



## Meeting Minutes Rockville Pedestrian Advocacy Committee

Meeting 23-01  
Thursday, February 9, 2023 – 7:00 PM

This meeting was recorded for public record and is available online:

<https://rockvillemd.webex.com/webappng/sites/rockvillemd/recording/8d31cf288b04103b9fdf22005a412c62/playback>

### Minutes

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1. Welcome – 7:00 pm
    - a. Meeting Recording
    - b. Introductions
    - c. Approval of January 2023 Meeting Minutes – This item was postponed to the March 2023 meeting.
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2. City Updates – 7:10 pm
    - a. MWCOG Projects
      - i. Fleet & Monroe Streets and the Beall Avenue Intersections projects are moving forward. Preliminary concept plans have been developed. The concepts will be shared with RPAC when ready.
    - b. Traffic Calming Requests
      - i. There are multiple ongoing traffic calming requests: Gerard St, Lewis Ave, Twinbrook Parkway, Wootton Parkway
      - ii. Traffic Calming requests are submitted to the City via a resident petition and following the Guidelines for Neighborhood Traffic Management. (<https://www.rockvillemd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/585/guidelines?bidId=>)
      - iii. Traffic calming requests along Wootton Parkway will be evaluated in April to count pedestrian going to and from school and has had concerns raised in the past.

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- iv. In the current draft of the Pedestrian Master Plan recommends updating these guidelines.

**MOTION: Marissa Valeri to draft a letter to the Mayor and Council to prioritize an update of the Guidelines for Neighborhood Traffic Management; SECOND: Kathleen Kleinmann; DISCUSSION: None; APPROVAL: Unanimous**

- c. Pedestrian master plan – this plan is ongoing and is currently being reviewed internally by staff.
- d. Ongoing Grants
  - i. MD Bikeways – the Mayor and Council has approved these grant agreements. These projects are for designing bike lanes along Martins Lane and installing pedestrian and bicycle counters.
  - ii. TAP/SRTS – this is for sidewalk and intersection improvements in the Twinbrook neighborhood. The draft grant agreement is being reviewed by the City Attorney’s Office. Staff is developing the scope of work.
  - iii. MDOT MHSO opportunity – staff is considering this program for a project on Redland Blvd. RCPD uses this program for enhanced enforcement.
- e. Upcoming Grants – The new grant cycle has begun. Please share project ideas with Public Works staff for consideration of future projects.
- f. Safe Streets and Roads for All – the City’s application for this program was not awarded. City staff will attend an application debrief and try again this year.
- g. The Traffic and Transportation submitted a letter to the Mayor and Council to direct staff to add yielding signage and to study the feasibility of implementing Leading Pedestrian Intervals at intersections in the City. Similar to the recent study to analyze right-turn-on-red restrictions.
- h. The City has hired a new grants manager. They will be working with Public Works Staff to support the city’s grant efforts.

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3. January Crash Report – 7:43 pm

- a. Lt. Crawford, RCPD
- b. There were five pedestrian crashes in January.
- c. There was one fatal automobile-only crash in January.
- d. Regarding the crash on MD 28 and Maryland Avenue, there is no Leading Pedestrian Interval (LPI) for pedestrians to cross Maryland. It would be valuable to add this here.

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- e. There is confusion on behalf of the community about where LPIs are implemented, as well as which signals have pedestrian recall.
  - f. RPAC members recommend to have a walk-over or some other improved crossing at MD 355 and Halpine. There is concern that additional improvements at this intersection should be implemented prior to the development's construction.
  - g. There are inconsistent crosswalks and this should be noted for interpretive processes. There is a constraint to fully understand the crash based on collected data.
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4. RPAC 2023 – 8:05 pm

- a. Internal Goal Setting
  - i. Pedestrian Master Plan
  - ii. Night time lighting improvements, and lighting shared use paths and at public school bus stops in the City.
  - iii. Recruiting a co-chair and shift RPAC to a co-chair model.
  - iv. Increasing RPAC visibility in city and in community.
  - v. Plan for Walktober event. Increase elected official and resident participation.
  - vi. Plan more community walks with Police, City Council members, outside of Walktober.
  - vii. Participation by other boards and commission to attend RPAC and share perspectives.
  - viii. Strategize to increase “action”
  - ix. Increase participation in Walk to School Day
  - x. Collaborate more with County entities, e.g., Montgomery County Families for Safe Streets
- b. Inter-Committee Summit
  - i. There is still desire to meeting with other committees and commissions to meet and discuss how all groups can work together. This meeting is a prelude to discuss with City, County, and State officials to discuss how to address safety improvements along state roadways.
  - ii. This will be tabled to a future discussion.

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5. Rockville Town Center Community Plan and Rockville Metrorail Station Concept Visioning – 8:37 pm

- a. RPAC should provide comments to Rockville Town Center Plan team.
- b. Economic vitality of Rockville Town Center and a redesign of the station needs to evaluate the flaws. There needs to

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be the full feedback of the pedestrian and bicycle community.

- c. Planning Commission was briefed on the Rockville Town Center Plan. There is an opportunity for a walking tour and an on-site comment opportunity. This should include walking to the Metrorail and back and using the elevator.
- d. Recommend to remove cobblestones instead of sidewalks.
- e. Additional outreach to Town Center Community that the Road Diets project has commenced construction.
- f. The City should evaluate how many students go to Town Center from Richard Montgomery High School.

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6. City Budget – This item will be tabled to another meeting.

- a. <https://www.rockvillemd.gov/951/Budget-Financials>
- b. RPAC recommendations
- c. Budget – Key Dates
  - i. 2/17/2023 – Draft budget released online
  - ii. 3/6/2023 – Public meeting #1
  - iii. 4/17/2023 – Public meeting #2
- d. The budget letter was sent out to the list serve. Please let Marissa Valeri know about additional items to include in the letter.

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7. RPAC Walk with staff – This item will be tabled to another meeting.

- a. Invite staff members for a future community walk
- b. DPW staff to attend a future RPAC meeting
  - i. Questions
  - ii. Dates

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8. Open Discussion

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9. Adjourn Meeting

- a. Next Meeting: March 9, 2023, 7:00 PM

### **Additional Resources**

[RPAC Home Page](#)

[Pedestrian Master Plan Home Page](#)

[Vision Zero Home page](#)