Transportation Agency Meeting

Matthew Folden
Planner Coordinator, Area 1 Planning Division
matthew.folden@montgomeryplanning.org
Agenda—Transportation Agency Meeting

- Introductions & Meeting Agenda
- Sector Plan Scope & Schedule
- Existing Conditions
- Agency Briefings
- Agency Discussion
- Public Questions & Open Discussion
Good planning is sustainable:

- Social equality
- Economic vitality
- Environmental integrity
Sector Plan Scope

Purpose:
• Update 1982 Sector Plan

Vision:
• Preserve smaller scale
• Promote mixed-use

Goals:
• Embrace the community character and improve the sense of place
• Maintain and enhance neighborhood-oriented commercial character
• Ensure infrastructure meets current and future needs
• Address environmental issues and promote sustainable growth
• Improve pedestrian, bicycle, and vehicular traffic connections
• Add public gathering spaces
• Provide a variety of housing options
Sector Plan Scope

Preserve 1982 Boundary

Reflects:
- Natural boundaries
- Separation of Commercial and Residential uses
Sector Plan Scope

- Focus Area:
  Anticipated changes

- Areas not likely to change
Sector Plan Schedule

- **October 2014** Kick-off Presentations to Community and Planning Board
- **March 2015** Initial Staff recommendations
- **April 2015** Staff Draft sector plan
- **May 2015** Public Hearing Draft sector plan
- **Summer 2015** Planning Board Draft sector plan
- **Fall 2015** County Council Review
- **2016** Adopted Sector Plan
## Sector Plan Schedule

### Charrette Schedule At A Glance

**Office/Drop-In Hours:** 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

(Westwood II Address: 5110 Ridgefield Road, Bethesda, MD)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nov. 10</th>
<th>Nov. 11</th>
<th>Nov. 12</th>
<th>Nov. 13</th>
<th>Nov. 14</th>
<th>Nov. 17</th>
<th>Nov. 18</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nov. 10</th>
<th>Nov. 11</th>
<th>Nov. 12</th>
<th>Nov. 13</th>
<th>Nov. 14</th>
<th>Nov. 17</th>
<th>Nov. 18</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 a.m. and noon</td>
<td><strong>Walking Tours</strong> will be conducted in the community</td>
<td><strong>Observance of Veterans Day</strong> (no charrette activities)</td>
<td><strong>7 to 8:30 a.m. Sunrise Series</strong> for business owners at Westwood II</td>
<td><strong>7 to 8:30 a.m. Sunrise Series</strong> for all stakeholders at Westwood II</td>
<td><strong>9 a.m. to 5 p.m.</strong> The community is invited to <strong>Drop-In at Westwood II during the day</strong></td>
<td><strong>Planners will be working on the results of the charrette in preparation for Tuesday’s evening presentation of the Completed Concept Plan</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 a.m. to 5 p.m.</td>
<td>The community is invited to <strong>Drop-In at Westwood II during the day</strong></td>
<td><strong>9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The community is invited to Drop-In at Westwood II during the day</strong></td>
<td><strong>9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The community is invited to Drop-In at Westwood II during the day</strong></td>
<td><strong>7 to 9 p.m. Presentation of Completed Concept Plan</strong></td>
<td><strong>Planners will summarize the results of the charrette and its influence on the plan at Westland Middle School</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Existing Conditions
Existing Conditions: Proposed Bikeways
Existing Conditions: Vehicular Access & Mobility

Transit – Ride On Route 23
Service between Friendship Heights Metro and Sibley Hospital

- #1 Northbound: Friendship Heights Metro/ Willard Ave (170)
- #5 Northbound: Westbard Avenue/ Westbard Circle (39)
- #7 Northbound: Westbard Avenue/ 5401 Westbard (28)
- # 10 Northbound: Ridgefield Road/ River Road (20)
- # 11 Northbound: Westbard Avenue/ Crown St (19)

- #1 Southbound: Friendship Heights Metro/ Bay G (362)
- #8 Southbound: Ridgefield Road/ River Road (23)
- #9 Southbound: River Road/ Landy Lane (22)
- #10 Southbound River Road/ Little Falls Parkway (18)
- #12 Southbound Westbard Avenue/ Westbard Circle (17)
Existing Conditions: Vehicular Access & Mobility

Transit – Ride On Route 29
Service between Bethesda Metro and Friendship Heights Metro

- #1 Northbound: Friendship Heights Metro/ Willard Ave (181)
- #6 Northbound: Mass Avenue/ Westbard Avenue (27)
- #1 Southbound: Friendship Heights Metro Bay F (210)
- #7 Southbound: Mass Avenue/ 5600 Mass Avenue (26)
- #14 Southbound: Mass Avenue/ Ft Sumner (14)
Existing Conditions: Vehicular Access & Mobility
Existing Conditions: Vehicular Access & Mobility
Existing Conditions: Vehicular Access & Mobility
Existing Conditions: Vehicular Access & Mobility

Measures of Congestion

• Peak Hour (Morning and Evening)

• Critical Lane Volume (CLV)
  • The sum of traffic volumes that cross at a single point of an intersection
  • Planning Tool
  • CLV Standard in the Bethesda Chevy Chase Policy Area: 1,600

• Highway Capacity Manual (HCM)
  • Conducted if CLV exceeds 1,600
  • Intersection Volume/ Capacity (V/C)
  • V/C Standard in the Bethesda Chevy Chase Policy Area: 1.0
Existing Conditions: Vehicular Access & Mobility

Based on counts collected:
- River/ Little Falls – 10/28/14
- River/ Brookside – 10/16/14
- River/ Willard – 10/28/14
- Mass / Westbard – 10/14/14
- Westbard / Ridgefield – 10/16/14
Existing Conditions: Vehicular Access & Mobility

Average Annual Daily Traffic (AADT)

- Massachusetts Ave at Little Flower School
- River Road at Whole Foods
Existing Conditions: Vehicular Access & Mobility
Future Research & Analysis: Traffic Forecasting
Future Research & Analysis: Traffic Forecasting

Regional Model

Inputs
- Regional Road and Transit Network
- Regional Land Use Forecasts (Household and Jobs)

Outputs
- Regional Traffic Volumes

Local Model

Inputs
- Westbard Road Network
- Westbard Traffic Volumes
- Westbard Land Use Scenarios (Household and Jobs)
- Non Auto Driver Mode Share

Outputs
- Westbard Traffic Volumes at Intersections
Future Research & Analysis: Traffic Forecasting

Land Use Scenarios

• 2040 Existing Master Plan
• 2040 Scenarios

Subdivision Staging Policy

• Requires sector plan to conform to Bethesda / Chevy Chase LATR Standard

• If congestion exceeds the standard:
  • Evaluate transportation network changes
  • Evaluate land use changes
Agency Briefings: M-NCPPC

Opportunities:
• Improve pedestrian crossing at River Road/ Landy Lane
• Consider new street connection parallel to Westbard Avenue (Crown Street – Landy Lane)
• Straighten Westbard Avenue at River Road to discourage through traffic on Ridgefield Road

Constraints:
• Regional traffic demand on Westbard Avenue (to be determined through Model)
• Regional traffic demand on River Road and Massachusetts Avenue
• Many curb cuts along River Road
• Steep grade across sector plan area (limits connectivity)
Agency Briefings: State Highway Administration

FY 2015 – 2020 Consolidated Transportation Plan Projects
- Construction program projects: None
- Development and evaluation program projects: None

River Rd/ Little Falls Pkwy traffic management
- Advertised 04/03/2013
- Signal modification, including changing the phasing of the traffic signal at MD 190/ Little Falls Pkwy to include a concurrent right turn green arrow for southbound Little Falls Pkwy right turns during the eastbound MD 190 green phase
- Improvements completed June 2013

River Rd resurfacing improvements: Goldsboro Rd – Western Ave
- Candidate for FY 2017 System Preservation Program
Agency Briefings: State Highway Administration

System Preservation:

River Rd geometric improvements, Ventnor Rd – Baltimore Ave

- Advertised August 2014
- Improvements include:
  - Resurfacing and widening;
  - Addition of eastbound MD 190 (River Rd) left turn lane to Willard Ave;
  - Upgrading pedestrian facilities including replacement of sidewalks, curb and gutter, and ADA ramps and installation of accessible pedestrian signals;
  - Upgrading traffic signal equipment;
  - Replacing drainage structures; and,
  - Replacing traffic barrier
- Anticipated completion fall 2015
Agency Briefings: County Department of Transportation

Opportunities:
- Maximize access to Capital Crescent Trail
- Improve River Road pedestrian crossing(s)
- Improve dedicated/unmaintained rights-of-way
- Improve transit accessibility

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>2013 AADT</th>
<th>2013 AAWDT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MD 190 (River Rd), 0.3mi W of DC ln</td>
<td>20,120</td>
<td>21,730</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MD 190 (River Rd), 1.0mi W of DC ln</td>
<td>31,560</td>
<td>34,090</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MD 190 (River Rd), 0.2mi W of MD 614 (Goldsboro Rd)</td>
<td>43,620</td>
<td>47,110</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Agency Discussion
Questions

Matthew Folden
Planner Coordinator, Area 1 Planning Division
matthew.folden@montgomeryplanning.org
Ridgefield Road at River Road, looking westbound
Ridgefield Road at Westbard Avenue, looking westbound
Westbard Avenue at Ridgefield, looking southbound
Westbard Avenue behind Giant, looking southbound
Westbard Avenue behind Giant, looking southbound
Westbard Avenue behind Giant, looking southbound
Westbard Avenue behind Giant, looking southbound
Westbard Avenue Pedestrian Signal, looking southbound
Westbard Avenue behind Middle School, looking southbound
Westbard Avenue at Massachusetts Avenue, looking southbound
Westbard Avenue at Massachusetts Avenue, looking northbound
Massachusetts Avenue at Westbard Avenue looking eastbound
Massachusetts Avenue at Little Falls Parkway looking eastbound
Massachusetts Avenue at Little Falls Parkway looking north
Little Falls Parkway at River Road, looking northbound
River Road at Little Falls Parkway, looking south
River Road at Little Falls Parkway, looking westbound
River Road east of Landy Lane, looking westbound
River Road at Landy Lane, looking westbound
River Road at Ridgefield Road, looking westbound
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intersection</th>
<th>CLV</th>
<th>AM-CLV</th>
<th>AM - V/C</th>
<th>PM-CLV</th>
<th>PM - V/C</th>
<th>Count Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Little Falls Parkway &amp; Massachusetts Avenue</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td>1,062</td>
<td>0.66</td>
<td>834</td>
<td>0.52</td>
<td>2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westbard Avenue &amp; Massachusetts Avenue</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td>940</td>
<td>0.59</td>
<td>909</td>
<td>0.57</td>
<td>2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westbard Avenue &amp; Massachusetts Avenue</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td>867</td>
<td>0.54</td>
<td>911</td>
<td>0.57</td>
<td>Oct. 14, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westbard Avenue &amp; Ridgefield Road</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td>558</td>
<td>0.35</td>
<td>531</td>
<td>0.33</td>
<td>Oct. 16, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cromwell Drive &amp; Massachusetts Avenue</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td>747</td>
<td>0.47</td>
<td>594</td>
<td>0.37</td>
<td>2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willard Avenue &amp; River Road</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td>1,366</td>
<td>0.85</td>
<td>1,834</td>
<td>1.15</td>
<td>2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willard Avenue &amp; River Road</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td>1,215</td>
<td>0.76</td>
<td>1,241</td>
<td>0.78</td>
<td>Oct. 28, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Falls Parkway &amp; River Road</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td>1,498</td>
<td>0.94</td>
<td>1,457</td>
<td>0.91</td>
<td>2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Falls Parkway &amp; River Road</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td>1,483</td>
<td>0.93</td>
<td>1,536</td>
<td>0.96</td>
<td>Oct. 28, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ridgefield Road &amp; River Road</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td>1,235</td>
<td>0.77</td>
<td>1,219</td>
<td>0.76</td>
<td>2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ridgefield Road &amp; River Road</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td>1,130</td>
<td>0.71</td>
<td>1,045</td>
<td>0.65</td>
<td>Feb. 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ridgefield Road &amp; River Road</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td>1,051</td>
<td>0.66</td>
<td>983</td>
<td>0.61</td>
<td>Oct. 16, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Springfield Drive &amp; River Road</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td>1,160</td>
<td>0.73</td>
<td>1,019</td>
<td>0.64</td>
<td>2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Falls Parkway &amp; Dorset Avenue</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td>688</td>
<td>0.43</td>
<td>683</td>
<td>0.43</td>
<td>2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goldsboro Road &amp; River Road</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td>1,596</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1,883</td>
<td>1.18</td>
<td>Sept. 2014</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>