

Transportation Services Advisory Council
Minutes of July 15, 2022 Meeting
Via Web Ex

Members/Ex-Officio Present: Tim Davis, Christina Forbes, Tiffany Fossett, Joshua Bokee, Thomas Davy, Hongwei Xu, Alderman Kelly Russell, David Edmondson, Carol Sepe, Wilfred Plumley, Mark Mishler, Mayor Debby Burgoyne, and Darren Bean.

Staff and Guests: Shraddha Praharaj, Shayne Boucher, Jaime McKay, and Sandy Ruark.

Call to Order: Tim Davis called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. Tim reported there are several vacancies on TSAC and asked if anyone knew of someone who would be interested in joining the Council to ask them to contact him.

Introductions: Jaime McKay introduced attendees of the meeting.

Tim Davis mentioned:

- The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) Office of Capital Programs has issued two plans for review: one for freight and one for rail. The rail plan will include MARC; however, the freight plan will not include the municipal airport. Both plans have been issued for 30-day review. Tim contacted the MDOT Office of Capital Programs Director to ask if they would like formal comment on the plans from TSAC and/or TransIT Services. Tim added that The City of Frederick Planning Department has not received a request for comment. Tim will notify us when he receives a response from the director as to the proper protocol for comments.
- The City of Frederick is nominating an individual for the Maryland Sustainability Growth Awards. Supporting applications are due today and the Frederick County Planning Director asked if TSAC would provide a letter of support. Tim will send a draft letter of support by email to members today for approval and forward it to the Planning Director to meet the deadline.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the May meeting were approved as submitted.

Elected Officials Report: Alderman Russell reported:

- The High Wheel Race will be held tomorrow. During the race intermission at 1:00 pm, there will be a Runt Race which is a small wheel race. Alderman Russell will be participating in an effort to defend her previous heat championship. Thomas Davy asked if the High Wheel Race is planned to be an annual event and Shayne Boucher confirmed that the race will be held annually.
- The Asbury Block Party will also be held tomorrow.
- The All-City Planning Community Meeting will be held on July 18 to orient the community of upcoming planning projects. The meeting will be held at City Hall at 6:00 pm.
- National Night Out is August 2nd. The event is an opportunity for the community to come together and interact with the police department and to learn about services that are available. National Night Out will be held at four locations – Mullinix Park, Hill Street Park, Carrollton Park, and Lucas Village Park.

Old Business:

Bus Shelter Update: Jaime McKay stated that TransIT has been working to establish more bus stops and shelters, improving amenities at existing bus stops, and to report on where our projects and efforts are at this time. Along 7th Street, across from the Frederick Health Hospital, a bus shelter pad is being installed. This location was a community priority. Working in conjunction with the Hospital staff, the concrete pad should be completed in approximately a week and a shelter erected within the next month or so.

Additionally, at the bus stop on West 7th Street and Tollhouse Avenue, there are currently a set of planters that commuters have been using as seats. TransIT is evaluating solutions to provide better amenities at this location.

TransIT has been working with The City of Frederick to ensure that bus stops being impacted by construction on Baughman's Lane are made more comfortable and accessible. A new bus shelter pad has been constructed and a bench will be placed outside the Belle Air Farm Development. On the opposite side of the street, a landing pad has been installed where TransIT buses can stop on a firm and accessible location for passengers to alight.

Joshua Bokee questioned if future funding is in place to continue with future bus stop installations. Jaime McKay stated that as part of TransIT's ARPA funding committed to by the County, TransIT will initiate a project entitled "Better Bus Stops and Transfer Facilities". This project is in the preliminary stages. TransIT will use its Transit Development Plan (TDP), along with a statewide transit innovation grant product from FY20, to prioritize where bus stops will be placed, amenities provided, and to identify opportunities to begin these processes.

New Business:

Reappointment of Joseph Conny: TSAC members voted unanimously in favor of recommending Joseph Conny for a second term as an At-Large representative on TSAC.

Planning Commission Update: Carol Sepe reported that the Sugarloaf Treasured Landscape Management Plan was approved by the Frederick County Planning Commission and will now be forwarded to the County Council. The County Council will hold a public hearings on the plan. The plan is available for comments on the Frederick County's Livable Frederick website.

Carol reported that the Planning Commission has also started work on the South Frederick Corridor. The Planning Commission will be conducting a few workshops and then schedule an opportunity for public hearings. Written comments are welcomed. If anyone who would like to review the plan, it is also located on Frederick County's Livable Frederick website.

Carol also reported that Frederick County Planning Commission 2021 Annual Report has been submitted to the Maryland Department of Planning recently. The report includes the activities of the Planning Commission during the last year, specifically:

- Residential permits were up 10%.
- Commercial growth was down.
- Subdivision site plans were up 307% overall in the County.
- Half of residential permits were within municipalities and the other half were in the County.

The Annual Report can also be reviewed on Frederick County's Livable Frederick website.

Mark Mishler provided an update on:

- Draft Complete and Green Streets Plan – The Planning Division has been working with a consultant to help prioritize new or retrofit road construction and the multi-modal aspects of each with planned guidance based on where you live. The plan includes storm water aspects and how they affect road construction. The plan should be available by the beginning of August. The plan is available on the Frederick County Design and Engineering website.
- At Lake Linganore, a new road is to be constructed. The new interchange at Meadow Road should be complete by late August, with the east and west bound ramps operational. Plans are underway for the first phase of the project at Lake Linganore Boulevard and Meadow Road which will accommodate new commercial development off the new road.
- The Frederick County Planning Division was awarded a TLC grant for a portion of the New Design Road corridor. As part of the planning process, Planning would like to create a shared used path, a bicycle connectivity effort from the City of Frederick to the C&O Canal along New Design Road.

David Edmondson presented an update on The City of Frederick's "Review of Bicycle Projects". Points of interest included:

- North Branch Trail
- 7th Street Protected Bike Lane
- Rails with Trails Phases 2, 3, and 4
- Golden Mile Multimodal Lane
- East Street Redesign
- Let's Move Frederick
 - A comprehensive bicycling plan for the City of Frederick
 - Making a walking and pedestrian plan
 - Priorities: Pedestrians, Bicycling
 - Financing

The presentation can be viewed in its entirety at [Member Page | Frederick County MD - Official Website](#) under the TSAC July 15, 2022 Meeting heading.

Shayne Boucher had questions on policies that would address electric scooters. David responded that any powered wheel devices should be used on a bike lane. For off-street shared use paths, a 15-20 mph speed limit will be set. The speed limit may need to be changed in the future, if necessary.

Shradda Praharaj thanked Roman Steichen and Jaime McKay for attending and testifying at the City of Frederick's Mobility Fee Workshop. The plan is scheduled to be presented to the Board of Alderman on August 4, 2022. The plan can be found on the City of Frederick's website under APFO and Mobility Fee. Anyone who has questions concerning the fee schedule can contact Shradda by email.

Shradda also added that the Baughman's Lane protected bike lane is nearly completely installed.

Maryland Transit Administration (MDOT MTA) Update: As Luke Benson was not present, Jaime McKay reported the following:

- MTA is currently working on scheduling Frederick County's Pre-Tour and Tour dates for its Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP) which typically occur between October and November. More information on the scheduled dates will be provided once established.

SHA Update: Darren Bean provided updates on:

- US 15 and Mt. Zion Park & Ride - Stormwater issues delayed the project. Final paving is complete and lot striping will be complete next week. Anticipated completion of the project is mid to late August.
- MD 85 and I-270 Interchange – Required relocations on the project have delayed the project. Estimated completion is now spring 2023. Carol Sepe commented that the poor signage at the project's location is dangerous and needs to be improved.

FCPS Update: Fred Punturiero not present; no report.

Ft. Detrick Update: Wilfred Plumley had no new issues to report. However, there will be a ceremony on base today at 12:00 pm to name Command Sergeant Major. Staff Sergeant Michael Dills of Kansas will be installed at that time. On August 18th, there will be a Change in Command Ceremony for a new colonel. Colonel Ned Marsh will be installed at 10:00 am. Anyone who would like to attend the ceremony is welcome to attend.

Wilfred also reported that on September 10th, there will be a ten-mile runner's race on base at 8:00 am. Registration is \$5.00. The Garrison would like to generate interaction with on-base and off-base community members by holding this event.

MML Update: Major Debby Burgoyne had nothing to report at this time.

TransIT Update: Jaime McKay reported:

- There are four vacancies on TSAC. If you know of anyone that would be interested in joining the Council, please have them contact Tim Davis, Jaime McKay, or Sandy Ruark.
- Despite the rain, hundreds of participants attended the Bike to Work Day event. It was a great way to celebrate together after not being held for a couple years due to COVID-19.
- TransIT ridership continues to climb but is still not at pre-pandemic levels. TransIT has launched a pilot service that adds a single trip to the 65 Connector with service between downtown Frederick and Walkersville. This trip did not exist previously; but by finding efficiencies in scheduling, TransIT was able to add this service to the schedule. Additionally, a third run of the 50 Peak in the afternoon has been added to the schedule. With the addition of this service, all afternoon Peaks provide three trips in the afternoon. Ridership will be reassessed in the fall.
- TransIT has ordered a new cut-away bus but learned from the manufacturer that it will take over a year to build the chassis and deliver the vehicle. This delay indicates how far in advance planning is required to implement scheduling and service changes or to make repairs to the existing fleet.
- TransIT is continuing to bring new bus stops and shelters into the system. TransIT is working with the City of Frederick, the County, and developers to ensure that new bus stops that are being installed, or the ones already in place, have the proper amenities, and are well suited to TransIT's service now and in the future.

- TransIT continues to operate fare free and will provide adequate public notice when fares are resumed.
- An elections shuttle on the 20 Connector has been operating for the past week to provide for early voting.
- TransIT looks forward to hosting its Grand Opening Ceremony for its new facility. No date has been set but it will be announced once it has been confirmed.

Next Meeting: The next TSAC Meeting will be October 21, 2022, via WebEx at 9:30 am.

Adjourn - The meeting adjourned at 10:45 am.

Submitted by,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sandra J. Ruark".

Administrative Coordinator