

Complete Streets Advisory Committee
May 30, 2024 - Meeting Minutes

- **Introductions**

- Presentation by Clea Baumhofer (DOT)
- Committee member agencies in attendance
 - BCFD - Fire Department
 - DHCD - Housing
 - DOP - Planning
 - DOT - Transportation

- **DOT Presentation**

- Complete Streets Report
 - Currently in development
 - Expected delivery date in August
- Sarah Debbink Langenkamp Memorial Act
 - Requires drivers to yield to authorized vehicles on bike lanes
 - Establishes penalties for violations leading to injury or death
- Bus Lane Automated Enforcement
 - Developing RFP to ensure vendors will meet project needs
 - Looking to advertise within 6 months
 - Identified some fatal crashes caused by drivers intruding on bus lanes
- Last-Mile Connection on Harford Road Bike Lane
 - Will connect existing bike facilities at the Harford Road Bridge and north of Echodale Ave
 - Northbound lanes partly implemented
 - High compliance rate with parking, even in spots without flex-posts
 - Fire Department concerns
 - New bike infrastructure seeing low utilization
 - DOT expects utilization to improve as additional low-intensity connections are provided
 - Bike lanes and street narrowing slow response times, potentially contributing to safety issues
 - 28th Street bike lane leading to widespread traffic issues
 - Requesting bike lane usage data
 - DOT is working to improve collection of usage data at existing facilities

- Quick Build Projects
 - **Preston St bump-outs:** Tightening vehicle turning radius to slow turns
 - **North Ave and Linden Bus Lane Protection:** Using flex-posts to dissuade drivers from using bus lane
 - **Intersection of Alameda and 33rd:** New striping better guides drivers to prevent confusions and crashes
- Internal Training
 - Spans DOT teams including but not limited to Streetscape, Bridge, ADA, and Traffic
 - Improving compliance with all applicable standards and regulations
 - Focus on safety and complete streets implementation
 - Promoting sustainability in transportation design
 - Training is open to other City agencies upon request
- **Agency Discussion**
 - DOP - Planning
 - 2024 state session
 - Senate Bill 943 enacted into law, allowing for bus enforcement cameras to be mounted on buses
 - House Bill 511 did not pass; it would have allowed for bicyclists to roll through stops when safe and appropriate
 - Is there data on emergency response times?
 - BCFD asks DOT to provide data on changes to travel times after implementation of complete streets projects
 - DOT can monitor and develop estimates of overall travel times before and after implementation; DOT would not have access to data on granular changes in emergency response times
 - Office of Equity and Civil Rights
 - Concerns surrounding effectiveness and responsiveness to 311 requests
 - DOT states that traffic calming requests are increasing every year, creating a lag between requests and capacity
 - DOT suggests contacting community engagement team
 - Complex situations are not handled well by the 311 system
 - DOT takes a closer look at special cases to devise appropriate solutions where conventional approaches are unsuitable
 - BCFD - Fire Department
 - Montgomery County studies report that emergency response times are slowed by several seconds due to traffic calming projects

- Data is not available on the specific impact of individual traffic calming projects on emergency response times
- **Public Comments and Questions**
 - Concerns on the condition of bike lanes in and around the Inner Harbor, including Light St and Fort Ave
 - Resurfacing is prioritized through factors like utility conflicts and road conditions
 - Scooters are being parked in bike lanes
 - Scooter parking can be reported to scooter vendors, scooters must be relocated within 6 hours
 - What are DOT's plans to improve pedestrian access to Baltimore Peninsula development?
 - Comment in support of bike lanes, anticipating bike facilities on Washington and/or Wolfe Street
 - Suggests public portal on DOT grant applications where residents can share feedback and learn about transportation initiatives
 - DOT will consider request and flag for grants management team
 - Downtown RISE plan should be updated to reflect complete streets best practices
 - Plans are reviewed by DOT traffic team
 - 311 the best way to initiate traffic calming studies
 - Question on breakdown of data for emergency response calls related to traffic incidents
 - Numbers could potentially be ascertained by cross referencing Police Department data with traffic calmed corridors
- **Closing**
 - Motion to adjourn by DOT representative
 - Motion seconded by DOP representative