The Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration (MDOT SHA) invites you to attend a virtual pre-construction informational meeting for a temporary Multi-Modal Shared Streets Pilot Project, to be implemented on MD 193 (University Boulevard) between Amherst Avenue and Arcola Avenue in Wheaton, Montgomery County. Work is scheduled to begin later this spring, and the new traffic patterns will be in effect through late fall 2021.

The meeting will be held using Microsoft Teams, Thursday, May 13 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. The meeting link will be posted on the MD 193 Shared Streets Project Portal Page, which can be accessed at: http://bit.ly/MDOTSHA-MD193-Amherst-Arcola-Shared-Streets or by using the QR Code.

The phone number to call in to the meeting (audio only) is: +1-443-409-5228
Phone Conference ID: 555 107 813#

Though people calling in will be able to hear the presenters and discussion, they will be unable to see the presentation. We encourage you to use the meeting link posted on the Project Portal Page to view all meeting materials.

The meeting will familiarize attendees with the project scope. MDOT SHA representatives will be available to answer project-related questions. The public is encouraged to leave comments and ask questions in an online comment form, located under Community Outreach and Newsletters on the Project Portal. We encourage sending questions and comments in advance so that we may address them during the virtual meeting. Attendees will also be able to send questions or comments through the Chat feature during the meeting.

New Traffic Patterns to be Implemented Late Spring 2021; Virtual Public Meeting Scheduled

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Project Background and Overview

This context-driven project seeks to balance multi-modal mobility and access to and from commercial, residential and recreational centers in Wheaton. Additionally, the demand for and access to outdoor recreational amenities have increased amid COVID restrictions.

In response, state and local transportation agencies have pursued non-traditional means to service increased pedestrian and bicyclist demand. These changes include temporarily re-purposing travel lanes into shared streets to enhance safety and mobility for all roadway users.

The pilot project improvements include:

- Reducing the number of vehicular through-lanes from 3 lanes to 2 lanes on westbound and eastbound MD 193
- Repurposing travel lanes adjacent to the curbs on westbound and eastbound MD 193 for use by bicyclists
- Modifying the lane assignments on the Arcola Avenue approach to MD 193 to connect bicyclists to the MD 193 interim bike lanes
- Installing vertical delineators (flexible posts) to separate travel lanes from bike lanes
- Installing signing and striping within the project limits

Note: Access to all businesses, driveways, and bus stops will be maintained.

Meeting Announcement

Spring 2021
Traffic Impact

The new travel patterns to accommodate outside bicycle lanes will be in effect between summer and fall 2021. The remaining two through-lanes on westbound and eastbound MD 193 will continue to be used by vehicular traffic. Following the end of this period, MDOT SHA will remove all flex posts and temporary line striping and restore the use of all three lanes by vehicular traffic.

Bicyclists traveling along MD 193 should utilize the protected outside lanes. Pedestrians should walk along the existing sidewalk undistracted through intersections with phones down and listening devices off. MDOT SHA works hard to maintain safe traffic flow for all users. Drivers must stay alert, focus on driving, and take note of pedestrians and bicyclists along the roadway, lane reductions, as well as other traffic pattern changes.

Find Us on the Web

For more information on this project, please go directly to http://bit.ly/MDOTSHA-MD193-Amherst-Arcola-Shared-Streets or visit MDOT SHA’s website at www.roads.maryland.gov.

@MDOTSHA
@MDSHA
MarylandStateHighwayAdmin
MDStateHighwayAdmin

For More Information

For project pre-construction questions about the MD 193 Multi-Modal Shared Streets Pilot Project, please contact:

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Request for Assistance

The Maryland Relay Service can assist teletype users at 7-1-1. Persons requiring translation assistance with this newsletter should send an email to: shatitlevi@mdot.maryland.gov. Please indicate the desired language in the subject line.

Chinese:

請在電子郵件主題標籤上 <Chinese>。

Amharic:

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Vietnamese:

Để nhận được bản tin này bằng tiếng Việt, xin vui lòng gửi email (thư điện tử) đến shatitlevi@sha.state.md.us. Xin vui lòng biểu thị <Vietnamese> trong dòng tiêu đề email.

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