

## Minutes for RBAC Meeting: March 3, 2021

7:00 – 9:00 pm, virtual Zoom meeting

*In attendance online:* Wendy Aaronson, Steve Andruski, Monique Ashton, Nancy Breen, Sophie Chan-Wood, Monte Fisher, Peter Gray, Lynda Honberg, Jake Jakubek, Carl Petersen, Mark Pierzchala, Alyssa Roff, Shannon Brescher Shea, Jonathan Solomon and Tracy Threefoot.

Nancy started the meeting at 7:06 pm with introductions and requests for additional agenda items.

(1) Jonathan said he shared the information from our last meeting with the coordinator of the **Tour de Cookie**. He has no other updates for now.

(2) Peter Gray has been on the board of WABA (Washington Area Bicyclists Association) since 2012, with WABA's MoCo Action Committee and the County's advisory group which shaped the Montgomery County Bikeway Master Plan. The **Montgomery County Bikeway Master Plan** was initiated in late 2016 while the Rockville Bikeway Master Plan was in the process of being passed (by April 2017). In riding around Rockville recently, Peter was impressed by the City's network of signage on bike routes. However, he thinks that striped bike lanes on 35-mph roads are not safe, especially with regards to the standards set in the County Bikeway Master Plan. Other than on 355, there are no cycle tracks in the Rockville Bikeway Master Plan. He suggested more protected infrastructure with standardizations so that everyone (including families with kids) is comfortable to ride safely.

For two years, the County's Bikeway Master Plan discussed standards based on traffic stress (<https://mcatlas.org/bikestress/>). WABA along with other Open Streets advocates is working with the State Highway Administration (SHA) to install protected bike lanes on several state roads, starting with a pilot in late May/early June on 1.3 miles of University Blvd east of the Wheaton Central Business District. The Master Plan and County Capital budget contemplate additional protected bike lanes in Sliver Spring and Wheaton. Here is a link to WABA's campaign for protected bike lanes in downtown Silver Spring:

<https://waba.org/advocacy/campaigns/create-the-silver-spring-circle/>

Peter suggested that in Rockville work with SHA to put bike lanes on 355. SHA is currently working on an infrastructure bill. A Complete Streets policy can also help to prioritize for SHA protected infrastructure for bikes. Peter offered his email in case anyone has any more question or concerns: [peter@waba.org](mailto:peter@waba.org)

(3) Alyssa provided the **City update** and said that Vision Zero survey link is now open until mid-May. The City is seeking feedback on unsafe condition and where crashes happen. (<https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/73740a22f1324a1d85ba10e3528ea477>)

Per Monique's suggestion the Bikeway Master Plan and Implementation Plan have been posted the RBAC web page (<https://www.rockvillemd.gov/327/Rockville-Bike-Advisory-Committee>). Alyssa will work on a Bikeway Master Plan page to inform the public of upcoming progress.

Over the next 5 years, N. Stonestreet Avenue from Lincoln to Park Rd will be repaved with a bike lane on the north bound side. As an interim while construction is in progress, there will be bike lanes on each side.

(4) Mark provided the **Council Update** and said there will be a 2022 Budget hearing in April. He responded to some of Peter's concerns. He noted the City has had a Complete Streets policy since 2006. The resurfacing of Maryland Ave is in the works. They are looking at a Twinbrook Connector from the Metro to the Twinbrook Quarter.

The relationship with SHA may depend on the widening of I-270 since the Mayor & City Council opposes this project. However, the City will do whatever the County is planning for the Bus Rapid Transit timeline. Parking has been essential for curbside pick-up especially in Town Center.

Monique also reported that 8% of the **Bikeway Master Plan** has already been implemented. She anticipates 50% will be implemented by 2022.

Discussions on additional agenda items will be table for the next meeting:

- Update on bike racks at Federal Plaza (Wendy)
- Update on Virtual Rides (Carl)
- Report from TCC/Comprehensive Transportation Review 2018 update (Nancy)
- Update on EVO bike shop (Jonathan)

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.

Respectively submitted,

Sophie Chan-Wood