

## **Minutes for RBAC Meeting: Wednesday, December 3, 2025**

7:00 – 9:00 pm, in Black Eyed Susan Room & Webex meeting

In attendance online: *Wendy Aaronson, Bryan Barnett-Woods, Connie Bertka, Nancy Breen, Olivia Bobrowsky, Sophie Chan-Wood, Lynda Honberg, Jake Jakubek, David Myles, Mark Pierzchala, Shannon Shea, Max Silverstone, Jonathan Solomon, Tracy Threefoot and Ben.*

At 7:11 pm, Jake welcomed everyone and announced that this meeting will be recorded. He asked for an approval of minutes from the November meeting. All approved out loud.

Jake said Shannon wanted to add youth biking to the agenda; and Jonathan may have a possible alternative to the Tour de Cookie. Lynda suggested a discussion on eBiking in the future. She also reminded us about following up with Carol's 50+ cycling survey.

### **Council Update** (Councilmember David Myles)

- 1) Zoning ordinance rewrite to accommodate increased housing density may include bike facilities
- 2) King Farm plan will be approved this week with a potential for the Rockville Bike Hub. Concept 4 does not have a need to build additional parking.
- 3) Soliciting feedback for the budget in the spring – discuss at next meeting what we want

### **City Update** (Bryan Barnett-Woods)

- 1) Four concrete pads were installed for the bases of new Bike Fix-it stations which will include air pumps.
- 2) Pedestrian refuge medians installed at Twinbrook Pkwy and Meadow Hall; on Wootton Pkwy and Glen Mill Road to help with traffic calming
- 3) New crosswalks at First Street & Lynn Court near Maryvale Park and at Crabb Ave & Long Hill on the other side Maryvale Park and at Westmore in Lincoln Park
- 4) Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments granted Transit Within Reach funding for bike facilities on Lewis Ave at Halpine and a small section of Ardennes. Shared roadways, green pavement markings or bi-directional or cycletracks are possible.
- 5) Rollins Ave Complete Streets study will look at walking, biking and driving improvements with input from residents.
- 6) A bikeshare station in Twinbrook is still in works but the maintenance agreement has not been approved yet
- 7) Congressional Lane implementation meeting will be next week
- 8) East Jefferson & Halpine design project is finished and will be reviewed by end of month
- 9) At the 12/15 Mayor & City Council meeting to request funding for Rockville Metro Station bridge to go over all tracks to reach platforms more easily
- 10) Intersection of Wootton and Falls Road will be brought up again an upcoming meeting with MDOT – good to have community or individuals also mention to the State about installing a no turn on red sign on Falls; having a letter template may be helpful

### **Elections** (Bryan Barnett-Woods)

- 1) Sophie motioned to nominate Jake as RBAC chair and opened up for discussion and vote. Nancy seconded this motion. All voted for Jake and he accepted.

- 2) Max may be interested in the Vice Chair position

### **Trader Joe's Entrance** (Max Silverstone)

- 1) Letter from RBAC and RPAC (see attached). The edited version will be presented to Paula from RPAC before sending to Public Works.

### **2025 Bike Rides** (Sophie Chan-Wood)

- 1) Holiday lights ride on Sunday 12/28 starting at 4:30 pm at the Trek shop. Brenda offered to lead a shorter family-friendly route in case it will be very cold. Jake volunteered to lead, Wendy will sweep. Offer a bail-out route as a shorter loop on the same long route. Advertise this a Bike Party ride. Shannon will sweep the shorter ride. Lynda will help scout a route. Max and Jonathan can possibly help too. Sophie will post on Meetup.
- 2) Kudos to everyone who helped on making 2025 rides successful. Add email and emergency contact/phone number on waiver form as optional information from riders as well as Meetup RSVP questions.

### **RBAC Outreach** (Olivia Bobrowsky)

- 1) Sign up on this Google doc to talk to community/civic associations within the next quarter:  
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1tsC5QMuBafaefQLIS7asCwAF8SBMtEdsKyio mKr mM0/edit?usp=sharing>  
A script of talking points on the second tab to help with messaging.  
Start with your own neighborhood before reaching out to other meetings.
- 2) Shannon will add another tab for 2026 City events and we can add as we find them. For more discussion next meeting.
- 3) Tracy will need verbiage for Montgomery County Volunteer Center to recruit committee members. Jake will drop off postcards to Tracy.

Jonathan wants to look at a **signature bike ride** in Rockville and reached out to previous Tour de Cookie coordinator. He will be meeting with her regarding The Rainbow Place Shelter as another nonprofit organization fundraiser. Anyone else interested are welcome to join them on Monday at 10:30 am

Shannon updated that the **2026 Family Bike Festival** date has been requested for October 3 or 4 although a Sunday is preferred. Also she reached out to the **Maryvale Elementary** principal about a bike safety course for transportation as a 4-week PE class. The Montgomery County Safe Route to Schools coordinator will coordinate to discuss details.

Meeting adjourned at 9:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sophie Chan-Wood



January 8, 2025

Jim Woods, Acting Director  
Department of Public Works  
City of Rockville  
111 Maryland Avenue  
Rockville, Maryland 20850

RE: Joint Rockville Bicycle Advisory Committee (RBAC) and Rockville Pedestrian Advocacy Committee (RPAC) Comments for the N. Washington Street and Wood Lane Intersection

Dear Mr. Woods,

The Rockville Bicycle Advisory Committee (RBAC) and the Rockville Pedestrian Advocacy Committee (RPAC) would like to first extend its thanks for the city's efforts to improve multimodal transportation citywide. Newly installed bicycle facilities, sidewalks, and traffic calming measures have proven effective to improve the comfort and convenience for people walking, rolling, and bicycling. We look forward to seeing the continued investment in roadway infrastructure for pedestrians and bicyclists, recognizing that these improvements enhance not only safety for all travel modes.

RBAC and RPAC are very supportive of the complete streets improvements along N. Washington Street. Repurposing the outside motor vehicle travel lanes for additional parking and separated bicycle facilities makes the Rockville Town Center a more desirable place to spend time and a safer place to travel. The Department of Public Works (DPW) is studying the feasibility of adding bicycle facilities to Congressional Lane through an MWCOG Transportation Land Use Connections project. RBAC members attended the virtual public meeting discussing the project on March 27, 2025, and city staff presented the alternatives to RBAC during the March 2025, meeting. On behalf of RBAC, I request DPW take the following recommendations and comments into consideration.

We would like to bring the intersection of N. Washington Street and Wood Lane to your attention. In addition to the two city streets, the entrance to the Trader Joe's surface parking lot and the structured parking lot create the fourth leg of this intersection. The intersection includes three marked crosswalks and one pedestrian activated beacon for crossing N. Washington Street. However, there is more activity here since the recent opening of the Trader Joe's supermarket which has revealed new issues when navigating the intersection as a pedestrian or bicyclist.

First, the design includes four large brick pilaster columns, two on either side of the driveway entrance. The shape and bulk of the columns effectively block sightlines for motorists leaving the parking lot. They cannot see pedestrians approaching from the right or left or bicyclists approaching from the left until they are in the crosswalk. While we understand concave mirrors

are not MUTCD compliant, adding one here would help increase visibility. If a concave mirror cannot be considered, we strongly request the Department of Public Works consider an alternative improvement.

Second, there is significant activity at this intersection and traffic back ups are frequent. We recognize the city has tried to address this by limiting left turn movements from the parking lot entrance to southbound N. Washington Street between 5:00 and 6:00 PM. However, additional measures are necessary, particularly to restrict left-turning motorists. Without any traffic control on N. Washington Street, motorists often try to squeeze in gaps in traffic and do not consider pedestrian or bicycle movements. RBAC and RPAC support extending the times for the left-turn prohibition to be from 4:00 to 7:00 PM, as well as any additional measures to better manage traffic operations here. We would also support a traffic study to add a traffic signal here.

Third, motorists leaving the parking lot may not see bicycles or be able to track the bicyclists speed, resulting in many close calls for RBAC members and other bicyclists in the community. We support efforts to add additional signage for motorists to increase their awareness of pedestrians and bicyclists.

Lastly, we request the city consider additional improvements at this intersection to increase visibility of pedestrians. We are greatly supportive and appreciative of the Hi-Viz marked crosswalks added earlier this year and the pedestrian beacon. However, it is frequently the experience of pedestrians that motorists do not yield to pedestrians using the crosswalk. Improvements to improve lighting of sidewalks and pedestrians, adding bollards or flexible posts to the existing hatched areas on the northbound side of N. Washington Street and extending the curb on Wood Lane would be well supported by RBAC and RPAC.

N. Washington Street and the Rockville Town Center have noticeably improved over the past few years. We would like to see continued investment and improvement to this cherished part of the city.

Please feel free to contact us should you want to further discuss the N. Washington Street and Wood Lane intersection in Rockville Town Center. RBAC and RPAC are happy to assist in any way we can.

Sincerely,

Jake Jakubek, Chair  
Rockville Bicycle Advisory Committee

Paula Hubble, Chair  
Rockville Pedestrian Advocacy Committee

Mr. James Woods

Joint RBAC and RPAC Comments for N. Washington Street and Wood Lane

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Cc: Mayor Monique Ashton, City of Rockville

Jeff Mihelich, City Manager, City of Rockville

Emad Elshafei, Chief, Traffic and Transportation, Department of Public Works

Bryan Barnett-Woods, Vision Zero Coordinator, Department of Public Works