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*County Executive*

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

**-Approved November 12, 2013-**

**MEETING NOTES**  
**September 10, 2013**  
**4:00 p.m.**

**Attendees:** Chair Sheldon Epstein, Ray Bahr, Laura Cook, Hir Bhandari, Jim Kelly, Ted Levin, Carol Silldorff, Myron Williams, Bob Barrett, Linda Grossman, Pat McDougall

Absent: Gene Bertoni, Jay Burman, Tom Henry, Steve Weber

Department of Planning staff present included Jeff Mayhew, Kathy Schlabach, Matthew Diana and Janice Graves

**1. Opening Remarks**

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

- County Council approved Bill 38-13 on June 3, 2013, to require bike parking for new development in Towson and Catonsville.
- Also on June 3rd, the council approved Resolution 51-13 which requests the PBAC to investigate the feasibility of establishing a bike sharing program in the county.
- The Department of Planning submitted applications for Maryland Bikeways Grants for the PBAC's recommended projects for the Southwest Area, Towson and Dundalk on June 5th. The state is expected to announce the grant recipients this month.

**2. Approval of Meeting Notes from the April 23, 2013 Meeting**

Mr. Ted Levin made a motion to approve the meeting notes of April 23, 2013. Mr. Jim Kelly seconded the motion and the meeting notes were approved unanimously.

### **3. Review of Work Program and Meeting Schedule**

Ms. Kathy Schlabach reviewed the revised work program for the remainder of 2013, and a proposed meeting schedule and work program for 2014. The change in the work schedule was necessitated by the County Council action requesting the PBAC provided recommendations on bikesharing by October 31. Ms. Schlabach suggested that the PBAC review of code and zoning revisions be rescheduled for 2014 to address sidepath and sidewalk use, liability and maintenance issues. Ms. Schlabach also suggested that the 2014 meeting schedule include a report from Baltimore Metropolitan Council Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Group and a Citizen Input Meeting on Priority Projects at the first meeting.

After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Kelly to accept the Revised 2013 and Proposed 2014 Meeting Schedule and Work Program, which was seconded by Mr. Levin. All voted in favor except for Mr. Ray Bahr.

Mr. Bahr stated that he was concerned about the change to the work plan because he felt fundamental elements had been removed, specifically, the item referred to as "Zoning and Code Amendments for Complete Streets." There was also general concern that the PBAC's Complete Streets recommendations had not been adopted by the county. Mr. Bahr then motioned that the committee revisit the work program and investigate getting the Complete Streets adopted. Mr. Levin seconded the motion.

Upon further discussion, it was motioned by Ms. Laura Cooke that the previous motion be amended to request a letter from the chair of the PBAC to be sent to the County Council asking for the status of the Complete Streets report. Mr. Bahr seconded, and all voted in favor.

Mr. Bahr then motioned to repeal the approved schedule and amend the second bullet of the 2014 Work Program List of Mandated Duties as "Review of the code, including sidewalk and sidepath use, liability and maintenance." Mr. Kelly seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

### **4. Review of Bike Sharing Program Feasibility**

Ms. Schlabach presented the Bike Sharing Program Feasibility Report which elicited the following comments:

- Ms. Cook noted that she believes that Baltimore County is not yet ready for a large scale bike program and that it might be advantageous to piggy back on the adoption of the program by Baltimore City.
- Ms. Carol Silldorff then questioned how connected the bike share from the city to the county would be. She also stated that biking is easier in the city than the county.
- Mr. Levin noted that bike sharing infrastructure is contingent upon the Complete Streets program.

- Ms. Linda Grossman suggested that building capacity for bicycling should come first.
- Mr. Kelly suggested that more research be done regarding how successful or useful a bike sharing program might actually be. He noted that Goucher College has attempted a similar program and suggested that the committee get in touch with someone at Goucher.
- Mr. Pat McDougall pointed out that the suggestions of the committee are echoed in the bike sharing feasibility study and recommended that the committee adopt the report.

Mr. Kelly made a motion to accept the report. Mr. Levin seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

### **5. Other business**

Ms. Allysha Lorber, chair of the Fifth District Pedestrian and Bicycle Subcommittee offered a report on current progress and future priorities. She described the first Towson Bike Mosey event, in which about 50 people participated. The subcommittee would like to make the event a regular activity, and promote similar events in other parts of the county. Future priority projects include: additions to the Towson Spokes project, a Herring Run Trail, expansion of the bike parking requirement to include existing uses, Cromwell Valley Park Trail, and extending the North Central Trail to the Jones Falls Trail.

### **Adjournment**

Mr. Levin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Kelly seconded and the meeting adjourned at approximately 5:15.

