

Meeting Minutes

Salisbury/Wicomico Metropolitan Planning Organization (“S/WMPO”)
Technical Advisory Committee (“TAC”)
April 23, 2019

Government Office Building
Room 306
125 N. Division Street
Salisbury, MD

Attendees:

S/WMPO TAC members:

Amanda Pollack, Chair, City of Salisbury Dept. of Infrastructure and Development
Ian Beam, Maryland Department of Transportation (“MDOT”)
Brad Bellacicco, Shore Transit
Jenn Cinelli-Miller, Delaware Department of Transportation (“DelDOT”)
Rick Dwyer, Town of Hebron
Tracey Gordy, Maryland Department of Planning (“MDP”)
William Hardin, Town of Delmar
Dorothy Morris, Delaware Office of State Planning Coordination (“OSPC”) via telephone
Stephen Ottinger, Delaware Transit Corporation (“DTC”) proxy
Jolyon Shelton, Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (“DNREC”)
Jim Thomas, Salisbury-Wicomico County Planning & Zoning Commission
Jamie Whitehouse, Sussex County Delaware
Keith Hall, S/WMPO Executive Director

Others:

Ben Allen, Maryland State Highway Administration (“SHA”)
William White, City of Salisbury Dept. of Infrastructure and Development

Introduction

Chair Pollack opened the meeting at 10:30 A.M. S/WMPO Technical Advisory Committee members and participants stated their name and organization.

Minutes

The first item of business was the approval of minutes from the January 22, 2019 meeting. Mr. Bellacicco made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted, which the motion was seconded by Mr. Hardin. With all TAC members voting in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

Pictometry viewer demonstration

Frank McKenzie (Wicomico County Dept. of Planning, Zoning, and Community Development)

Mr. McKenzie provided a tutorial about using Pictometry's aerial photography viewer, which has been made available to the TAC members and their organizations. Major highlights of the demonstration included the following:

- Overview of application window;
- Use of search function;
- Incorporate multiple years and views of aerial photography;
- Export map image;
- Table of contents; and
- Use app on iPhone and Droid cellphones.

Prior to concluding the demonstration, Mr. McKenzie informed members that additional instruction is available on the website. Also, TAC members can submit questions about the use of the aerial photography viewer to Mr. McKenzie. Chair Pollack thanked Mr. McKenzie for the demonstration.

Eastern Shore Drive presentation

Will White (City of Salisbury Dept. of Infrastructure and Development)

The presentation started with background about Hord Coplan Macht, which is the consulting firm the City of Salisbury retained to prepare the Vision Plan for Eastern Shore Drive. Mr. White proceeded to present the following major components of the Vision Plan for Eastern Shore Drive:

- Reasons the City picked Eastern Shore Drive, which include the desire to implement complete streets, less disruptive conversion, and it's currently an underutilized opportunity;
- Benefits of complete streets such as travel mode choices, improving the environment and public health, as well as placemaking / creating a sustainable community;
- Description of study area, which is approximately one mile in length extending from Carroll Street to College Avenue with a paved surface of approximately 60 feet;
- Major activity generators in close proximity include Salisbury University, Salisbury Downtown, Peninsula Regional Medical Center, and adjacent residential neighborhoods;
- Connectivity to existing and proposed bike routes, including, but not limited to Main Street, Waverly Drive, South Boulevard, and College Avenue;
- Precinct Analysis for the four-major sections of study area, as well as observations and opportunities for each segment;
- Elements of the Vision Plan include a useable and safe median for cyclist and pedestrians, pedestrian amenities (seating), stormwater management improvements, and landscape / beautification enhancements; and
- Precedents for locations with a similar bikeway.

Mr. White presented a variety of illustrations depicting the proposed improvements for Eastern Shore Drive, as well as identified challenges of implementing the project. As designed, the preliminary planning-level cost estimate to achieve the vision is approximately \$7.0 million.

After a brief discussion by TAC members and meeting participants, Chair Pollack thanked Mr. White for the presentation.

Vision Zero presentation

Will White (City of Salisbury Dept. of Infrastructure and Development)

Mr. White presented the following about the City of Salisbury's Vision Zero Plan, which is an on-going initiative to develop and implement strategies designed to eliminate traffic fatalities and severe injuries while increasing a safe and healthy environment for all:

- 2016 Annual number of traffic fatalities on all roads in Maryland was 522 persons;
- Vehicle speed is number one factor in death or serious injury;
- 42 cities in United States have adopted a Vision Zero Plan;
- Mandates speed reduction and traffic calming techniques on major thoroughfares in the City of Salisbury;
- Prioritizes crashes between motorist and pedestrians / cyclist via design methods; and
- Steps to become a Vision Zero City via legislative action include: setting goals; reduce speed limits; mandating timeframe to achieve zero fatalities by January 1, 2030; formation of action plan and yearly reports; as well as engineering / design modifications.

The presentation concluded with Mr. White showing pictures of Vision Zero design examples in Salisbury. Design improvements have been implemented on North Division St., High St., South Park Dr., Sheffield Ave., N. Park Dr. and Memorial Plaza, and Delaware Ave.

After a brief discussion by TAC members and meeting participants, Chair Pollack thanked Mr. White for the presentation.

SHA District 1 project update

Brett Deane (SHA)

Mr. Deane provided an update for each of the following projects:

- U.S. Route 13 Business from South Blvd. to Main Street (drainage improvements, mill and resurface) – Work starts on May 5, 2019. Sidewalk work occurs during the day and visual message signs used to inform public;
- U.S. Route 50 at Sixty Foot Road (intersection improvements) – New intersection approach and signalization work is complete;
- U.S. Route 50 at White Lowe Road / Stanton Avenue (intersection improvements) – Converting existing intersection to a Maryland T / three-legged intersection, restrict U.S. Route 50 at Stanton Avenue to right-in and right-out movements, and add a traffic signal on the westbound approach. Under construction;
- U.S. Route 13 Business (bridge replacement over east prong of Wicomico River Phase 1) – Under construction with estimated completion date of June 1, 2019. Proceed with moving utility poles starting in July 2019;
- MD 349 (roadway washout) – Under construction with a segment of MD 349 closed during repairs. Estimated date of completion is on or before Memorial Day;

- U.S. Route 50 (intersection improvements at Rockwalkin Road, MD 670, and MD 347) – Lengthen deficient turn, acceleration, and deceleration lanes. Project is in concept design phase;
- MD 349 from Cedar Hill Parkway to Wetipquin Road (resurface) – project is complete;
- MD 12 from Nutters Cross Road to Robins Avenue (patch work) – patch work being completed and will resurface this Spring;
- U.S. Route 50 Bypass bridge approaches (resurface) – project is complete;
- Tentative resurface locations in FY 2020
 - MD 354 from Adkins Mill Pond to U.S. Route 50;
 - U.S. Route 13 Salisbury Bypass from north of structure over railroad to U.S. Route 13 Business near the Centre at Salisbury;
 - MD 374 from MD 354 to Worcester County Line (micro-surface);
 - U.S. Route 13 Business from Leonards Mill Pond to Delaware State Line; and
 - U.S. Route 13 Business from Dogwood Drive to Main Street.

TAC Vice-Chair election

Mr. Hall provided an overview of the election process as contained in the Organization’s Prospectus and Bylaws. The term for the Chair and Vice-Chair position is for two years or until a successor is confirmed. Moreover, at the end of the two-year term the Vice-Chair ascends to the position of Chair and subsequently a new Vice-Chair is appointed. The appointments for Chair and Vice-Chair are submitted to the MPO Council for confirmation.

As the present Vice-Chair, Mr. Eric Berkheimer will assume the role of the MPO Chairman for a term extending from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2021.

With no questions from the TAC membership, the floor was opened for nominations of a new Vice-Chair. Mr. Bellacicco nominated Ms. Gordy, which the nomination was seconded by Mr. Beam. With all TAC members voting in favor, the nomination will be forwarded to the MPO Council for confirmation.

Member Updates / Other Business

In light of time constraints there were no updates or other business.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Next Meeting Date/Adjourn

Chair Pollack stated the remaining 2019 TAC meeting schedule is July 23rd and October 22nd. These dates are subject to change.

There being no other business before the TAC, upon a motion by Ms. Cinelli-Miller, seconded by Mr. Hardin, with all members voting in favor, and none opposed, the meeting was adjourned.