stated that the six projects in the Catonsville area as described in a letter from Catonsville Rails To Trails, Inc. to the PBAC could be bundled to create one of four grant requests, along with the Towson Spokes, Dundalk Avenue and the North Point project. Ms. Laura Cook and Mr. Kelly expressed that they too were interested in bundling more projects together and discussion followed regarding how the costs could be allocated.

Ms. Cook then proposed to prioritize the list of projects as:

- North Point Heritage Greenway Trail
- Catonsville Area Projects
- Towson Spokes
- Dundalk

After discussion, Mr. Bahr moved to amend his original motion to bundle the Catonsville projects and the Towson projects as two separate grant proposals in addition to the North Point trail and the Dundalk improvements. Mr. Kelly seconded the motion and the vote passed unanimously.

Ms. Schlabach then asked the committee for assistance in getting letters of recommendations from the communities and the County Council representatives for support of these projects.

#### **4. Other business**

Mr. Fran Taylor, representing the North Point Peninsula Council, came forward to thank the PBAC for their commitment to recommending these projects. He invited the committee to come to the North Point Peninsula for a tour.

Mr. Epstein then asked the committee to consider canceling the scheduled June meeting in order to accommodate getting the grant proposals together. A motion was made to cancel the June meeting until September by Mr. Levin. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kelly and a vote was passed unanimously.

#### **5. Adjournment**

Mr. Burman motioned for the meeting to be adjourned. Mr. Kelly seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 5:01 pm.