

Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PAC)

Joint BAC-PAC virtual meeting, Monday, February 3, 2025 7PM

Meeting Recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QMmv8AjyX98> [VDOT Slides](#)

Minutes, Approved unanimously by PAC members present, April 10, 2025

PAC Attendees: Eric Goodman, Acting Chair; Pamela Van Hine, Recording Secretary; John Armstrong; Jim Feaster; Andrea Walker; Mary Dallao, Director, Active Transportation Programs; David Patton, Bicycle and Pedestrian Planner

BAC Attendees: Cynthia Palmer, Chair; Dana Bres, Vice Chair; Gillian Burgess; Eric Goodman; Mike Hanna; Steve Offutt; Aaron Schuetz; Elwyn Gonzalez, Association Transportation Planner; Lauren Hassel, BikeArlington Program Manager

Other Attendees: VDOT staff and consultants: Dan Reinhard; Kyla D'Sa; Eliot FB; Geoff Giffen; Alex Jasper; Thomas Super; Gary Yates; County staff: Allison Bullock; Laura Castro; Jason Widstrom; Matt Jones, National Landing BID; Eric Cassel, CCCA; Nick Giacobbe and Paul Pisano, AHCA: Kevin O'Brien, WABA; Steve Anders; Collier Cook; Xavier Leonard King; Ambar Pankaj; Randy Swartz Leslie Tierstein; Julie Tippens

The BAC Chair and PAC Acting Chair called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM and welcomed members, staff, speakers, and other guests. There were no public speakers.

Pamela Van Hine, PAC Representative, and Mike Hanna, BAC Representative: [Arlington's Transportation Future – An Update from the Advisory Group Meeting, January 28, 2025](#)

The speakers summarized the Advisory Group's recommended goals. Overall the BAC and PAC recommended goals were similar to those from the other Advisory Group members. A few key concepts not in either the BAC or PAC goals are: Mobility as the Plan; Mobility as Service; excellent transportation supports local businesses; Reliable; Meet People Where They Are; and People-Centric!

P. Van Hine quickly reviewed project staff analyses to date of existing County transportation resources, use, and policy guidance, as well as next steps. Watch for upcoming new Public Engagement opportunities!

M. Hanna requested specific information from the BAC to help analyze bike transportation planning during "next steps."

Dan Reinhard, Senior Project Manager, VDOT: Phase 2 Final Report for the [VDOT Route 1 Multimodal Improvements Study](#)

After a quick review of the project to date, the VDOT team raised several key points: 1. The feasibility study provides a general footprint, and the project development process will flush out detailed plans, including TDM. 2. VDOT does not have full funding for Route 1 (and none for the I-395 project). 3. Route 1 funds cannot be transferred to the I-395 project because of the MOU with Amazon. 4. Route 1 project is "paused" until full funding is found.

VDOT staff then answered specific BAC-PAC questions, including: 1. RTO data – at least one more traffic count will be done in the project development process; additional traffic counts will probably be needed if the project is built. 2. Most of the BAC-PAC suggestions are design details to be addressed during the project development process, e.g. ped signal wait time countdown, which are currently not part of the MUTCD, but Maryland MDOT SHA is experimenting with it. 3. Note that **enforcement details** are also TBD, including for the Barnes Dance. Highway issues: 1. Raised crosswalks – not recommended for several reasons (see slide 7). The Arterial Management Plan Toolbox is intended for minimally managed roadways, which does not apply to Route 1. 2. 15th & Route 1 safety: VDOT described additional safety details at this proposed intersection, including separate walk signal cycles and perhaps crossing half-way (see VDOT slides 12-15). 3. VDOT also presented an update on the bike-ped routes north of 15th and south of 23rd. 4. VDOT noted the constrained space along Route 1 south of

18th. The addition of the roll zone south of 18th and expansion of the median required cutting both the landscaping and clear zone sidewalks.

Discussion: 1. Big trees are not realistic in the median. 2. This is an expensive project with limited results; why would pedestrians want to walk along a highway. VDOT hopes that redesigned Route 1 will encourage commercial development. 3. Lane widths: Need to be narrower for safety, but VDOT is using AASHTO guidelines of 11'. VDOT does not consider the gutter pan to be part of the lane width, which encourages drivers to drive in them. 4. Plans are better than current conditions – along Route 1. 5. Roll zone needs its own signal – VDOT says it can use the ped signal. 6. Shared use path north of 15th needs good lighting. 7. 12th Street and Long Bridge Drive traffic and conflict – please review. 8. IAR reports are needed for I-395, Route 1 @ 15th, and Route 1 @ 18th proposed new intersection designs, but project analyses for the proposed at-grade intersections at 15th and at 18th provide sufficient data (with recent Phase 2 updates) for the IAR report.

Jason Widstrom, Capital Projects Manager, DES/DOT

The speaker focused on the structure of the 10-member Capital Projects team and broader, bigger picture of transportation capital projects. Staff work closely with TE&O, consultants, DPR, CPHD; See presentation for org chart, and budget sources for the Capital Project Fund. Funding source can dictate what is built. Staff work to leverage combined funding sources to complete projects. He provided minimal information on bike- and ped-specific projects in his discussion of the Capital Program Areas and three Specific Projects: Boundary Channel Drive, Army-Navy Drive Complete Streets, Arlington View Trail Connector. Check out the CIP Interactive Project map! The speaker then reviewed the genesis of these transportation projects, from inception through construction. He told stories about challenges that delay projects, such as finding unexpected utilities and TROW pushbacks. He noted upcoming projects: Wilson Boulevard Streetscapes, Military Road/Nelly Custis round-about, 15th St/Clark-Bell realignment, Arlington Ridge Bridge Replacement, and N. Ohio St and 12h Rd. North, but did not provide details on these projects.

Discussion: 1. Budget metrics are not clear – what is “success”, i.e. completion of sidewalk network. “Expenditure of funds” as a metric is useful. 2. Cost-benefit analysis by mode? Can be hard to use when project does not exist, i.e. Arlington Memorial Trail. 3. Can punch list have public input to ensure that the project is completed (i.e. Boundary Channel Drive). 4. BAC-PAC desires better engagement on projects!

BAC/PAC Business/Announcements/Updates

- PAC SPRC participation: Ballston (Eric Goodman primary); Shirlington House (Pam/Andrea); Rosslyn House (John/Eric Goodman)
- Meeting with the County Manager on the budget on Thursday: Please send us suggested BAC-PAC topics, such as sufficient MOT staff and Vision Zero support.
- **March 12** – Joint BAC-PAC meeting with the County Manager: Please send Chair and Acting Chair suggested questions for this important discussion.
- [CC2DCA](#): County staff held a Public Open House on January 29, 2025; online comments are due February 16. P. Van Hine is drafting a PAC letter to the County Manager; she will distribute the draft to PAC members for review and approval. (February 5, 2025 PAC letter RE CC2DCA is [here](#))
- We agreed to do another letter to CM about the [VDOT Phase 2 Route 1 Multimodal Improvements](#) study. D. Bres and P. Van Hine will draft a response, with input from Chair and Acting Chair. The draft will be circulated via email to BAC and PAC members, who will vote on it before it is sent to the County Manager. (February 18, 2025 BAC-PAC VDOT letter is [here](#))
- The BAC is drafting a letter on snow removal problems for bicyclists and pedestrians (i.e. blocked bike lanes and sidewalk ramps and intersections).

The BAC Char and PAC Acting Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:11 PM. The next meeting will also be a joint BAC-PAC meeting, featuring a conversation with Mark Schwartz, the County Manager. This virtual meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 12. Watch the [BAC](#) and [PAC](#) websites for details.