



M A R Y L A N D

Office of Planning and Zoning

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Jerry Pesterfield
Chair, Planning Advisory Board

October 11, 2019

The Honorable Steuart Pittman, County Executive
Anne Arundel County
Arundel Center, P.O. Box 2700
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Transportation Functional Master Plan,
Move Anne Arundel!

Dear Mr. Pittman:

The Planning Advisory Board (PAB) is a citizen advisory board created by § 532 of the Anne Arundel County Charter. Under § 533 of the Charter, the PAB is charged with making advisory recommendations to the Planning and Zoning Officer and the County Council relating to the Master Plan, the zoning maps and rules and regulations relating to zoning. *Move Anne Arundel!*, the County's first Transportation Functional Master Plan, was prepared in accordance with the County's 2009 General Development Plan and will be used to inform the Transportation Element of *Plan2040*. In addition, the adoption of the Transportation Functional Master Plan (TFMP) will affect the priorities of future Fiscal Years in the Capital Improvement Program budget.

The Office of Transportation presented their Final Draft of the *Transportation Functional Master Plan, Move Anne Arundel!* to the PAB on September 11, 2019. The TFMP was summarized in the following five parts:

- The Vision, Goals, and Objectives
- Planning and land use context for Move Anne Arundel!
- Existing transportation system in Anne Arundel County
- Future challenges and demands on the transportation system
- Recommended policies and priority projects that make up Move Anne Arundel!

After the summary, the PAB asked questions on policy measures, performance measures and specific transit corridors that were answered and addressed by the Office of Transportation. The

PAB provided an opportunity for a public hearing and written testimony. The public comment period was extended until close of business on September 25, 2019.

The PAB met on September 25, 2019 to deliberate and voted 7-0 to approve the Draft Transportation Functional Master Plan, *Move Anne Arundel!*. In addition to approving this plan, the PAB would like to emphasize that the County needs to raise awareness of County traffic and roads with the State. The County's delegation to the State should request line items in the State budget for local traffic and roads on an annual basis. Lastly, the Board would like underscore that increasing safety should be the basis for all transportation recommendations within the Transportation Functional Master Plan. The following is a list of highlighted priorities that the Board would like the County Executive to address.

Planning Advisory Board Priority List for the Transportation Functional Master Plan:

1. The Planning Advisory Board supports the Office of Transportation's recommended road improvements as listed in the Transportation Functional Master Plan which include State Roads such as I-97, Route 2 and Route 3.
2. The County should provide more transportation opportunities for the Odenton Town Center area. The Town Center continues to grow and public transportation is needed. The County should collaborate with the State to provide additional transit opportunities and address identified parking deficiencies.
3. Improve transit services for senior citizens and provide for same day, on-demand transit service for senior citizens. Currently, senior citizens are given a 2 to 7 day wait for on-demand transit services. The PAB would like to see on-demand service greatly increased and incorporate other transit services such as ride sharing companies and providing additional discount for senior travel. The PAB believes an increase in on-demand transit service will help allow more senior citizens to age in place.
4. The Crownsville State Hospital site should be identified in the Transportation Functional Master Plan and any future plans must contain a future transportation component.
5. Protect Scenic and Historic Roads by limiting development that adds traffic to these roads.
6. The PAB is of the opinion that County Capital funds should be focused on County-owned roads and should not be used for non-County roads in lieu of lack of funding from the State.
7. The PAB supports the TFMP's recommendation to complete pedestrian and bicycle connections in this network. The PAB recommends that the County reevaluate the bicycle paths and access for the intersection of College Parkway and MD Route 2. The PAB recommends that the County reevaluate a drawing that was developed showing two lanes for College Parkway near Route 2 South that shows a flyover design that included pedestrian and bicycle paths.
8. Adequacy of Public Facilities requirements must be implemented in conjunction with any proposed Transit Oriented Development projects.
9. County funds should not be used for MAGLEV or LOOP at this time since there is no identified benefit for Anne Arundel County citizens.
10. The PAB recommends that the County study how altering travel times for trucks can impact commutes and local traffic and if it warrants a policy recommendation.

11. The PAB recommends that the County join the Washington Council of Governments which provides regional transportation planning for the Greater Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. Recent transportation trends have shown an increasing amount of County residents commuting to Washington, D.C.

The PAB appreciates the opportunity to provide you with the Board's Advisory Recommendation of Approval for *Move Anne Arundel!*. Understanding the importance of the Transportation Functional Master Plan in implementing the recommendations of the 2009 General Development Plan and informing Plan2040, the Board looks forward to our continued involvement in the transportation planning process.

If there are any questions regarding our comments, please contact Cindy Carrier in the Office of Planning and Zoning.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jerry L. Pesterfield". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "P".

Jerry L. Pesterfield
Chairman

cc: Ben Birge, Chief Administrative Officer
Steve Kaii-Ziegler, Planning & Zoning Officer, OPZ
Ramond Robinson, Transportation Officer, OOT
Christina Pompa, Deputy, Planning Division, OPZ
Members of the Planning Advisory Board
JoAnne Gray, Administrative Officer, Anne Arundel County Council
Cindy Carrier, Planning Administrator, OPZ