



Mayor's Bicycle Advisory
Commission 04.26.2023

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. A Message from the Mayor's Office
3. Voting Session
4. Bike to Work Week Updates
5. Group Working Session led by Department of Planning
6. Miscellaneous Business



A Message From the Mayor's Office



Voting Session

- Item 1: February Minutes
- Item 2: Bi-Monthly Meetings

Bike to Work Week

1. Bike to work week 2023
2. Pit Stops
3. Press Event
4. Convoy



Department of Planning Working Session

We will now go to Commissioner Pousson to lead our working session



Shared Use Path & Trails Network: Baltimore Green Network Plan Addendum

Baltimore City Department of Planning
Presentation for BMC Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Group
May 17, 2023

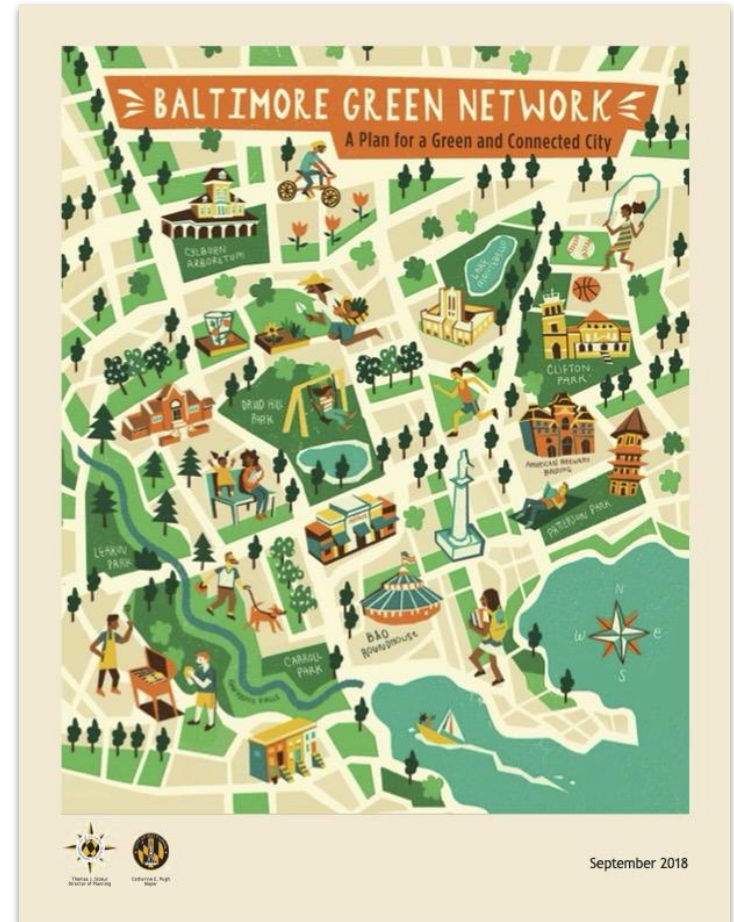


Community Corridors and the Baltimore Green Network Plan

Baltimore Green Network Plan presented an ambitious vision to bring new green spaces to Baltimore neighborhoods and create an interconnected system of natural and recreational spaces throughout the city.

Key objectives for **Community Corridors** included:

- Enhancing identified corridors through a combination of improved walking and bicycling facilities, streetscape greening and improvements, and wayfinding.
- Extending, connecting, or improving existing trails, and improving access between neighborhoods and parks through bicycle and walking paths and enhanced street crossings.



September 2018

Baltimore Greenway Trail Network

The **Baltimore Greenway Trail Network** is featured as the “centerpiece” of the Community Corridors in the Baltimore Green Network Plan.

Routes for additional Community Corridors came from the **2017 Separated Bike Lane Network Addendum** to the Baltimore Bike Master Plan.



Shared-Use Path & Trails Network Addendum

- **Share Baltimore City's goals** for the shared use path and trail network including:
 - the relationship of the network to existing community plans and
 - the expected benefits for residents
- **Identifying locations** for future path and trail development and the enhancement of existing facilities
- **Documenting the city's design guidelines** for capital project planning, design review, and management of shared use paths and trails

Existing Plans for Shared Use Paths & Trails

Early Trail Planning

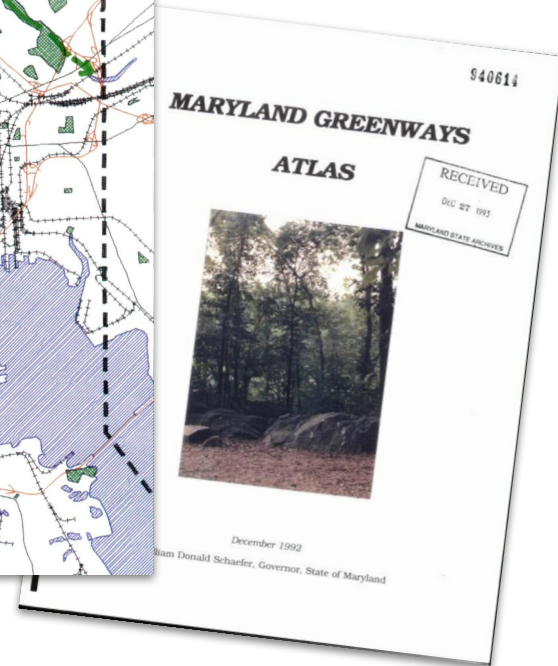
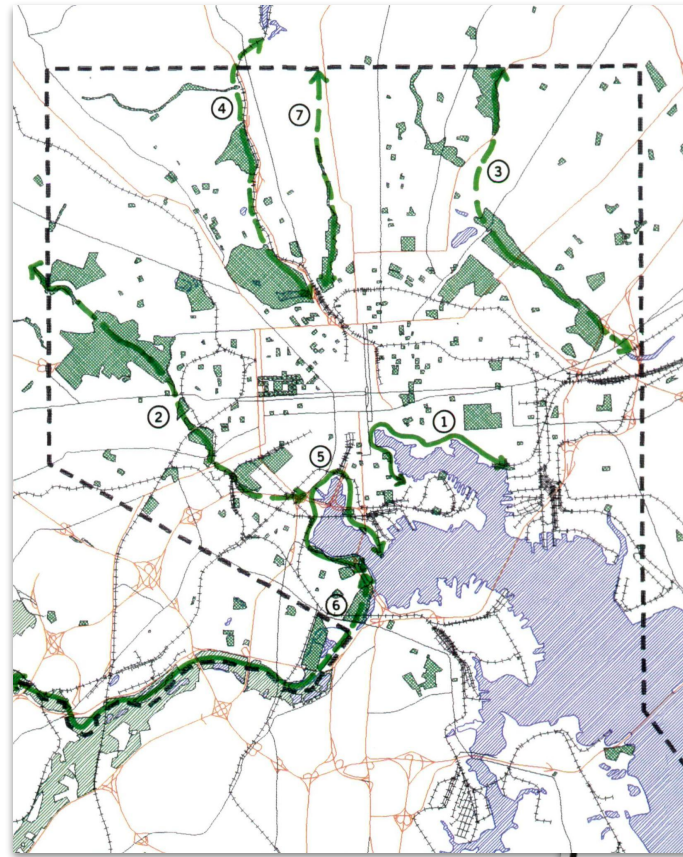
Planning for trails and other improvements along Baltimore's parkways and stream valleys began with the **1904 Olmsted Plan**.

Planning continued with reports from **The Jones Falls Valley Plan** (1961) to the **Waterfront Promenade Implementation Strategy** (1991) and more.



Early Trail Planning

Development of Baltimore existing trail system took shape through the **Maryland Greenways Commission** (1991), **Gwynns Falls Master Plan** (1996), **Jones Falls Master Plan** (2000), and **Herring Run Park Master Plan** (2011).



Timeline for existing trail development

	Phase	Year
Gwynns Falls Trail (Phase I) Franklinton Road to Leon Day Park		1999
Gwynns Falls Trail (Phase II) Leon Day Park to Carroll Park		2002
Gwynns Falls Trail (Phase III) Carroll Park to the Inner Harbor & Middle Branch		2003
Jones Falls Trail (Phase I) Penn Station to Druid Hill Park		2005
Jones Falls Trail (Phase III) Druid Hill Park to Woodberry Light Rail Station		2008
Jones Falls Trail (Phase II) Inner Harbor to Penn Station		2014
Herring Run Trail (Phase I) Halls Springs Area (Harford Rd. & Argonne Dr.) to Sinclair Lane		2015



Prior Planning

Baltimore Bike Master Plan (2006)

The 2006 plan called to **develop off-road paths to create a connected trail system** (Objective 4) as part of the broader goal to **develop a comprehensive network of facilities for bicyclists** (Goal 1).

Recommendations supporting this objective included:

- Complete ongoing trail development projects.
- Develop new and extend existing trails.
- Improve neighborhood access to trails.

Prior Planning

Baltimore Bike Master Plan (2015)

The 2015 plan set out **develop and improve off-road paths to create a more connected trail system** (Goal 3). Relevant objectives and recommendations included:

- **Objective 1:** Complete ongoing trail development projects
 - Implement recommendations to Waterfront Promenade Access Study
 - Complete proposed Multi-Purpose Trails
- **Objective 2:** Improve community access to trails
 - Improve lighting for off road trails to allow night-time access
 - Install wayfinding signs from neighborhoods and nearby attractions to trails.
 - Create solutions to existing physical barriers between neighborhoods and trails.

Prior Planning: Area, Park, and Trail Plans

Baltimore City Park plans

- Canton Waterfront Park Master Plan (2018-2020)
- Upper Stony Run Strategic Plan (2018) and Lower Stony Run Strategic Plan (2023)
- Reimagine Middle Branch (2023)

Baltimore City Area plans

- Southwest Partnership Vision Plan (2015)
- Cherry Hill Transformation Plan (2020)
- Baltimore Highlands Community Plan (2022)

Trail and path plans

- Baybrook Connector (2022)
- Northern Segments Study (2022-2023)

Plans outside Baltimore City

- Western Baltimore County Pedestrian and Bicycle Access Plan (2012)
- Anne Arundel County Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan – Walk and Roll Anne Arundel! (2023)
- Patapsco Heritage Greenway Concept Plan (2017)
- Western Baltimore County Pedestrian and Bicycle Access Plan (expected 2022-2023)

Trail Planning & Community Engagement

Shared use path and trail projects (including the Baltimore Greenway Trail Network and others) have been met with both support and opposition by residents.


Trail planning and implementation should address concerns around housing affordability and safety but ensure an equitable engagement beyond meetings alone and avoid compromising the safety or utility of design concepts in the process.

A screenshot of a Change.org petition page. The page title is "STOP the BAYBROOK CONNECTOR". It shows 576 signatures and a progress bar towards 1,000 signatures. The petition is by "North Anne Arundel County Neighborhoods" and mentions "MD State Senate District 12 Senator Clarence Lam and 9 others". The description of the petition states: "The Greater Baybrook Alliance (GBA) a group of politically well-connected interest based in Baltimore City, has proposed the Baybrook Connector. GBA has quietly been working to get federal, state and local funding to develop a pathway that has been defined by them as a 'safe, comfortable place to walk, bike, or roll between the neighborhoods of Cherry Hill, Brooklyn, Brooklyn Park, and Pumphrey.' In community meetings, GBA has stated that the path would serve as an essential link from the community to doctor's offices, ...". The signatory information at the bottom shows "Baltimore, 21217 United States".

change.org Start a petition My petitions Browse Membership Log in

Petition details Comments Updates

STOP the BAYBROOK CONNECTOR



576 have signed. Let's get to 1,000!

At 1,000 signatures, this petition is more likely to be featured in recommendations!

Alice Cook signed this petition

Jason West signed this petition

Sign this petition

First name

Last name

Email

Baltimore, 21217 United States

Future Shared Use Paths & Trails

Shared Use Path Development and Enhancement Opportunities

Preliminary categories for projects included in the Shared Use Paths and Trails Addendum include:

- Planned new paths/trails
- Gaps to fill
- Supporting right-of-way facilities
- Trail concepts

In addition to routes within the Baltimore Greenway Trail Network, trails may serve as regional connectors or enhancements for a neighborhood or park.



Shared Use Path Development in Baltimore City

Baltimore Greenway Trails Network

- Northern Segments (33rd Street Connector and the Gwynns Falls Connector)
- Eastern Segments (Southeast Connector)
- Southern Segments

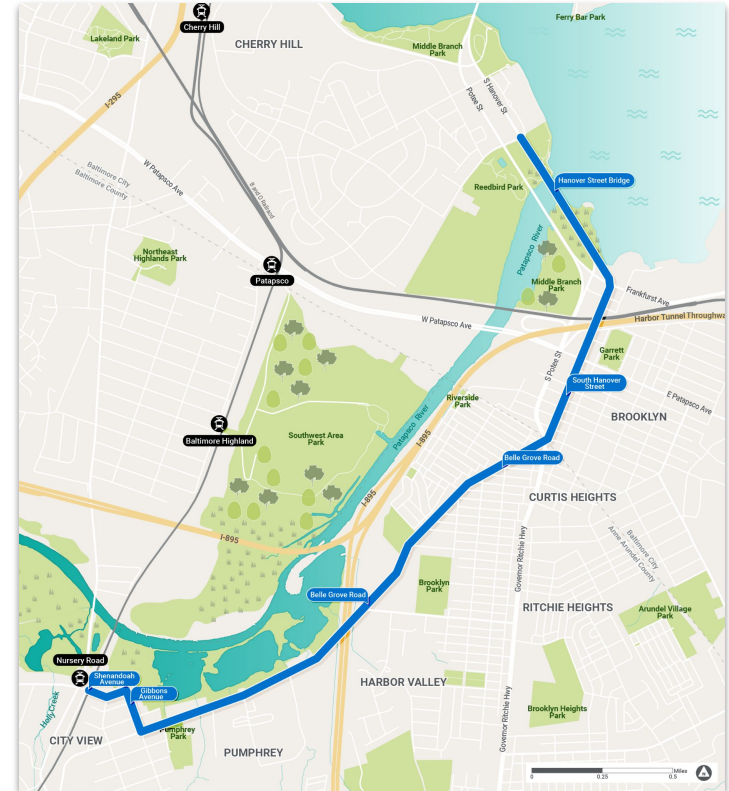
Additional Trail Concepts

- Carroll Park Heritage Trail
- Connecting Waterfront Promenade to Ft. McHenry and Maryland Cruise Terminal



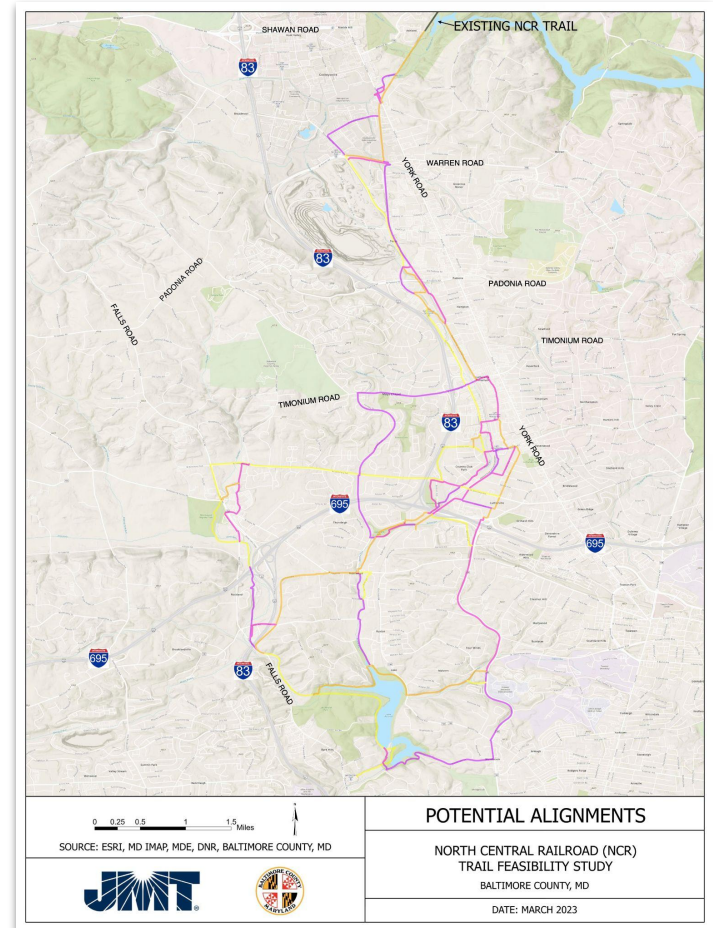
Regional Trail Connections

- **Orangeville Utility Corridor/BG&E Transmission Line Connector:**
Herring Run Park to Overlea
- **Baybrook Connector:** Cherry Hill to Linthicum
- **Middle Branch Trails:** South Baltimore to Patapsco Regional Greenway
- **Catonsville Short Line Park:** Gwynns Falls Trail to Short Line Trail



Regional Trail Connections in Metro Area Counties

- **Baltimore County**
 - NCR to Jones Falls Trail Connection
 - BG&E Utility Corridor
- **Anne Arundel County**
 - B&A Trail to Gwynns Falls Trail Connection

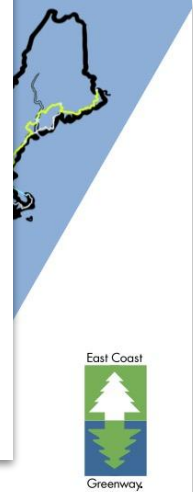


Design Guidelines for Shared Use Paths & Trails

Design Guidance

Developing a reference document primarily based on the **Baltimore Complete Streets Manual** with additional references to:

- AASHTO Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities (2012)
- Baltimore Landscape Manual (2017)
- Maryland SHA Bicycle Policy & Design Guidelines (2015)

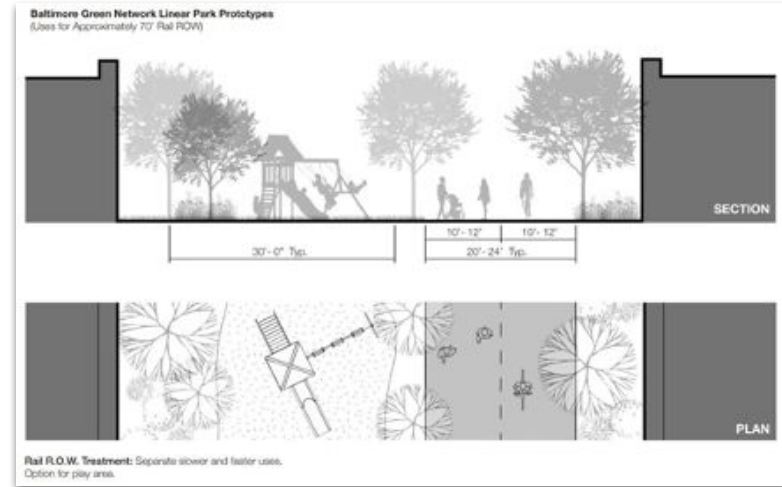


Design Guide

Level of Service Requirements

Design guidelines are intended to ensure sufficient level of service in south and southeast Baltimore sections where paths and trails are adjacent to planned private developments.

The target in these areas is to create a 16-24' wide path that provides adequate width for future growth in trail use and activity.



Additional Information

- Baltimore City
 - [Baltimore City Department of Recreation & Parks – Trails](#)
 - [Baltimore Greenway \(Northern Segments of the Baltimore Greenway Trail Network\)](#)
- Baltimore Greenway Trails Network Partners
 - [Bikemore](#)
 - [Rails-to-Trails](#)

For questions, contact Kyle Leggs (Southwestern District Planner) at kyle.leggs@baltimorecity.gov or Eli Pousson (Mayor's Bicycle Advisory Commission representative for Planning) at eli.pousson@baltimorecity.gov.

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