

**Planning Advisory Board
Meeting Summary
May 13, 2020**

Attendance:

Geoffrey Close (Chair)
James Thornton
Diane Sengstacke
Aaron Penman

P&Z Staff:

Brad Killian
Jennifer Freeman

Other:

Joel Gallihue – Planning and Zoning

- 1) The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.
- 2) **Minutes/Summary**

The PAB members approved the summary of the March 2020 PAB meeting.

- 3) **Bike/Pedestrian Plan**

Joel Gallihue from Planning and Zoning made a presentation about Bike and Pedestrian Planning. He pointed out that there are several County Plans which include HarfordNext, Harford Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan and Aberdeen Proving Ground Joint Land Use Study. HarfordNext sets county land use plans. It establishes mobility, connectivity and health goals. It also directs more refined planning work which includes the Green Infrastructure Plan and Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. Capital Plans must conform to HarfordNext. Harford Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan (Harford LPPRP) sets county goals for recreation and parkland. It plans for public land acquisition, identifies greenways and water trails, and sketches out capital plans which are later finalized in capital budgets. The Aberdeen Proving Ground Joint Land Use Study (APG JLUS) recommends bike share and bike storage at MARC Train stations. It recommends bike lanes along SR 22 and SR 24. It also identifies deficit of urban lifestyle amenities and recommends a Master Plan for Transit Oriented Development in Edgewood.

The County can be split into corridors which include: Upper Creek, Rail Trail, Conowingo, Greenway, Mountain, Post and Pulaski. These corridors can be linked. Corridor Planning includes different strategies. They include neighborhood, excursion and linkages. Neighborhood planning includes different ways to get around including

biking, walking, and transit. There are linear parks and connections to excursions. Excursion planning is outside the development envelope. It includes rural bicycle road riding, scenic byways, East Coast Greenway and Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway. Access brings quality of life to neighborhoods and connects to other experiences like hiking and paddling. Linkage planning has separate bike infrastructures. It connects sections of development envelope across Agriculture or reinforces corridors.

He showed a few examples of corridors in Harford County. These include East Coast Greenway and Pulaski Corridor, which included the Joppa/Trimble/Willoughby link and Edgewood. He went over a few ideas that would be good for Harford County: Susquehanna Bike and Pedestrian Crossing, East Coast Green Way off roads, Bike to Blueways and Ma & Pa to HCC. He showed a few recommendation on how to do some of these.

Mr. Close asked if bike linkages would be on main roads. Mr. Gallihue said they could consist of bike lanes, trails or run parallel to main roads. It would most likely be a combination. Mr. Penman asked about the parking at the various trails. Mr. Gallihue said that was a good suggestion to keep in mind while planning. Mr. Thornton asked how the success of planning has been. Mr. Gallihue said there have been several well attended events which have helped with getting research of types of lanes, trails and how to plan for safety. Mr. Penman asked if we would see more Capital Projects in the future from different department. Mr. Gallihue said they would more likely be add-ons to larger projects. Ms. Sengstacke said bike trails will be good for the future as far as tourism and economic development. Mr. Penman asked if there was a timeline for the Ma & Pa trail to be connected to HCC. Mr. Gallihue said there needs to be a feasibility study first. Mr. Killian said they have basically had to start over. Mr. Thornton asked if there was a county that served as a good model. Mr. Gallihue pointed out that Montgomery and Prince Georges Counties have a Park and Planning Agency. And some places have served as ways things haven't worked out. For example, they have had more accidents. Mr. Killian said New Castle, Delaware is a good model. As well as some of the beach communities. Mr. Close said it seems like this would be easier to implement in rural areas. So it should work in Harford County. Mr. Gallihue said there is an advantage. And Harford County has a lot of right-of-way on their roads that can be used.

4) **Other Business**

The members talked about how the Planning and Zoning Department and local government has responded to Covid-19. The next PAB meeting will be June 10th and will most likely also be held virtually.

This meeting was adjourned at 7:11 PM.

