

BAHC Comments on Amendments to CR35-2016

Guarneri, Jack M. [Jack.Guarneri@jhuapl.edu]

Sent: Monday, April 04, 2016 3:01 PM**To:** CouncilMail

Council Members,

I wanted to provide a final request from the Bicycling Advocates of Howard County for the County Council to vote for the resolution approving a Bicycle Master Plan and a Complete Streets policy for Howard County.

We have also reviewed the 8 Amendments submitted below:

1. Patuxent Branch Trail/Allview proposed project modification (Terrasa)
2. Complete Streets implementation Clarification (Ball)
3. Adding Office of Transportation to Sub-Division Board (Terrasa)
4. Best Practices for bike/ped should be used in approving projects (Terrasa)
5. Mention Bridge Columbia Feasibility Study (CE/Ball)
6. How tracking of Master Plan projects will be done and public input collected (CE)
7. Establishment of a Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Board (BPAB) to serve as a citizen technical review on projects/for the Complete Streets Implementation Team (Terrasa)
8. Revising some of Master Plan projects on streets South of Gorman Road (Terrasa)

BAHC supports Amendments 2-7 and requests that actions requested in Amendments 1 and 8 be deferred until these projects are implemented through the process described in Amendment 6.

Jack Guarneri

President, Bicycling Advocates of Howard County

<http://www.BikeHoCo.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/BikeHoCo>

Near-Term Objective: To improve the visibility and safety of the bicycling community in Howard County.

Mid-Term Objective: To foster and support bicycle commuting as an alternative to automobiles within Howard County for both work and school transportation.

Far-Term Objective: To promote a vision of bicycling as part of an energy efficient transportation system to help achieve a sustainable future for Howard County and the region.

Bike Plan Safety

Susan Garber [buzysusan23@yahoo.com]

Sent: Sunday, April 03, 2016 4:32 PM

To: CouncilMail

[Howard County Police Search For Hit-And-Run Cyclist Who Injured 4-Year-Old](#)

Run Cyclist Who Injured 4-Year-Old

Howard County police are desperately searching for a cyclist who ran over a little girl and then took off from t...

This type of incident is precisely what I was speaking to when I addressed you at the legislative hearing earlier in March. Please include a stronger safety education component in the Bike Howard Plan before approving.

Best regards,
Susan Garber

Support of Patuxent river trail extension and bike master plan

paul@the-pellegrinos.net

Sent: Friday, April 01, 2016 3:37 PM

To: CouncilMail

Dear Council Members,

I am writing to email my support of the bike master plan including the use of the Patuxent river trail extension. Please approve the master plan as is, including the Patuxent river trail extension to downtown Columbia.

As a quieter voice that lives in Allview Estates, I am dismayed by the reaction of some of my neighbors to this plan. I am reaching out to let you know that there is support of the plan (even in Allview!) and it's use of the already cleared portions of the watershed. In fact, my home backs right to the land in question and I would be thrilled to see this plan and project move forward.

I hope vote to approve this sensible plan next week.

Sincerely,

Paul Pellegrino
6341 Beechwood Dr.
Columbia, MD 21046

Sent from my iPhone

CR 35 - Amendment in Support

Emily Ranson [emily@bikemd.org]

Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2016 4:16 PM

To: CouncilMail

March 30, 2016

Dear Howard County Councilmembers,

On behalf of our constituents who live and work in Howard County, we support Council Chairman Calvin Ball's amendment to CR-35. The intent to implement Complete Streets is a great step forward, but comprehensive policies are needed to make sure that intent is backed by action.

A comprehensive completes streets policy and a stand-alone complete streets design manual are national best practices used by bike, and walk, friendly communities and jurisdictions across the country.

Thank you for your work and support in making Howard County one of the shining examples of bike friendly policy and action in the state.

Best,

Emily Ranson
Advocacy Coordinator
Bike Maryland

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CR35-2016 -- Complete Streets

Chris Tsien [chrisbike@verizon.net]

Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2016 2:09 PM**To:** CouncilMail

Dear Councilmembers

I write this email on behalf of Bicycling Advocates of Howard County to follow up our testimony supporting CR-35.

BAHC opposes amendments that would detract or weaken the Bicycle Master Plan, e.g., amendments that would remove specific proposed projects from the Plan, especially because the Plan is a strategic plan. In contrast BAHC wholeheartedly supports amendments and actions that would promote and enhance incorporation of complete streets into all facets of Howard County's planning process. BAHC understands that Council Chairman Ball will introduce an amendment to CR-35 to move the County Executive's visionary statement of intent for complete streets to a more concrete future. That is precisely the kind of amendment that BAHC supports.

BAHC asks that any amendment relating to complete streets direct the Complete Streets Implementation Team to develop a comprehensive complete streets policy and to develop a stand-alone complete streets design manual. The County Council should then approve that policy and design manual to ensure that they are an integral part of our planning and thus benefit our community for decades to come.

A comprehensive complete streets policy must be consistent with national best practices. As explained at the Horizon Foundation's gathering on complete streets, we can rate the quality of a complete streets policy against ten well-established, well-accepted criteria. We should do so. Howard County also needs a complete streets design manual to reconcile differences between our too-many existing guidelines. We must take advantage of today's opportunity to shape our thinking to meet tomorrow's demands. BAHC urges the Council to bring complete streets to reality.

Thank you.

Christopher Tsien, Bicycling Advocates of Howard County
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