

TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION

April 2018

Administrative:

- *Staff presented to the Mayor and Council safety improvements at the intersection of Maryland/S. Washington on April 9, 2018.*
- *Twinbrook Bikeshare Stations: Two stations were installed and went into operation in April 2018. Ribbon cutting ceremony was attended by the Mayor and County Executive.*
- *Staff is currently reviewing the submitted proposals for RFP 18-18 Transportation Planning Services and Traffic Engineering Services.*

Traffic Engineering/Operations: (DS)

- *Number of traffic signal preventive maintenance to date (FY18): 48*
- *Number of mechanical counts to date (FY 18): 93*
- *Number of traffic turning movement and pedestrian counts to date (FY 18): 23*
- *Completed 17 traffic signal service calls and 4 school flasher service calls.*
- *Reviewed 107 Miss Utility calls.*
- *Performed a pedestrian count at crosswalk in front of 1370 Piccard Drive.*
- *Conducted site visits to Baltimore Rd/Rockville HS, Crabb Ave/Burgundy Ct, Watts Branch Pkwy/Pender Place, First St/Wootton Pkwy, Baltimore Rd/Grandin Ave, Edmonston Dr/Gilbert Rd, Piccard Dr/King Farm Blvd, 107 Beall Avenue regarding service requests.*
- *Conducted a study for curve advisory speed on New Mark Esplanade between Lakeside Overlook and Watchwater Way.*
- *Reviewed submitted proposals for RFP 18-18 Traffic Engineering Services.*
- *Reviewed and provided comments on the revised traffic signal plans at W. Gude Dr/Research Blvd.*
- *Issued six Work Orders regarding service requests.*

Streetlights (AL):

- *Completed 46 streetlight service calls*
- *Checked 150+ lights. Nighttime inspections of various areas completed.*
- *Reported 3 streetlight power outages to Pepco (no voltages).*
- *Reported 7 streetlight problems to the City's contractor for repair.*

Bus Stops (OK):

- *Inspected bus shelters and litter receptacles along MD 355, MD 586, MD 28 as well as Twinbrook Pkwy and Baltimore Road.*
- *Responded to bus stop trash issues at Washington & Dawson, as well Wootton and Hurley.*
- *Pressure washed 2 bus shelters.*
- *City of Rockville was awarded \$396,000 from the 2017 Enhanced Mobility Program (administered by MWCOG) to improve accessibility and amenities at 78 bus stops and construct a sidewalk on Potomac Valley Rd. Award letter received from MWCOG, staff is currently working on submitting the grant documentation (required by Federal Transit Administration) to move through the final approval process. On April 9th, the Mayor and Council approved the City's Title VI Implementation Plan and authorizing resolution for the grant.*

- IFB was awarded for 8 new bus shelters (and associated hardware/replacement parts) placed with the vendor. Staff is currently finalizing plans for the 8-shelter installation. Shelter delivery received and inspected on 2/28/2018.

Pedestrian & Bicycle Coordination (OK):

- Twinbrook Bikeshare Expansion - the City received \$100,000 MDOT grant to install two new Capital Bikeshare stations, at the Twinbrook Metro station and at the intersection of Congressional and Jefferson. The stations form a part of a new eight-station network in the White Flint/Twinbrook area. *The stations were installed and went into operation in April 2018. Ribbon cutting ceremony was attended by the Mayor and County Executive.*
- Received and evaluated a Bike Rack Grant Program application for Woodmont Plaza. Coordinating with owner to select optimal location for installation of two bike racks.
- Conducted site visits to Scott Dr, Veirs Dr, Research Blvd and Upper Watts Branch Forest Preserve to evaluate feasibility of facilities proposed in the Bikeway Master Plan.
- *Attended the April RBAC meeting and provided an update on City projects, discussed preparation of Spring/Summer bike events and Bike to Work Day.*
- *Submitted an application for funding for preliminary engineering design for the Scott Drive/Veirs Drive shared use path (proposed in BMP) through the Transportation Land-Use Connections Program grant (administered by MWCOG).*
- *Staff participated in MWCOG's "Best Practices in Pedestrian and Bicycle Enforcement" Workshop.*
- *At the invitation of Montgomery County Commuter Services, staff participated in the Montgomery College Health Fair / Bike-2-College Day event on the Rockville campus.*

Development Review: (FM/OK)

- 1) 15825 Shady Grove Road, 2092-2098 Gaither Road, 2-4 Choke Cherry Road – Shady Grove MXD Development – A PJT application was received for this site which proposes replacing 435,506 SF of Office with 129,900 SF Retail, 110,000 SF of Office, 140 Room Hotel and 1249 Residential Dwelling Units. A revised Scoping Intake Form was submitted showing an increase of 944 AM, 2300 PM and 2145 SAT net new peak hour trips. The applicant will be required to study a minimum of 16 intersections. The project plan is under review by Staff.
- 2) 1500 to 1616 Rockville Pike –A PAM submission (PAM2018-00107) was received for a proposed mixed use development consisting of 1865 multi-family dwelling units, 431,440 SF of office, 472,950 SF of retail and a 226-seat live theater. There are no prior approvals for the site. A scoping intake form was submitted and approved showing 1,394 AM, 1,908 PM, and 1,854 SAT net new peak hour trips. The applicant is required to study at least 16 nearby intersections. At a follow-up meeting the applicant presented the proposed project phasing and informed the proposed development will be identified as the “Twinbrook Quarter”. The project plan is under review by staff.
- 3) 4 Research Place – A site plan application was received which seeks approval for construction of a new 88,000 SF self-storage facility. A scoping intake form was received and approved showing 8 AM, and 8 PM net new peak hour vehicle trips. Therefore, the applicant was required to submit an on-site transportation report, in accordance with the CTR. The site plan is under review by staff.
- 4) 900 Rockville Pike – A project plan proposing a commercial/retail center consisting of 6,084 SF of Retail and 900 SF of Office space was received. A scoping intake form was

approved showing less than 30 net new peak hour trips. Therefore, the applicant will be required to submit an on-site transportation report. Site plan is under review by staff.

- 5) 9701 Veirs Drive – The Village at Rockville – A site plan application (STP2017-00320) proposes to replace nine (9) residential triplex buildings with a new independent living building containing 112 units. A scoping intake form was submitted and approved showing less than 30 net new peak hour trips. An on-site transportation report has been submitted and hearing before the Planning Commission scheduled for April 25, 2018.
- 6) 12720 Twinbrook Parkway – Avalon Bay – A minor site plan amendment was received seeking to amend the location of the site access point on Ardennes Avenue and other minor changes. The proposed amendment does not alter the approved density. The site plan is under review by staff.
- 7) 1125 Rockville Pike – Audi Auto Dealership – A PAM submission was received which seeks to completely renovate and reconfigure the interior and expand the building footprint by 2,600 SF. while expanding the total building area by 8,117 SF. The site plan will also alter the parking and site circulation. A draft scoping intake form has been received.
- 8) 1300 E. Gude Drive – Gude Plaza - A PAM submission was received which seeks to reduce the existing 45,968 SF retail spaces by 32,048 SF and replace it with a 95,281 SF self-storage facility. A scoping intake form was submitted and currently under review by staff.
- 9) Redland Rd/I-270 Exit Ramp – An application was received to construct a 93,385 SF self-storage facility (between 900-1000 units) off Redland Rd exit ramp from I-270. The property is currently unimproved. A scoping intake form was submitted and approved showing less than 30 peak hour trips. The site plan will be scheduled for a hearing before the Planning Commission.
- 10) 15 and 45 W. Gude Drive – A PAM submission was received which seeks a change in use for approximately 152,000 SF of already approved and unbuilt 220,540 SF of office development space remaining for the subject site, and construct a 165-bed (146 units) assisted living facility. This would reduce the remaining unbuilt office to approximately 66,500 SF. A scoping intake form was submitted showing significant reduction in peak hour trips. Therefore, only an on-site transportation report will be required, per the CTR.
- 11) 2131 Veirs Mill Road – A site plan application was received which seeks to expand the existing building footprint by 2,405 SF and change the use. The current use is a café/bar and the proposed use is a laundromat. A scoping intake form was approved showing less than 30 net new peak hour trips. Therefore, only an on-site transportation report is required, per the CTR.
- 12) 204 N. Stonestreet Avenue - A PAM submission was received which seeks to construct a self-storage facility (690 units) with ground floor retail (2,500) SF in a five-story building. A scoping intake form has been approved showing the proposed use will increase the AM and PM peak hour trips by 6 and 16 vehicle trips. Per the CTR, an on-site transportation report must be submitted and approved prior to site plan approval.
- 13) 27 Courthouse Square - A site plan has been submitted on behalf of the County seeking to renovate the existing one story grey courthouse building at the corner of S. Washington Street and East Jefferson Street, to house various county departments. Additional planned improvements include restriping the existing parking lot, adding new handicap accessible walkway and related entrance repairs. Site plan is under review by staff.
- 14) 1000 First Street- Maryvale Elementary & the Carl Sandburg Learning Center - Following staff review of the applicant's prepared transportation report and presentation to the Traffic and Transportation Commission, a site plan application (Mandatory Referral) has been

submitted which seeks to demolish the existing school and construct a new multi-use building that will house both the new Maryvale Elementary and Carl Sandberg Learning Center. The new addition is projected to increase the AM and PM peak hour volumes by 162 and 97 vehicles trips, respectively.

15) 1450 Rockville Pike – BMW of Rockville - A minor site plan amendment was received seeking to elimination of basement level, redistribute parking spaces, and other minor changes. The proposed amendment does not alter the approved density. The site plan is under review by staff.

16) *1335 Piccard Drive - A site plan application (STP2018-0037) proposes to change the use of an existing two-story vacant building from health center and dental clinic to proposed adult day care (maximum 144 participants) and adult living (maximum 25 beds). A scoping intake form was submitted and approved showing less than 30 net new peak hour trips.*

CIP:

Baltimore Road (AL)

- This is a CIP project to improve Baltimore Road between MD 28 and City limits. All temporary construction easements have been executed. Staff is coordinating with SHA and consultant for project approvals.

Pedestrian Safety

- TCSP Grant: The City received \$827,000 federal grant for pedestrian and bicycle improvements near the Rockville and Twinbrook Metrorail stations.
 - Rockville Station – S. Stonestreet Ave. Road Diet: All roadway items complete. Installation of storm water management facility completed and punch list items remain. (AL)
 - Twinbrook Pedestrian Safety – Construction is ongoing. Permanent roadway striping and punch list items remain. Contractor indicates that this will take place in mid-April. (AL)

Maryland/ Dawson Extended (AL)

- This project includes the extension of Dawson Avenue from N. Washington St to MD 355 and the extension of Maryland Ave from Beall Ave to future extension of Dawson Ave. Consultant working on 60% design. Ongoing coordination with adjacent property owners.

Sidewalks

- St. Raphael's Bike Path: Project was awarded and construction began the week of November 27, 2017. Construction is ongoing. (OK)
- Southlawn Lane – *Consultant working on 90% design, which is expected in late May. Coordination with adjacent property owner for easement is ongoing. Staff is coordinating with utility companies. Consultant is performing test pits.* (AL)
- Wootton Parkway – *Plans were finalized and approved. Procurement is in the process of advertising the project for bids.* (AL)
- North Horners – *Consultant is preparing 50% plans, SWM concept, and the NRI/FSD. Pepco has provided the project team with their pole relocation plans.* (AL)

Transportation Planning:

- City Master Plan: (FM)
 - Staff attended a general briefing meeting and is assisting in the review of the citizen comments provided during the three Public information sessions held at City Hall in January 2018 on draft transportation issues, strategies, and potential actions for related topics (Roads/Neighborhood Connectivity, Public Transportation, Pedestrian and Bike Accommodations). Staff is working closely with project team to evaluate, and present draft roadway/neighborhood connection concepts to the Planning Commission.
- Local Circulator Bus Feasibility Study (OK)
 - Staff completed a draft scope of work for a feasibility study for a local circulator, and comments from the Financial Board, and the T&T Commission were submitted to the Mayor and Council.
 - Staff received comments and direction from the Mayor and Council on 2/5/2018 and drafted the RFP as directed. *An RFP was advertised in April 2018 to identify unmet transportation needs in Rockville.*
- Stonestreet Corridor (FM)
 - Staff attended a general review and comment meeting on February 22 to present and discuss the proposed improvements for N. Stonestreet Avenue between Park Road and Lincoln Avenue, Park Road between N. and S. Stonestreet Avenues, and the signalized intersection of Park Road with S. Stonestreet Avenue. *This project will be discussed at the Mayor and Council session of May 21, 2018.*
- Wayfinding Plan (FM)
 - Staff prepared a work request for consultant service for development of a comprehensive wayfinding plan for several key areas within the City including the Town Center, Transit Station areas, and all other important destinations and landmarks. The RFP has been posted on the City's Website as of Friday March 23, 2018. *A total of four proposals has been received. A review committee has been formed to review the submitted proposals.*
- Montgomery County Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Study Group (EE)
 - The purpose of the project is to provide a new high-speed, high-efficiency bus transit service along 6.7 miles of Veirs Mill Rd (MD 586).
 - Alternatives 1, 2, 3, and 5B were presented to the Mayor and Council on 10/10/16, and M&C recommended Alternative 3 during the 11/21/16 session. A joint meeting with Gaithersburg and Montgomery County was held in March 2017.
 - Staff attended the MD 355 BRT Coordination Meeting on 3/15/2018 and will prepare for a M&C work session in July 2018.
- Watts Branch Parkway Traffic Diversion Plan (OK)
 - Sent out letters to civic and homeowners associations impacted by the proposed traffic diversion petition. Began collecting comments from associations and residents. Received over 50 responses by email and responded to several phone

calls from residents. *City staff will schedule a public meeting in May 2018 to discuss this issue with the community.*

- Street Closing & Abandonment (OK)
 - Began work on a request for the abandonment of an alleyway along Croydon Ave/S Horners Ln. Reviewed old plats and surveys, researched permits, conducted a site visit with Engineering to locate property markers/posts and stake-out the alley right-of-way and property lines. Completed initial survey report and scheduled meeting to brief the Director of Public Works.
 - Developed conceptual design for a hammerhead turnaround and associated easement that would be required, if alley abandonment is approved. Met with the owner of 404 Baltimore Road to explain the alley abandonment process and discuss the easement acquisition.
 - Received and currently reviewing two new requests for alley abandonments for an alley adjacent to 327 Horners Lane and an alley adjacent to 550 Reading Ave. Conducted initial assessment of the alley next to 327 Horners Lane and relayed findings to property owner. Conducted initial assessment of the alley next to 550 Reading Ave and relayed findings to property owner. Owner is currently evaluating whether they want to proceed with abandonment.
 - Received and currently reviewing an application for abandonment of an approximately 1,250 SF section of City ROW in the northwest quadrant of the intersection of Halpine Road and Chapman Avenue. The applicant is seeking to redevelop the land surrounding the ROW section.
 - Received and currently reviewing a request for potential abandonment of an approximately 150 sq. ft. section of City ROW adjacent to 205 Park Road. The potential applicant is seeking to redevelop the property and utilize City ROW for construction of a driveway.
 - Staff is currently preparing plans for a ROW dedication request along Alley 15, between Maple Ave and Grandin Ave. Additional ROW is being requested from the adjacent property owner for improvements and widening of the alley.

Traffic and Transportation Commission Action Items:

- Additional lighting at MD 355/Park Road (MD SHA)
 - According to the MD SHA, construction is anticipated for completion in the summer of 2018.
- *Staff will present the proposed adjustments to CTR's recommended peak hour vehicle trips credits/reductions for the designated Transit-Oriented Areas (TOAs) during the April's Commission meeting.*

Abbreviations Key:

- BRT – Bus Rapid Transit
- CPDS – Community Planning and Development Services
- CTR – Comprehensive Transportation Review
- DRC – Development Review Committee
- FHWA – Federal Highway Administration
- FY – Fiscal Year

- IFB – Invitation for Bids
- MDE– Maryland Department of the Environment
- MOU – Memorandum of Understanding
- NRI/FSD – Natural Resource Inventory/Forest Stand Delineation
- PAM – Pre-application Meeting
- RBAC – Rockville Bicycle Advisory Committee
- RFP – Request for Proposals
- ROW – Right of way
- SF – Square Feet
- SHA – State Highway Administration
- TCSP – Transportation, Community, and System Preservation Program (administered by Federal Highway Administration)
- MWCOG – Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
- MDOT - The Maryland Department of Transportation
- M-NCPPC – The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission
- MCDOT - Montgomery County Department of Transportation
- BMP – Bikeway Master Plan

- Staff Initials

EE – Emad Elshafei	OK – Oleg Kotov
AL – Andrew Luetkemeier	FM – Faramarz Mokhtari
DS – Daniel Seo	

Acronyms that are spelled out in the document are not included in this list.