DUAL HIGHWAY PEDESTRIAN ROAD SAFETY STUDY

MATT MULLENAX, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
HAGERSTOWN/EASTERN PANHANDLE MPO
Presentation Outline

- Purpose and Need
- Pedestrian Safety Study
- Planning to Engineering to Construction
- Transit Bonus
- Education and Enforcement
- Takeaways – State DOT Coordination
Purpose and Need

- US 40/Dual Highway - four lane divided highway.
- Maryland State-owned facility.
- Average Annual Daily Traffic ~26,000 - 40,000.
- Three pedestrian deaths Apr-Dec 2014.
- Heavy local media coverage.
- Priority for City of Hagerstown and Washington County at Annual Maryland DOT Tours.
- Need for Study identified; HEPMPO initiated with MDOT State Highway Administration (SHA) support.
Pedestrian is third to die on Dual Highway this year

Caleb Calhoun  Dec 16, 2014

A pedestrian killed Monday night on Dual Highway near Hagerstown was the fourth to be struck this year on the busy roadway and the third to die as a result.

Safety along Dual Highway must be made a priority

Posted: Monday, December 22, 2014 11:46 pm
Pedestrian Safety Study

1. Data Collection and Evaluation
2. Formal Pedestrian Road Safety Audit (PRSA)
3. Public Involvement
4. ADA Assessment
5. Prioritization of Recommended Improvements
6. Planning-level Sketch Designs
7. Finalize Study
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*Note: The table represents traffic signal phase times (in seconds) for different phases of a traffic signal.*

**Pedestrian Road Safety Audit Guidelines and Prompt Lists**

*Image showing a pedestrian crossing with a map and numbers indicating crosswalks.*

**Night 1-hr Count**

*Image showing a night traffic count with numbers indicating the traffic flow.*

**24 Crossings**

*Image showing a map with 24 marked crosswalks.*
Public Involvement

US 40 Pedestrian Survey

A pedestrian safety study is underway for US 40 Dual Highway from Cameron Avenue to Redwood Circle. This corridor has had several recent pedestrian fatalities and has become a priority for the City of Hagerstown and the County. As the study gets underway, a survey has been developed to obtain public insights and opinions for those living or working near US 40. Please let us know specific issues you have while walking along US 40 and whether there are any improvements that would make this corridor more walkable for you or others.

Thank you very much for any input you can provide.

3 Ways to Submit Your Results

(1) Take survey online at: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/44d7gstudy
(2) Fill out and drop in a box at: Bradford Apartments 55 Manor Drive Hagerstown, MD 21740
(3) Fill out and send to: Matthew Muller, Hagerstown/Eastern Panhandle MPO 33 West Washington St., Suite 302 Hagerstown, MD 21740

Tell Us About Yourself

1. What is your age? __________

2. Where do you live and work?
   Home Street Name and Zip Code: ____________________________
   Work Street Name and Zip Code: ____________________________

3. Do you walk along the US 40 corridor?
   Yes
   No, I would consider walking along the corridor
   No, but I would if improvements were made

4. If Yes to Question 3, what time of day do you typically walk?
   Morning Peak (6-9am)  Midday  Evening Peak (4-7pm)  Night

5. If Yes to Question 3, at what locations do you usually walk along US 40?

Evaluate the Walkability on or near US 40

Welcome to engageHagerstown.
Creating opportunities for our community to CONNECT, COLLABORATE, and put your ideas to work.
Finalize Study

Wall Size Recommendation
12’ Map for SHA District Office
SHA District 6 secured engineering funds for Phase 1 (Cannon - Eastern).
SHA OOTS completed improvements at Cleveland Avenue intersection July 2018.
SHA Administrator Slater announced State construction funding at MDOT Tour Oct 2018 ($1.5m).
Governor Larry Hogan

April 8

“A project aimed at improving pedestrian safety along a nearly one-mile stretch of Dual Highway in Hagerstown will get underway in late summer, according to state transportation officials...

Additionally, two traffic signals — at Cannon Avenue and at Tracys Lane/Manor Drive — will be upgraded with ‘countdown’ crosswalk signals that audibly tell pedestrians when it’s safe to cross the busy four-lane divided highway.”

Safety along Dual Highway, or U.S. 40, has been an ongoing concern for local and state officials following a rash of pedestrian-related accidents, including several fatalities in recent years.

In 2015, a study commissioned by the Hagerstown-Eastern Panhandle Metropolitan Planning Organization outlined about $1.1 million in needed improvements, like additional lighting and sidewalks along U.S. 40 from Cannon Avenue to Redwood Circle.

The completed and planned SHA projects are within the recommendations of the MPO’s study.

Project to add more sidewalks along Dual Highway to begin late summer
Transit Bonus
Education and Enforcement

Hagerstown Police Department

September 6 at 9:23 AM

The Hagerstown Police Department will be participating in Pedestrian Traffic Enforcement beginning this month. The Maryland Highway Safety Office has provided funding to enforcement pedestrian violations. These violations will be targeting motorists and pedestrians. The department will start this enforcement with a warning period and then move into citations based on the violation(s).

Washington County School students will began the school year on 9/3/19. Pedestrians and motorist should use caution in and around school zones due to the increase of students who will be walking to and from school. The Pedestrian Traffic Enforcement will start in conjunction with back to school and run throughout the entire year. For more information on Pedestrian Safety and Pedestrian laws see the links listed below.

https://www.roads.maryland.gov/Index.aspx?PageId=376
https://www.roads.maryland.gov/.../Pedestrian%20Safety%20Tip%...
https://lookalive-md.org
Takeaways – State DOT Coordination

- MPO planning areas transcend road ownership/administrative boundaries that can be a planning hindrance.
- Recognize ways to be flexible to help DOTs in efforts needing expediency (utilize on-call contracts, UPWP revisions).
- Being an outsider and understanding DOT processes gives unique opportunity for support and assistance.
- Projects can come together through phases, different funding sources, etc. so be patient and steadfast, celebrate progress and explore all opportunities.
- Can serve as an advocate for stakeholders to DOT (Washington Co. Transit).
- Through project development process, doors opened for further opportunities (SHA - future studies, District meetings; partnership with Washington Co. Sheriff’s Department).
- Sharing project work at meetings can create new opportunities and extended connections (MHSO).
THANK YOU!

Hagerstown/Eastern Panhandle MPO

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