

PBTSAC Meeting Minutes

7.25.19

Attendees:

Kristy Daphnis	Leah Walton	Sean Emerson
Heidi Coleman	Emil Wolanin	Vanesa Pinto
Angela Ashe	Nicole Breedlove	Flor Yanes
George Branyan	Pele Kimimino	Ross Filice
Alison Gillespie	Wanda Lehman	John Hoobler
Derek Gunn	Don Slater	Tom Hucker
Luisa Montero-Diaz	Josh Tulkin	Hans Riemer

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION TO COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Minutes: K Daphnis called meeting to order at 7:15 pm and did introductions.

J Hoobler: Presented Wade Holland's slides on Silver Spring crash data and Vision Zero (VZ) High Injury Networks

DISTRICT COUNCIL MEMBER ADDRESS

T Hucker: Glad to be here; thanks to all of you for your work; I have been on the Transportation and Energy (T&E) Committee for four and a half years and am currently the Chair; frustrated with where we are, we would have more crashes but for your work but we still have to turn the corner. Public generally ahead of the government. Fortunate to be here with Emil Wolanin, MCDOT has been a great partner on a lot of efforts, Dale Drive is a good example. We have struggled to partner with SHA & MCPD; 1 way to be safe is to invest in getting cars off the roads, to that end we put money in BiPPAs. BiPPAs are Bicycle and Pedestrian Priority Areas. We just passed the Bicycle Master Plan.

K Daphnis: What are specific T&E priorities for Silver Spring and the County?

T Hucker: Advance money in the CIP for BiPPAs, etc. that we can put on the table. The new MCPD Chief is very important to these efforts. We need more enforcement and more money for speed sentries

H Coleman: We need to ask Tom Didone for Takoma Park data

G Branyan: Are there any legislative issues?

T Hucker: Traffic laws are usually done at the State level; having been on that committee it takes years. Metro just ended turnbacks, it took a town hall meeting with you all, students, developers, and more to make it work

LITTLE FALLS PARKWAY & CAPITAL CRESCENT TRAIL

H Coleman: There have been a couple of fatalities at the Capital Crescent Trail (CCT) and Little Falls Parkway (LFP); the Planning Department, who owns the road, put in a temporary road diet, in alignment with VZ principles. They looked at 3 long term solutions, all with the road diet, the solutions were 1) keep crossing as is; 2) move trail to Arlington Road; and 3) build a bridge. The Planning Board met and adopted option 2) but got rid of the road diet. We recommended option 1) as did the Parks report.

H Coleman: There is a new member of the Planning Board joining tomorrow, maybe we can re-raise the issue to get a new vote? Can County Council step in to cut funding for the new plan?

K Daphnis: We, as a committee, advise the County Council (CC) and County Executive (CE), but at this juncture all we can do is write a letter to the CC and CC. We will share a draft of the letter to committee members via email

Resident: The Planning Board may reconsider based on data

Resident: Can you put out a public letter?

A Gillespie: Very expensive

G Brayan: Bringing peds/bikes to a signal in a vacuum is actually safer, but if they have to wait a long time to cross you see unsafe behavior

H Coleman: I have a rough draft of the letter, let us know of edits

COMMUNITY INPUT

V Pinto: I have lived in Long Branch for 15 years; New Hampshire Estates ES at Carroll is an issue because we are concerned about Carroll Ave. There is no School Zone and cars go fast. There is no speed detection and there might be crashes with kids/parents. The speed bumps were removed

E Wolanin: Our Safe Routes to Schools program and Area Engineers will investigate this

F Yanes: Rolling Terrace ES is an issue because parking forces slow travel, but it is always dangerous for kids getting out of school. Bayfield Street & Barron Street intersection has problems

J Tulkin: Flower Ave has first mile/last mile issues; how can we streamline the sidewalk process for Purple Line?

E Wolanin: Tim Cupples at MCDOT surveyed all those areas to see what State Highway Administration was missing in their Purple Line project and we are putting together for the budget a Purple Line Sidewalk program

K Daphnis: Can we do a briefing at the next meeting on this?

E Wolanin: Yes!

Resident: People in this area want to be more involved in the process and be more aware; people are upset over tree clearing

K Daphnis: What is the best way to gather ped/bike/traffic safety feedback from this community?

Resident: More meetings like this one; happy to see the concern for peds in this area; makes us feel safe; our kids like to ride bikes; I feel safe because you guys are doing a good job; could you integrate us more in the process? Also, helpful to know about new developments in this area

K Daphnis: to T Hucker: Interested in ped/bike safety forum? Long Branch/Wheaton/Aspen Hill?

T Hucker: Yes!

Resident: Re: resident involvement, community meetings are good, handouts ahead of time are good, Spanish only

Resident: Re: resident involvement, I am on the Rolling Terrace ES PTA, having multiple meetings and times and providing childcare is huge, this current format does not work for most families, everyone wants to be involved

Resident: What outreach efforts did you do for this meeting?

A Gillespie: I reached out to the community via schools

V Pinto: Reach out to schools and they can spread the word

L Montero: to V Pinto: Will you be our conduit to the community?

V Pinto: Yes!

J Tulkin: CASA is also a good vehicle for outreach

Resident: There is a 4-way STOP sign petition by Highland View ES at Bradford & E Schuyler

N Breedlove: Wanted to reiterate New Hampshire Estates ES issues; parents need more recreational opportunities; MD 193 is a big barrier to cross over; unpleasant travel lanes discourage ped activity; sad when trees die; New Hampshire Estates neighborhood on County line and feels sometimes neglected

J Hoobler: 2nd Round Safe Routes to Schools (SRTS) studies coming out soon for some of these schools

D Gunn: We will definitely look at MD 193 and at some of the Purple Line questions. Adding stripes and other speed reductions

K Daphnis: Moving into MCPPTA remarks

SCHOOLS' SAFETY REMARKS

A Gillespie: We want an SRTS champion for every school

A Gillespie: Oakview ES Principal says crosswalks and signs are in dire need of repair; school zones should be consistent throughout the County. Need to prioritize signing and marking and drop speeds

A Gillespie: Need more crossing guards; sidewalks are dangerous; lots of community enthusiasm; love the schools. MCCPTA wants to hit the ground running, Oct 19th, 2019 is the tentative date for a big forum

K Daphnis: Proposed PBTSAC partner with MCCPTA for forum

H Riemer: Seconded

K Daphnis: Vote -> all in favor

Motion passed

OPEN DISCUSSION

K Daphnis: to H Riemer: Thanks for coming

AT-LARGE COUNCIL MEMBER ADDRESS

H Riemer: I came from a Purple Line meeting; partnership between MCCPTA and PBTSAC has a lot of power and potential. Speed limits bill passed from last session. Veirs Mill Corridor Master Plan put forward a lot of work; lots of bike infrastructure going up and already on the ground in downtown SS; BiPPAs are where the money is at. BiPPAs are Bicycle and Pedestrian Priority Areas. Disagree with the Planning Board's decision on LFP & CCT, will be sending a letter to the Planning Board. Pedestrian Master Plan from MNCPPC is a big opportunity for the committee to get involved.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

K Daphnis: Let me know of topics/issues

H Coleman: Next meeting is in Rockville, will look at Purple Line issues

K Daphnis: Next community PBTSAC meeting will probably be in Bethesda

V Pinto: Block Party September 21st at New Hampshire Estates ES 11-2 pm

A Ashe: VZ Equity Task Force readout

K Daphnis: Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm