

The Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Baltimore Region

# PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT REPORT MARCH 2023

## **★ OPEN COMMENT PERIODS ★**

### TRANSPORTATION ISSUES IN HISTORIC TOWN CENTERS - PHASE 2

Baltimore Metropolitan Council, on behalf of the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board, Howard County and Baltimore County, is conducting a multimodal transportation study for Ellicott City in Howard County and Oella in Baltimore County to address parking, wayfinding, and multimodal access.



A public open house was held on December 8. Nearly 100 comments were received between the open house and comments received online. The vast majority of the comments were positive and supported the efforts. As part of the process to develop this study, the project team has developed reports on existing conditions and an analysis of initial recommendations.

The next phase is to develop final recommendations including parking management strategies and implementation guidelines, plans for multimodal improvements and wayfinding upgrades. A public meeting to present the recommendations was held on **March 21** with a public comment period running from **March 6 through April 5**. A presentation to the technical committee with final recommendations would follow the comment period in April 2023.

Learn more at publicinput.com/historictowncenters

#### PATAPSO REGIONAL GREENWAY – GUINNESS TO SOUTHWEST AREA PARK

In 2017, the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board approved a concept plan for the Patapsco Regional Greenway (PRG), which will be used by bicyclists, walkers, runners and (in some places) wheel chair users.

To date, over 12 miles of the greenway have been completed. Now, the Baltimore Metropolitan Council, on



behalf of the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board and Baltimore County seeks public input on the preferred alignments and initial design for the Guinness to Southwest Area Park segment, which will add another approximately 6 miles to the greenway.

A comment period will run from March 1 through 30. Learn more at publicinput.com/prq

# **★ CLOSED COMMENT PERIODS ★**



## COMMENTS SOUGHT ON ANNUAL WORK PROGRAM AND BUDGET FOR BRTB

The Baltimore Regional Transportation Board sought comments on a \$10.7 million draft work plan and budget for fiscal year 2024 through March 9, 2023. The draft work plan, known as the Unified Planning Work Program, budgets \$10,710,000 for fiscal year 2024.

Comments were received from 5 people and recommendations include:

- Develop the Pedestrian Infrastructure Assessment Tool in a manner that it is accessible to the general public. Recommend BMC shares through its open data website.
- Calibration of the InSITE tool to address transit or active transportation (cycling, walking, micro-mobility) and across travel times and seasonal variation (e.g. school-induced congestion in the 3pm hour during the school year).
- Ensuring the Household Travel Survey and Trend and Policy Analysis evaluates desired mode share and transportation options.
- Build the Short Line Trail connecting Catonsville, UMBC, Spring Grove, Western Tech, Paradise, Baltimore National Cemetery, Irvington, Loudon Park, and St. Agnes to the Gwynns Falls Trail.
- Create better access to historic sites in and around Ellicott City through some type of centralized parking allowing visitors to ride a Hop On/Hop Off bus or trolley, especially on weekends and during high traffic events such as festivals and Midnight Madness. Stops can be made at historic sites and engage more visitors to visit Ellicott City.

Learn more and comment at publicinput.com/2024UPWP

# **★ COMING SOON!**★

A 30-day comment period will be held in May and June on Resilience 2050, the 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program, and the Air Quality Determination Report. Meetings are looking to be scheduled in each jurisdiction as well as at least one online meeting. Stay tuned to baltometro.org for more details!

