

## **Response to Bicycle Issues Identified by Steve Friedman at May 2 Pedestrian, Bicycle, and Traffic Safety Advisory Committee Meeting.**

***1. Develop, implement and conduct an educational campaign targeted to all road users which would occur in the area of Montgomery County where Bikeshare stations are to be installed. The campaign would begin just prior to the start of Bikeshare. Specific details of the campaign are to be worked out with MCDOT.***

MCDOT has some funding in both FYs 13 and 14 to carry out a limited education/safety effort later this summer associated with the extension of Capital Bikeshare into Montgomery County. These efforts will be applied to the Bikeshare Service Areas, and will include promotion of Bicycle Safety Training Classes, promotion of safe bicycling through distribution of brochures at events, safety stickers on Capital Bikeshare Bikes, and sales of bike helmets through the Capital Bikeshare website.

MCDOT will continue to seek additional funds for bicycle safety in the next budget cycle.

***2. Encourage/request that MCP bike police ride more on the streets.***

MCPD Bike Patrols have a primary mission to interact with the general public and patrol those locations that cannot be patrolled by vehicles. For this reason, much of their riding is done off of the roadways. MCPD understands the need to raise awareness and assure the public that bicycles have the right to ride on the streets. Police officers on bicycles will be recruited to encourage the public to ride safely on streets and champion the cause of safe bicycling on County roadways.

***3. Identify and act upon bike infrastructure that will be utilized by Bikeshare users. Such locations may include, but are not limited to, Jones Bridge Road, Woodmont Ave., and Battery Lane. A full slate of locations and specific recommendations need to be worked out with MCDOT.***

MCDOT has two ongoing bicycle infrastructure initiatives related to Bikeshare:

1) A signage plan is being developed to help riders of Capital Bikeshare locate Bikeshare Stations and nearby major destinations. These signs will be installed as stations go online.

2) MCDOT is undertaking an initiative to identify and improve roads in the vicinity of Bikeshare to provide dedicated bike facilities, i.e. roadway facilities, pavement markings, signage etc.

Besides facilities related to Bikeshare, there are a number of programs that MCDOT implements to provide bicycle facilities and improves access and safety in the county. Through larger Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) and the planning, design and construction of new roadways, MCDOT always includes any Master Plan provisions for bicycle improvements and pedestrian access into the design of the project. Through the facility planning process, MCDOT develops design plans and cost estimates which are 35% complete. Through resurfacing and road maintenance projects, bicycle facilities are provided or improved. Private development requirements as well as other government projects (schools, civic buildings, libraries, etc.) provide additional opportunities to construct bicycle facilities

The Bikeways Program - Minor Projects (CIP 507596) has the main purpose to design and implement smaller scale bicycle access improvements (such as missing sections of paths, sign and marking for bike access, bicycle rack installations, mini studies, etc.) The Bikeways Program constructs bikeway facilities that will cost less than \$500,000 each.

***4. Adherence to the Master Plan where any new construction, redevelopment or road work requires consideration of an implementation of biking infrastructure.***

For all MCDOT construction projects, work conforms to Master Plans for new construction and reconstruction projects.

***5. Repeat bike ride-along to include DC facilities.***

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments is planning to sponsor a ride-along in the District of Columbia this fall to review the innovative bicycle facilities that have been constructed in the District. This could be an opportunity to have participants from Montgomery County tour the District's facilities. If this opportunity does not materialize, MCDOT could work with DDOT to have a separate ride-along for Montgomery County.