# THE HOWARD COUNTY BICYCLE MASTER PLAN

## BIKE HOWARD
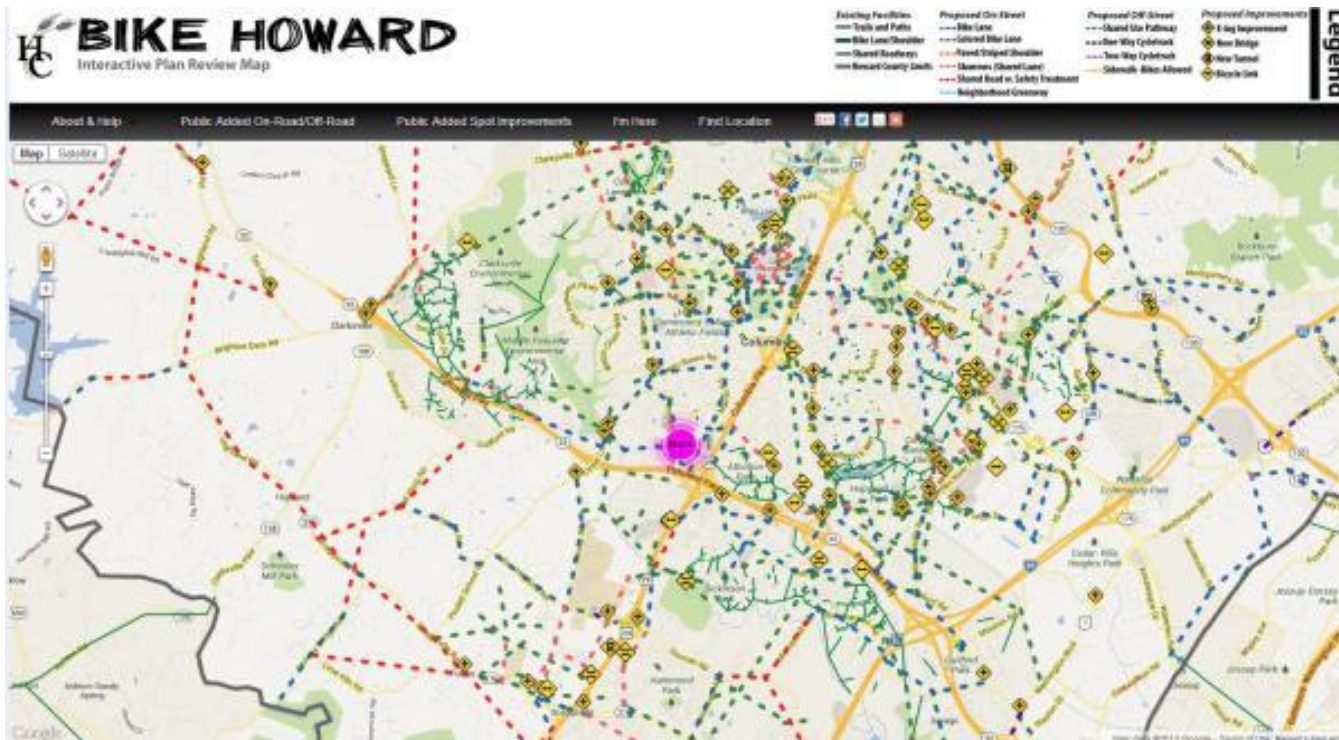


### VISION:

*"Howard County, Maryland seeks to be a bicycle-friendly County where residents and visitors, schoolchildren and seniors, men and women feel comfortable and safe bicycling on our roads and paths as a means of daily transportation and healthy recreation".*

- ❑ Infrastructure
- ❑ Policy
- ❑ Programs (education, encouragement, enforcement)
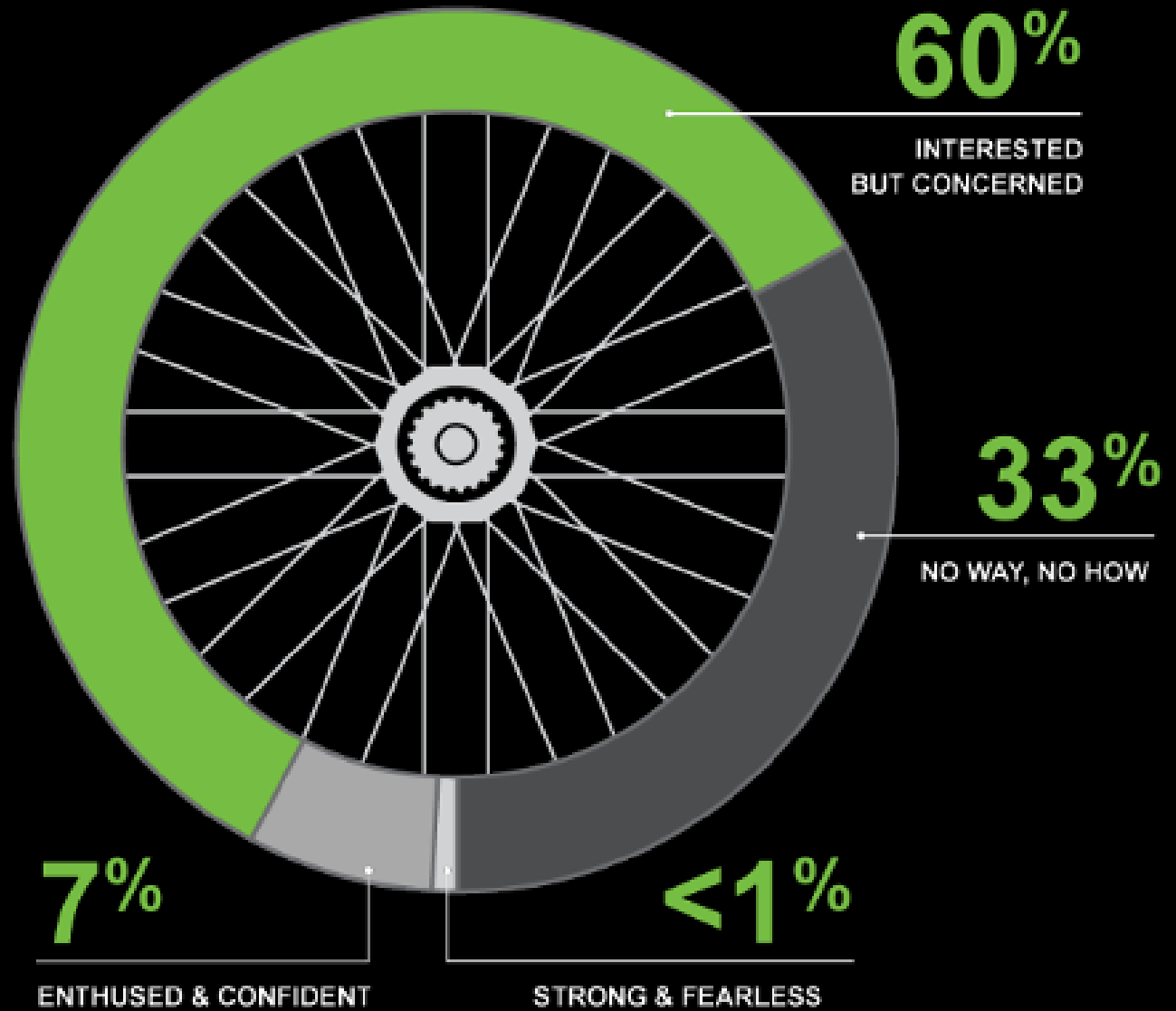
# BIKE MASTER PLAN STATUS



- **Plan drafted and posted in 2014**

- **Available at www.BikeHoward.com**

- **Capital budget provided through K5066**

# PLAN, DESIGN AND BUILD FOR THE RIDERS YOU WANT TO HAVE

# FOUR TYPES OF RIDERS

**60%**
INTERESTED
BUT CONCERNED

**33%**
NO WAY, NO HOW

**7%**
ENTHUSED & CONFIDENT

**<1%**
STRONG & FEARLESS

# INFRASTRUCTURE FOR ALL AGES AND ABILITIES



Cambridge, MA. (Source: City of Cambridge)

Protected Bike Lane, Austin TX



Off-street path, Columbia MD
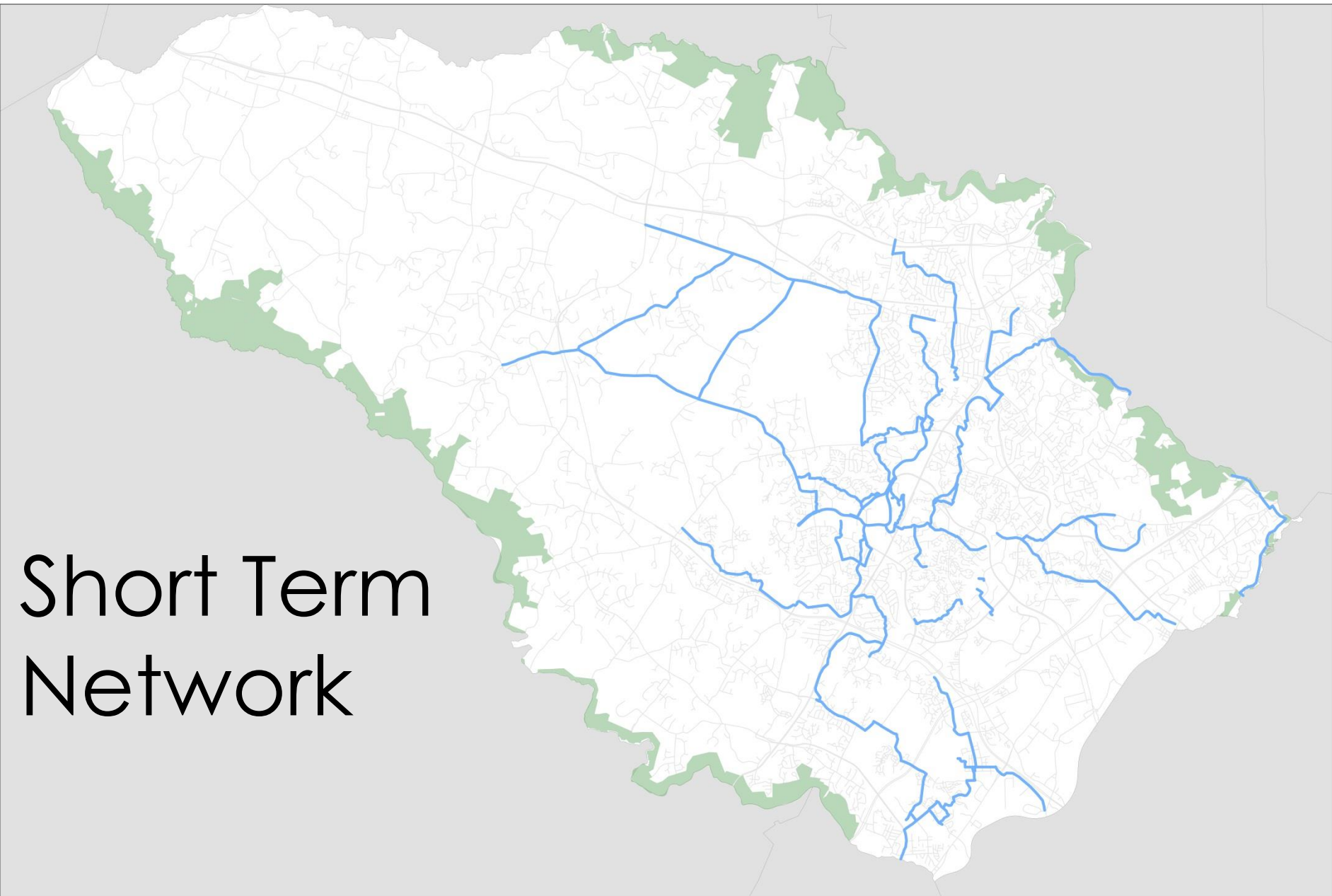
Short Term
Network

**Bike Howard**
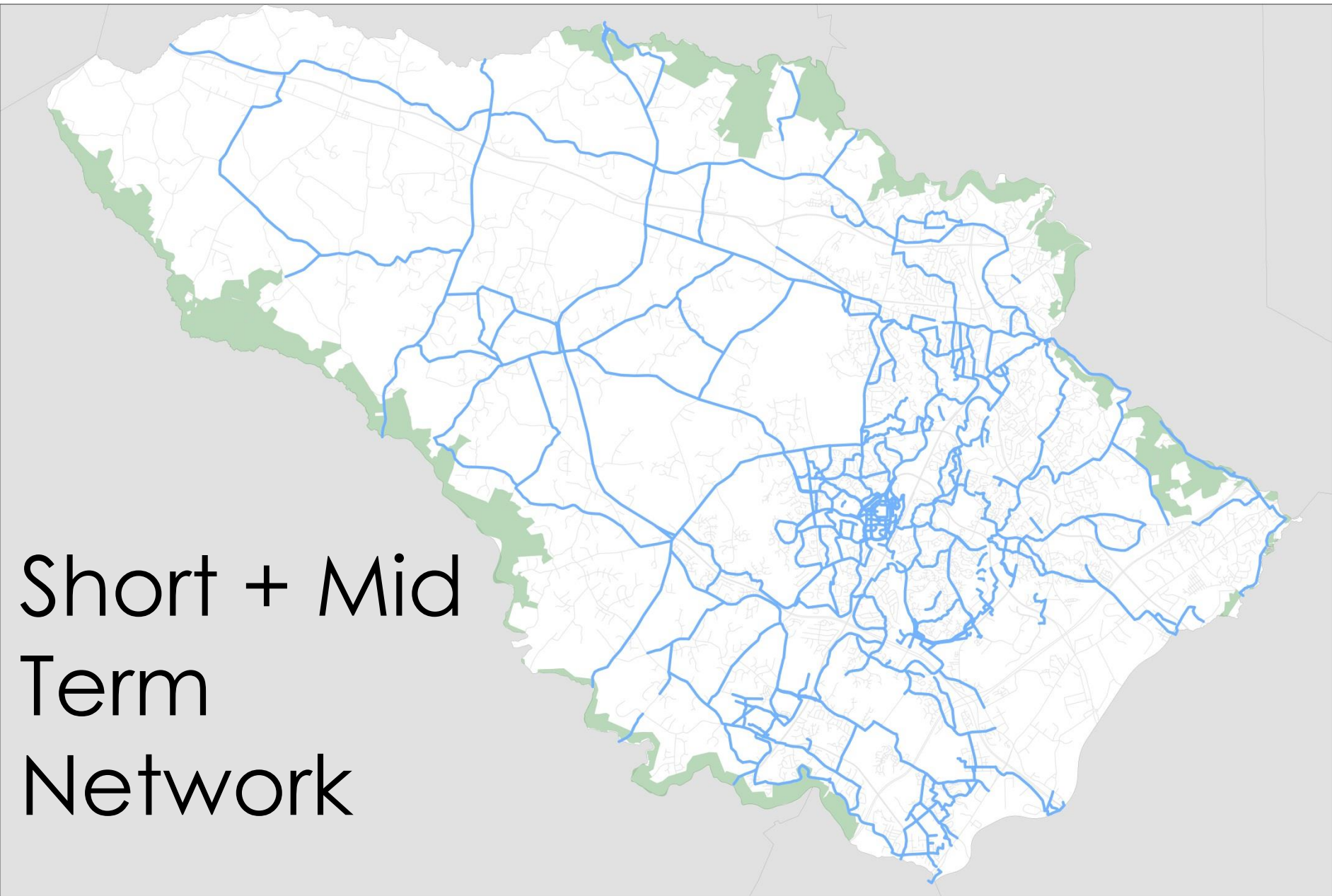
# Short + Mid Term Network

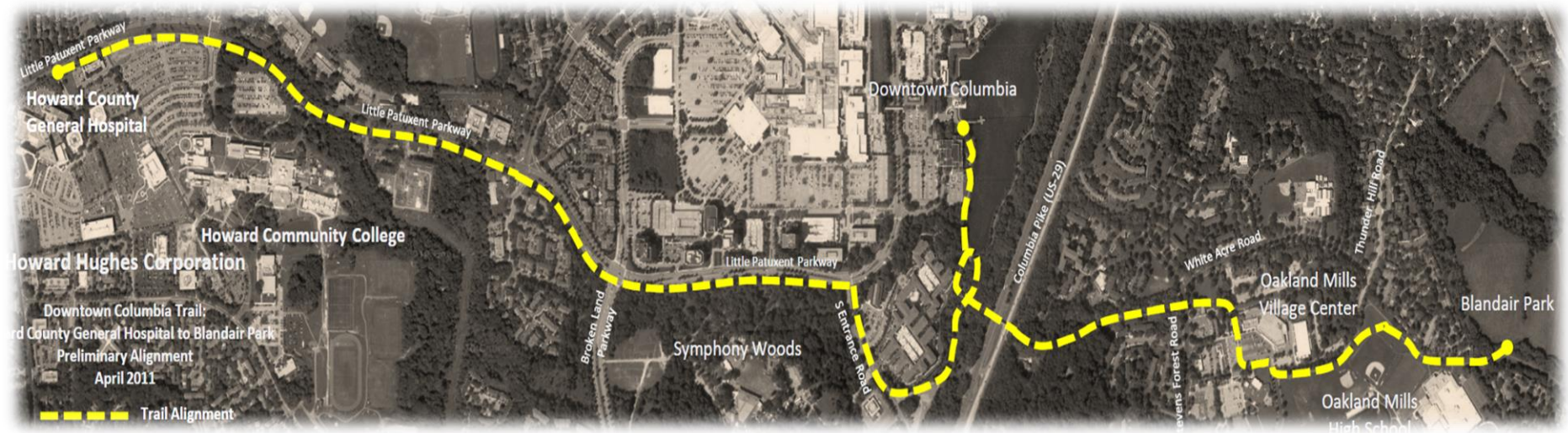Bike Howard
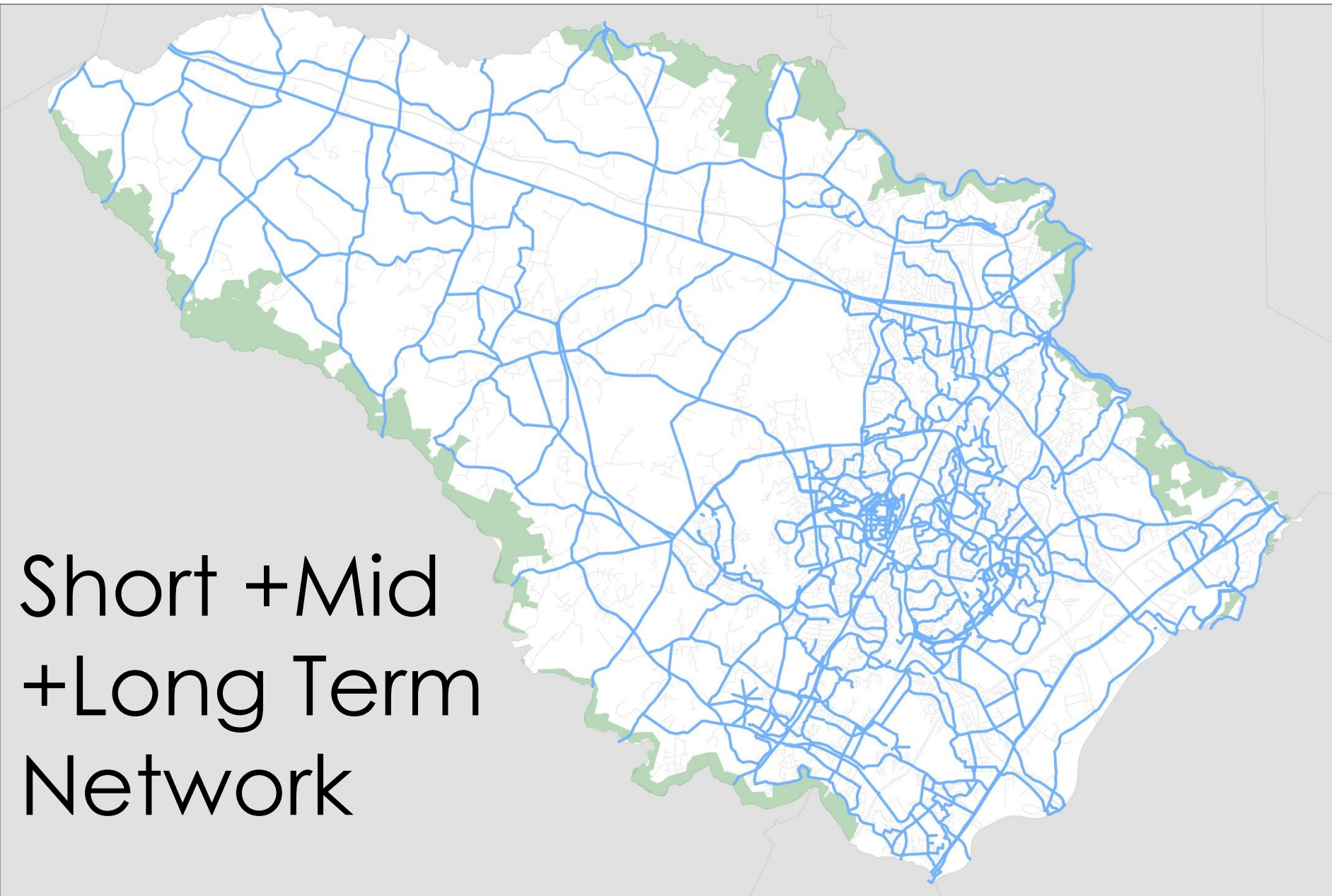
Short +Mid +Long Term Network

# DOWNTOWN COLUMBIA MULTI-USE PATH

Phase 1 complete
Phase 2 starting construction in Spring 2015
Phase 3 planned for 2015/2016.

County Library

Downtown Columbia Trail

Howard Community College 1.0
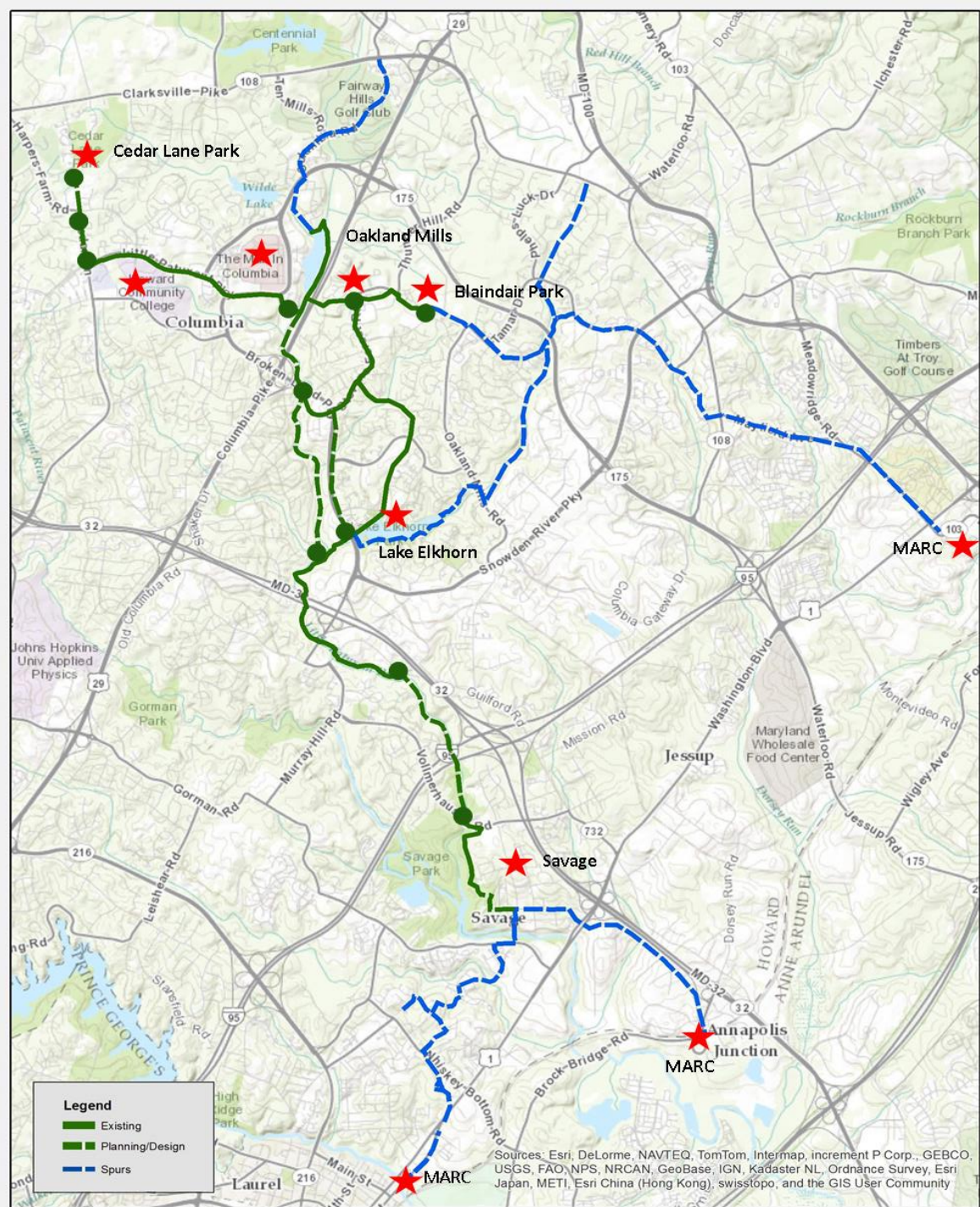
County Gen Hospital 1.6

# GREEN T

High Quality, continuous pathway system.

Connecting people to places through active transportation.

Some sections are complete, some need improvement, some are planned.

# RECOMMENDATIONS FOR POLICY CHANGES

- Implement County Wide Complete Streets Policy

- Update Howard County Roadway Design Guidelines

- Update Developer Review Process

# RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PROGRAMS

- Encouragement
- Education
- Enforcement

# BIKEHOWARD SUMMARY







- When more people get around by bike, the whole community benefits.

- There is a demand for this and the benefits are substantial if we provide a safe, comfortable, easy to use network that accommodates people of all ages and abilities.

# WalkHoward

## *moving forward*

# PEDESTRIAN MASTER PLAN STATUS

| Spring/Summer 2014 | Fall 2014/Winter 2015 | Winter/Spring 2015 | Summer 2015 | Fall 2015 | Fall 2015 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Assess bus stops & pedestrian facilities along bus routes | Assess pedestrian facilities identified in 2007 Pedestrian Plan | Public engagement opportunities | Draft plan | Draft plan released | Final plan presented to county executive and council |
| Complete! | Complete! | Complete! | | | |

# WHY A GOOD PEDESTRIAN NETWORK?

- **Most people would rather drive less and walk more**
- **About 1/3 of resident's don't drive**
  - 100% under 16
  - 21% over 65
  - Many low income
  - Some people with disabilities
- **Improve safety**
  - 28% lower risk for pedestrians crossing a well-designed and operating intersection
  - 88% lower risk for pedestrians walking along sidewalks rather than in the roadway

# WHY A GOOD PEDESTRIAN NETWORK?

**Opportunity to convert short trips by car into walking trips**

- 50% of trips are less than 3 miles
- 28% of trips are less than 1 mile
- 65% of trips under 1 mile are taken by car

**Supports transit**

**Economic benefits**

- Property values
- Less demand for roadway funds

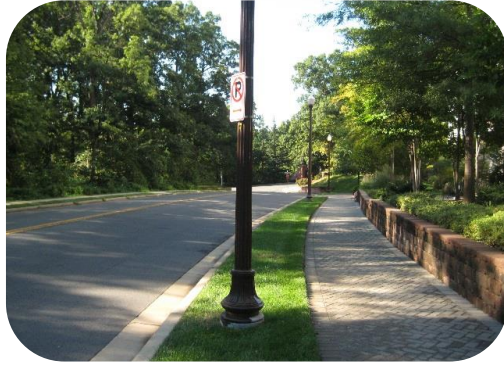**Physical well-being**

**Environmental benefits**

# WHY A PEDESTRIAN MASTER PLAN?

- **Provides a map to create a walkable community**

- **Relates to other planning**

- **Implemented over time as resources are available**

# TYPES OF PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES
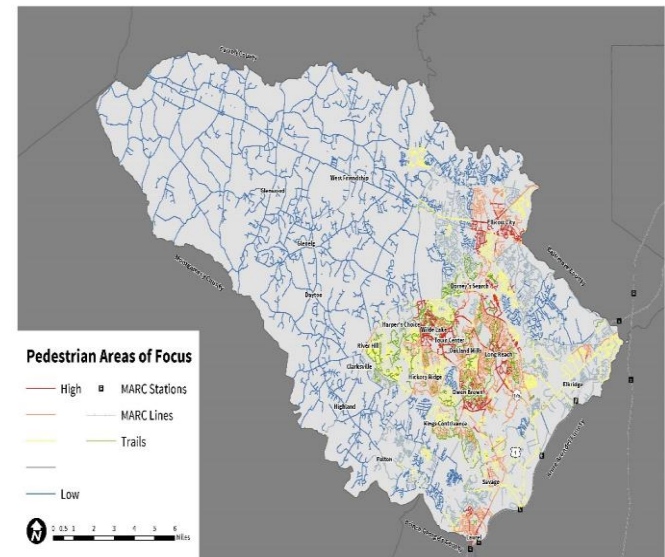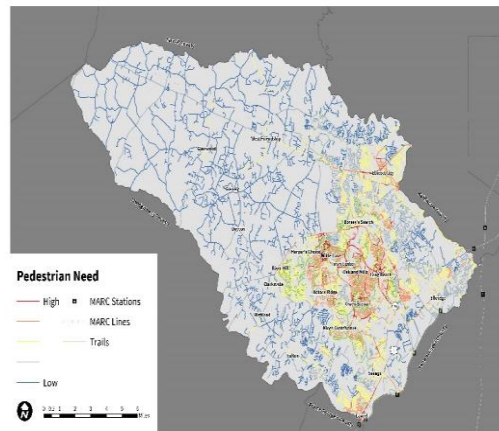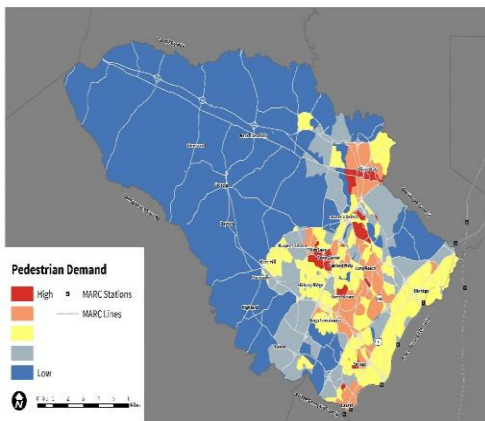


Sidewalks



Curb ramps



Crosswalks



Bus Stops

# PRELIMINARY PEDESTRIAN FOCUS AREAS

**Factor in where pedestrians are expected to walk (DEMAND) and condition of the network (NEED)**
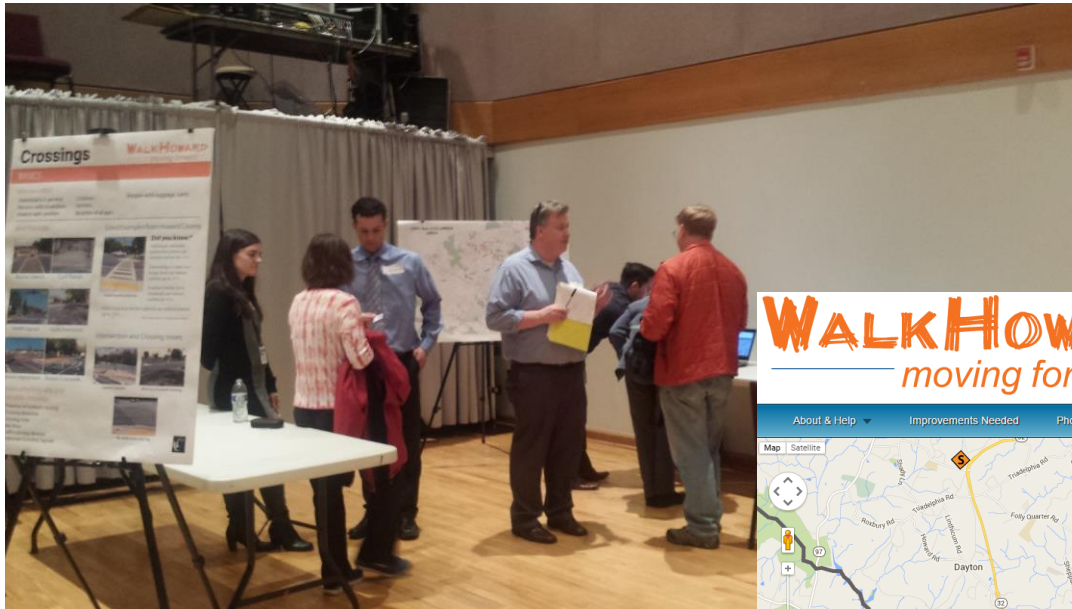


Demand **+** Need **=**

Pedestrian Focus Areas

# PUBLIC INPUT

**OPTION 1: On-line, WalkHoward.org, includes interactive map and forms.**

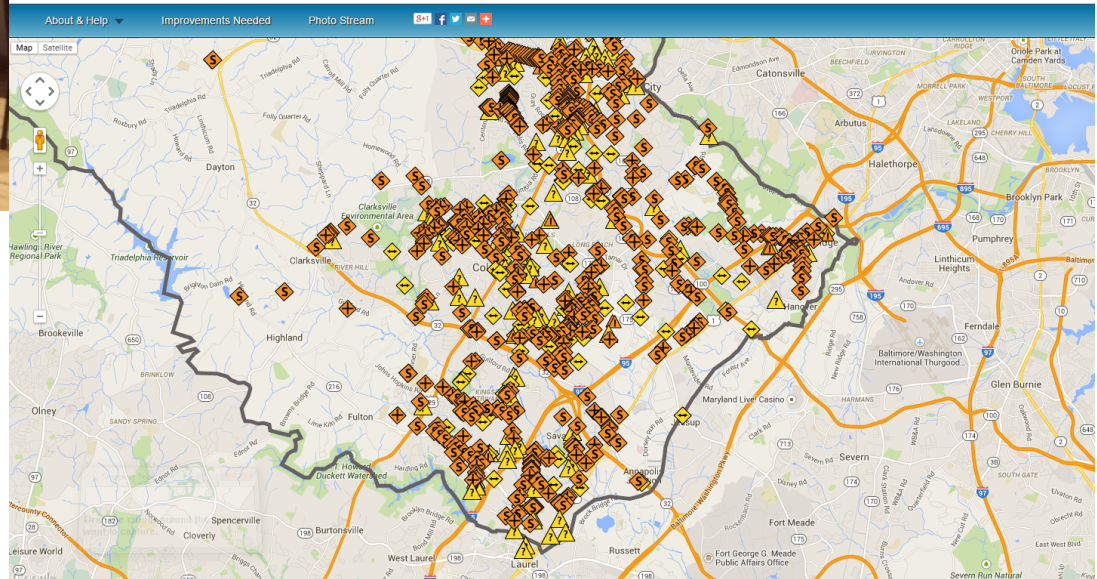**OPTION 2: In person. Three Open House meetings in March and April.**

# NEXT STEPS FOR WALKHOWARD

- **Form Pedestrian Advisory Group**

- **Organize, categorize and prioritize improvements based on combination of public input and analytical assessment**

- **Provide recommendations for policy changes**

- **Draft Pedestrian Master Plan**

## Website:

**BikeHoward.org**
**WalkHoward.org**

## Email:

**info@WalkHoward.org**

## Telephone:

**410-313-3130**