Notes
Pedestrian and Bicycling Access and Safety Working Group
Tuesday, November 30th, 2021, 7:30 pm
Via Zoom Video Conference

Meeting Recording:
https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/play/4RScU4mn5etZhutFwfwTBDAHWGAYiGZqee-WG8HrbOE3hJ3h1gBXdQliTA2BvYUFMBgo0NdTkNk7Gs.Yf4ZZR5EpPC86dWF?continueMode=true
Passcode: 7v?wKijL

Working Group Chairs: Nate Engle and Chris Zappi

Working Group Participants: Al Carr, David Romeo, Jonathan Rogers, Jamie Keller, Art Witczak, Alison Durland, Carole O’Toole, Michael Lehmann, Alan Simon

Agenda:

1. Announcements and introductions
   - Thanked Chris Zappi for agreeing to serve as co-chair.
   - Welcomed new participants joining for the first time.

2. Connecticut Avenue safety
   - Updated on recent accidents and open discussion on what else can be done to support improvements (in addition to what is already in the works). Ideas included:
     o Eliminating the ability for cars to cross to the other side of Connecticut without a light.
     o Temporarily removing the “sharrows” until safer bike infrastructure is installed.
     o Reaching out to Uber and Waze for altering suggested routes (e.g., to not suggest cutting across traffic).
     o Installing “driver feedback signs” that give drivers a very public sense of how fast they are going.

3. Kensington Parkway shoulder improvements
   - Updated that MCDOT has final designs and is working to finalize its MOU with WSSC to complete the work. Anticipated construction is for spring 2022.
   - Discussed when to begin the process to provide similar improvements in the Town of Kensington’s stretch.
- Agreed it would be good to initiate preliminary analysis with the Town Engineer and have some options ready (mock-ups, trade-offs, cross-sections, etc.) to discuss with the WG in the coming months. This would inform the public input and more detailed analysis processes once MCDOT/WSSC completes the work later in 2022. Nate to suggest the Town initiate the preliminary analysis at the next Town Council meeting.

4. TLC grant update – public engagement and field visit
   - Updated on ongoing process, recent field visit, and composition of Steering Group. Melissa to update the WG on the public engagement process over email.
   - Working Group to feed questions and ideas to Nate for the Consultants and Steering Group as they arise.

5. BPPA designation update
   - Updated that the process will kick-off in the coming weeks/month.

6. Other
   - Congratulated Chris Zappi for his appointment to the Washington Suburban Transit Commission.
   - Discussed Ride on Route 4 proposed service expansion, which will not only connect the MARC station to Wheaton, it may also pave the way for needed improvements at the Howard Ave./Connecticut Ave. intersection and help eliminate the need for buses to idle on Armory as a holding spot. Nate to share draft letter of support with the WG for feedback, which will express support for the expansion from the Town of Kensington and submit as public comments.
   - Updated on University Boulevard “road diet” letter the Town recently sent to SHA.
   - Discussed the need for the WG to revisit lighting issues and a possible analysis for streetlight improvements. Suggested for WG members to note obvious areas for improvements that they see and put in the prioritization sheet. Alan to share prioritization sheet with the WG so new participants have access to it.

Next meeting January 25th 7:30pm

Notes from the Chat
19:48:05 From Jamie Keller to Everyone:
   Speed cameras have their issues - see [https://www.bjcl.org/blog/speeding-into-the-future-the-pitfalls-of-automated-traffic-enforcement](https://www.bjcl.org/blog/speeding-into-the-future-the-pitfalls-of-automated-traffic-enforcement)
19:55:58 From Jamie Keller to Everyone:
19:58:51 From Jonathan Rogers to Everyone:
20:17:30 From Al Carr to Everyone:
   Thought the project in Middlebury Vermont to lower the railroad tracks thru town was fascinating [https://vtrans.vermont.gov/projects/middlebury/about](https://vtrans.vermont.gov/projects/middlebury/about)
20:21:37 From Al Carr to Everyone:
   Agree on the need for SHA to trim median shrubs south of TOK to improve visibility. A real issue for Washington St turning onto Conn Ave
20:26:21 From Jamie Keller to Everyone:
   One example: traveling NB on Conn Ave, trying to turn left onto Dresden, visibility is obscured by foliage