

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION (AACTC)

Minutes for Meeting held May 10th, 2023

Note: Blue font indicates hyperlink to that document

Members in Attendance

Chair van Andel
John Spencer
Claudia Barber
Dr. Pamela Brown
Jennifer Jackson
Jon Korin
Venus Williams
George Donohue

Members Absent

George Donohue
Derek Kent
Alex Pline
Gina Gibson

Public in Attendance

Sharon Smith - Partners in Care
Kristine Smith

County & State Staff in Attendance

Sam Snead – AACo Transportation
Brian Ulrich - AACo Transportation
Tanya Asman - AACo Transportation
Rodney Tasker - AACo Transportation
Andy Diehl - AACo Transportation
Daniel Allen - AACo Transportation
Lynn Miller - AACo OPZ
Sarah Fowler - AACo OPZ
David Braun - AACo DPW

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Chair van Andel.
2. Roll Call: Seven of the twelve commissioners were present, constituting a quorum for conducting business.
3. Minutes from the April 12th meeting were approved with no objections. Mr. Spencer made the motion to approve the minutes and Dr. Brown seconded.
4. **Staff Updates**
 - a. Mr. Ulrich provided staff updates from the Office of Transportation for the group.**Calendar**
 - b. The second public meeting for the Brooklyn Park Mobility Study is upcoming on May 24th at 6 pm at the Brooklyn Park library.
 - c. There is an upcoming meeting on June 6th for the Baltimore region long range transportation plan at the Hein Building in Glen Burnie at 6 pm.
5. **Board Discussion Items**
Frontage Legislation Draft

- a. Lynn Miller from the Anne Arundel County Office of Planning and Zoning spoke about frontage policy for the group. Ms. Miller explained a piece of legislation that is meant to clarify a section of the county code.

Key Takeaways

- b. In the bill, there is intent to remove subjective language and specify that road improvements shall be provided in accordance with the DPW design manual. The bill isn't meant to change the way that the county operates; it aims to put clearer language into the county code.
- c. Ms. Miller asked for comments from the Transportation Commission or the bike and pedestrian commission to be forwarded to her.
- d. If a developer is unable to build to the design manual's standards, that developer can apply for a modification, which would be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.
- e. Mr. Korin said that the Bike Commission had comments on the draft bill which he forwarded to Ms. Miller. He said that he uses the Smart Growth America / National Complete Streets best practices for reviewing multimodal legislation and that some of the comments reflect this. He suggested the county also use this for developing and assessing transportation legislation.
- f. Mr. Braun said that the recommendations should be ready in the fall of 2023.

APF Transportation - DPW

- g. David Braun from Anne Arundel County DPW gave a presentation on the Transportation APF Workgroup and the work they're doing.

Key Takeaways

- h. APF refers to the county's adequate public facilities ordinance. APF is intended to provide a growth management process that will enable the county to provide adequate public schools, roads, and other infrastructure facilities in a timely manner and achieve general development plan growth objectives.
 - i. Overall, the APF process is designed to direct growth to areas where adequate public infrastructure exists or will exist.
 - ii. The purpose of the workgroup is to explore APF policy related to transportation.
 - iii. Currently the workgroup is recommending 4 separate transportation APF tests, one each for vehicles, bicycles, pedestrians and transit.
 - iv. Mitigation hierarchy provides a roadmap to help identify projects and require structure on how mitigation improvements are identified.
 - v. Ms. Barber asked if road potholes near the Russett Green road community could be addressed through the APF mitigation hierarchy. Ms. Asman stated that maintenance of roads would be addressed through road resurfacing projects. A development in the area conducting an impact study would also help to get the issue addressed.
 - vi. Mr. Korin reported that he has been participating in the task group and is pleased with the direction to embrace all modes and to add safety in addition to capacity. He expressed frustration with delays in the effort and the resistance to begin drafting a bill in parallel to the operational details.

6. County Code Update Requests

- a. Mr. Korin spoke about the letter that the Bike Commission submitted to the County recommending a comprehensive review of the code, looking at all modes. The Bike Commission also wants to make sure there is analysis from an all-ages, and all-abilities perspective. An area of code was identified that prohibited people from using mobility devices on sidewalks at night. This is an example of anomalies in the code that the Bike Commission wishes to be corrected. [Bill 45-23](#) has already been introduced to address this.

7. Transportation Task Force for Underserved Populations

- a. Ms. Barber spoke about the Brooklyn Park mobility study and whether it could be replicated in a specific area of the county. Areas recommended by Ms. Barber were South County, Mead Village, West County, or Severn. Furthermore, Ms. Barber asked about the progress of securing budget funding for this study.
- b. Mr. Ulrich reported that the mobility study was not included in the draft budget that was presented to the County Council because the budget had been finalized before the previous Transportation Commission meeting. However, there is a multi-year project that the Brooklyn Park mobility study is funded out of known as the Transportation Facilities Planning project. In the appendix, candidate projects are included to be next on the list for potential funding. The county mentioned the replication of the Brooklyn Park Mobility Study as a candidate for funding under this appendix.
 - i. Mr. Snead reported that at this point, the project would need to be included as an amendment to the budget made by a County Council member, and taken under consideration by the County Executive. The project wasn't included in the County's original capital budget request when it was presented because the resolution from the Transportation Commission was created after that process.
 - ii. Mr. Korin mentioned that there is a public meeting upcoming on the Brooklyn Park mobility study on May 24th that may provide an opportunity to get a closer look at the study. The County Council is set to vote on the budget in June.
 - iii. After further discussion on this topic, Chair van Andel made the following motion: *"The commission will write two letters - one letter to support a replication of the Brooklyn Park Mobility Study in other areas of the county, and another letter to protect multimodal projects that have already been approved, ensuring that they stay in the FY 24 budget."*
 - iv. Chair van Andel will draft the first letter, and Mr. Korin will draft the second. The letters will be provided to the committee members via the google drive by Friday, May 12th. The motion passed with no objections and was adopted by voice vote. Chair Van Andel encouraged members to submit their own testimony at the FY24 Budget hearings.

8. Open Forum

- a. Kristine Smith expressed concerns about language in the call and ride brochure that states the call and ride vehicles will pick up passengers from a nearby location, as this could cause difficulties for some passengers who are unable to walk far distances. Mr. Snead explained that a road has to be navigable for the county's vehicles, and some can't get down certain cul-de-sacs or narrow roads and turn around. The vehicle operators try to find the closest curb connection to the user or the rider.
- b. Ms. Smith asked if there is a target date to have the Call and Ride brochure translated into Spanish. Ms. McGill-Belk said that updates will be provided on this, and that the Office of the Transportation is working with an outside translator. A complete explanation of the North and South county Call and Ride services can be found on the county's website, which can be translated into Spanish via a button at the top of the page.

9. Adjournment

- a. The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 pm. The next meeting will be held on June 14th, 2023 at 6:30pm, and will be a hybrid online/in person meeting.