

**Cecil County Bicycle Plan (CCBP)**  
**Advisory Committee Meeting Notes**  
**Draft**  
May 30, 2012

**Attendees**

Larry Gredlein, SHA  
Rob Chirnside, Cecil County Health Department  
Brenda Cochran, Town of Cecilton  
Tony DiGiacomo, Cecil County Office of Planning and Zoning  
Tamika Graham, WILMAPCO  
Dave Gula, WILMAPCO  
Michael Jackson, Maryland Department of Transportation  
Doris Miklitz, Citizen Advocate  
Chris Rogers, URS  
Sharon Weygand, Town of Chesapeake City  
Betsy Vennell, Town of North East  
Joe Zang, Town of Cecilton  
Dennis Simpson, MDTA

**Prioritization**

At the last meeting, the committee reviewed a handout of proposed prioritization criteria. The criteria would provide a process for the County and Towns to evaluate which projects should move ahead first based on merits. It was then agreed upon that everyone needed more time to look over the criteria and would provide comments for adjustments. The handout was updated to reflect comments received. Some changes included adding a category for bike parking or better access to bike parking, non-infrastructure considerations, and local jurisdiction buy-in. It was also recognized that non-infrastructure factors are difficult to quantify and would be subjective. Prior to the meeting, SHA also shared an example of how the economic impacts of bicycling could be measured. The Trail Towns program in Western MD has a model for determining how much local revenue is generated from trail users. The group expressed interest in learning more about the model and how it could be applied in the County. Mr. DiGiacomo shared a present challenge with non-motorized accommodations using Razor Strap Road as an example. Mr. Rodgers asked for more clarification on the intended use of the criteria. Mr. Gula stated it could help the Towns went compiling their priority letters each year via the County to the state. There were no further comments for additional factors to consider.

**Draft Recommendations**

Ms. Graham led the group through a draft of recommended bicycle accommodations by roadway segments. Segments included were vetted in past meetings. Town representatives present were Cecilton, Chesapeake City, and North East. Mr. Zang and Ms. Cochran were comfortable with

the Cecilton proposal, but were still perplexed by truck traffic along MD 213. Mr. Gula explained how bicyclists can help with traffic calming. Ms. Weygand and Ms. Vennell pointed out that the C & D Canal and access to Elk Neck Trails, respectively, were missing from the list.

Mr. Jackson expressed concern about the proposal in the Town of Rising Sun to re-route cyclists off of the main thoroughfare. It was explained that the alternative route could be safer and is not intended to discourage cyclists from patronizing the Town. Mr. Simpson stated that it could be difficult to mandate the Army Corps of Engineers to rebuild the MD 213 Bridge over the Chesapeake Canal up to multimodal standards. The point was discussed further, along with past examples related to bike facilities with ACE. Mr. Rodgers expressed concern about many of the recommendations as retrofits, as there are plans presently underway in the County that could incorporate new facilities. Mr. DiGiacomo shared a contact for a previous study at the intersection of Mechanics Valley Road and MD 7 that would be useful to peruse.

The group also reviewed a draft of cost per unit estimates for bike related improvements, such as cost for sharrows and paving shoulders. Mr. Gredlein stated he would look into cost estimates that were more up to date and specific figures for Maryland.

A third handout of goals, strategies, and recommended actions was explained. At first glance, members listed several changes they would like to see, such as adding public institutions to assist with achieving bicycle education objectives. While not feasible to review line by line due to time constraints, the group agreed to review more closely and turn in comments by Friday, June 8<sup>th</sup>.

## **Public outreach**

Since the last meeting, three outreach events were attended for the plan. Port Deposit hosted a transit study workshop on April 17<sup>th</sup> that served as an opportunity to share the plan's goals and understand local bicycle concerns and ideas from Port Deposit residents. On May 5<sup>th</sup>, boards and a transportation survey asked residents about their concerns during Port Deposit's Port Palooza. Then, the North East TOD Study workshop on May 23<sup>rd</sup> featured the plan's draft recommendations. A valuable amount of public feedback was received. Another open house public workshop is scheduled for May 31 in Chesapeake City.

## **Next Steps**

Once draft recommendations have been reviewed closely and comments submitted, an updated copy will be provided to the committee based upon input. Also, a draft document will be available to the committee for comment soon.

## **Other Business**

There was none.