



# Attend the Public Meeting!

## US 301 at MD 228/MD 5 Business Project Planning Study

WHEN:	WHERE:
Thursday, March 5, 2015 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM	John Hanson Middle School (Cafeteria) 3165 John Hanson Drive Waldorf, MD 20601-3604
*Snow Date – Thursday, March 12, 2015 Meeting will be held on snow date if county public schools are closed or if the county's snow emergency plan is in effect.	



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Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr., Governor  
Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor

Pete K. Rahn, Acting Secretary  
Melinda B. Peters, Administrator

### Public Involvement

SHA will maintain public involvement throughout the US 301 at MD 228/MD 5 Business Project Planning Study. We encourage residents, business owners/operators, and other project stakeholders to share project-related comments and concerns. The project team is available to meet with businesses, homeowners associations, and other groups upon request. To request a meeting, receive project information, submit a comment, or add your name to the project mailing list, please contact:

**Mr. Jeremy Beck**, Project Manager  
Maryland State Highway Administration  
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Baltimore, MD 21202  
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Toll-free within Maryland: 1-800-548-5026  
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Maryland Department of Transportation  
State Highway Administration  
Office of Planning & Preliminary Engineering  
Mail Stop C-301  
707 North Calvert Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202




## US 301 at MD 228/MD 5 Business Project Planning Study



### PROJECT NEWSLETTER • WINTER 2014/2015

### US 301 at MD 228/MD 5 Business Project Planning Study Initiated; Informational Workshop Scheduled

The Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA), in conjunction with the Federal Highway Administration, is conducting a Project Planning Study to investigate improvements at the intersection of US 301 (Crain Highway) and MD 228 (Berry Road)/MD 5 Business (Leonardtown Road) in Waldorf, Charles County. The study will focus on traffic operations and the safety of motorists, pedestrians, and bicyclists.

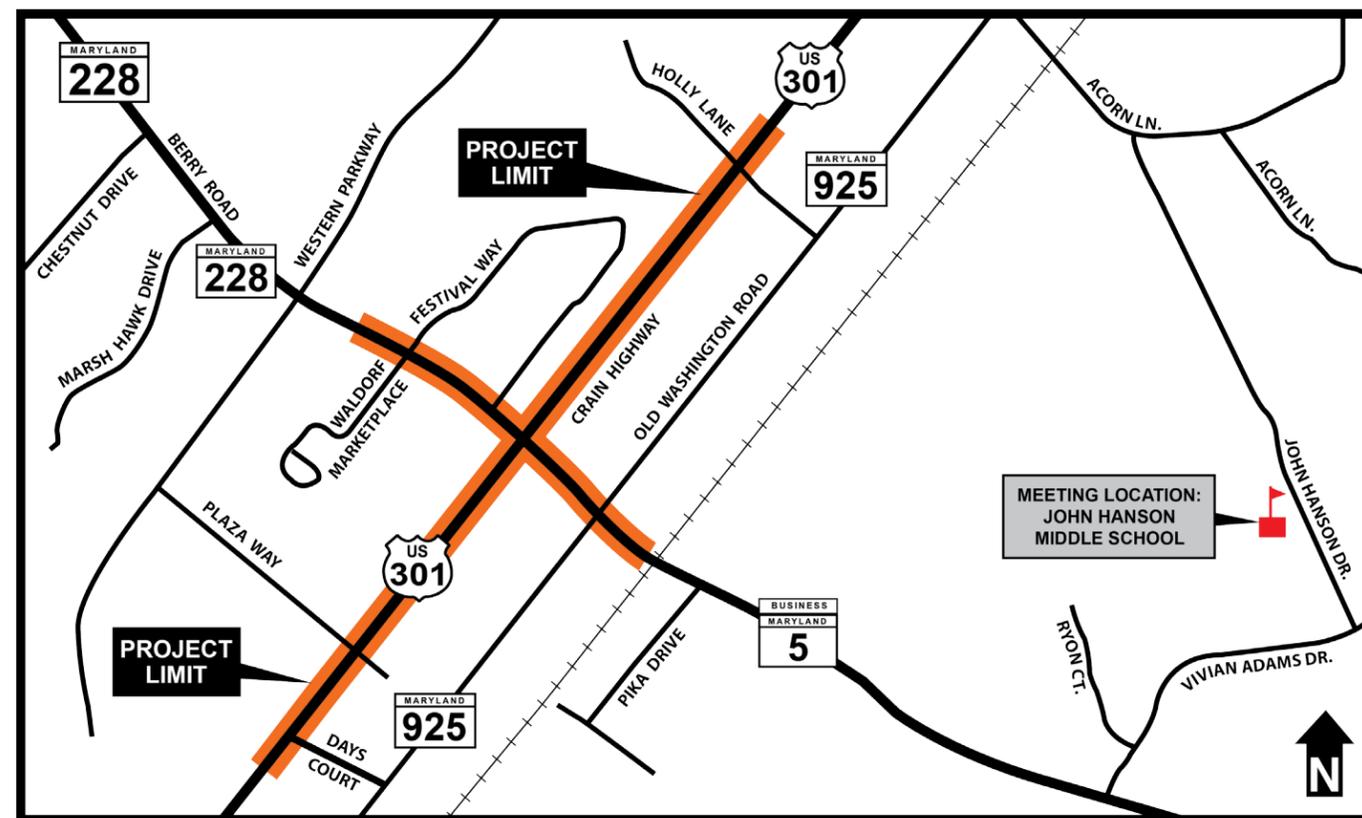
SHA has scheduled an Informational Workshop for **Thursday, March 5, 2015, from 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM, in the John Hanson Middle School cafeteria, 3165 John Hanson Drive, Waldorf, MD 20601.** If the March 5 meeting is cancelled due to inclement weather, the meeting will be held on Thursday, March 12, 2015.

### Purpose of the Workshop

The purpose of the Informational Workshop is to present the purpose and need for the project, obtain public comments, and answer project-related questions. The workshop will be conducted in an interactive open house format that allows attendees to conduct self-paced reviews of project information. Participants may arrive at any time during workshop hours. **There will be no formal presentation.**

### Purpose and Need Overview

The purpose of the US301 at MD 228/MD 5 Business Project Planning Study is to develop a transportation solution that facilitates the safe and efficient flow of traffic through the intersection, accommodates the movement of pedestrians and bicyclists, and is consistent with the transportation infrastructure and travel demands of existing and future development objectives of Charles County.





**Existing Conditions**

US 301 consists of three lanes in each direction, with a double left-turn lane at the MD 228/MD 5 Business intersection. MD 228 and MD 5 Business consist of two lanes in each direction, with turn lanes at the intersection. US 301 carries local traffic and commuter traffic to employment centers in Washington, D.C., and Prince George’s County. Although commercial establishments located on both sides of US 301 and MD 228/MD 5 Business attract local and regional shoppers, the absence of sidewalks on US 301 and the absence of crosswalks at the intersection make pedestrian crossings challenging. Numerous access points to businesses located along US 301 increase the potential for crashes from turning traffic, and neither US 301 nor MD 228/MD 5 Business includes bicycle lanes near the intersection. Posted speed limits are 45 mph on US 301 and 35 mph on MD 228/MD 5 Business.

**Traffic Volumes**

SHA developed Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) volumes for US 301, MD 228, and MD 5 Business within the project limits. Table 1 shows 2013 existing and 2040 projected No-Build AADT traffic volumes. US 301, MD 228, and MD 5 Business currently operate at or above capacity for roadways of their types, and traffic is expected to increase due to population growth and development.

**Table 1: Existing and Projected Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT)**

	2013	2040 No-Build*
US 301 North of Intersection	61,550	79,775
US 301 South of Intersection	53,075	69,850
MD 228	35,250	40,000
MD 5 Business	31,925	37,075

\*Assumes no intersection improvements beyond routine maintenance and safety operations.

**Levels of Service**

SHA conducted a Level of Service (LOS) analysis for existing (2013) and forecasted (2040) No-Build conditions for US 301, MD 228, and MD 5 Business within the project limits. LOS, which is normally determined for the peak hours of a typical weekday, measures the freedom of mobility or severity of congestion experienced by drivers and ranges from A to F. LOS A represents free-flow traffic movement, with little or no congestion. LOS F represents failure, with stop-and-go conditions and long lines of traffic. LOS D, which occurs when traffic flow becomes unstable, is generally considered acceptable during peak hours on urban and suburban roadways. At LOS E, the roadway is operating near capacity, and day-to-day delays are unpredictable.

Table 2 shows 2013 existing AM and PM peak-period LOS for the US 301/MD 228/MD 5 Business intersection and projects future LOS for 2040 if roadway capacity remains unchanged.

**Table 2: Existing and Projected Level of Service**

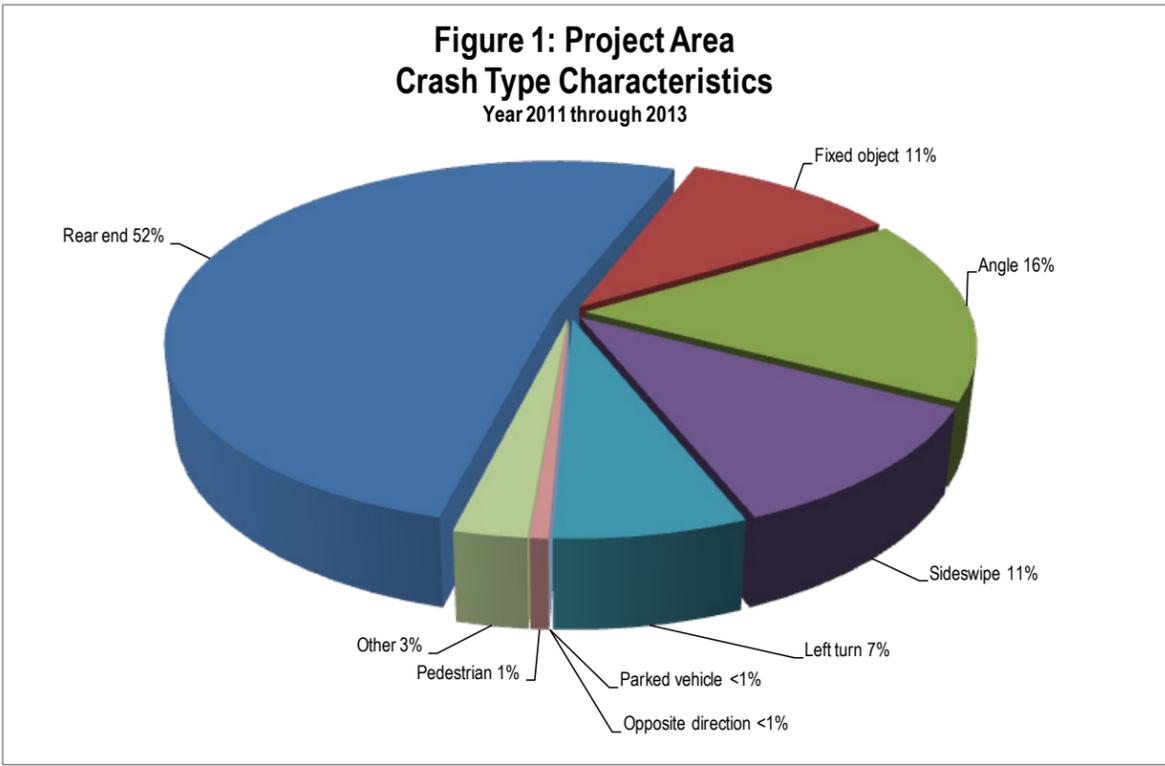
	AM	PM
2013 Existing	D	E
2040 No-Build*	E	F

\*Assumes no intersection improvements beyond routine maintenance and safety operations.

The intersection operates near capacity in the PM peak period, with long lines of traffic. By 2040, the northbound and southbound approaches to US 301 and the side-street movements are projected to fail in the PM, and the line of eastbound PM traffic on MD 228 is projected to extend for more than 1,200 feet. PM peak traffic along northbound MD 5 Business is projected to extend to MD 925 and to exceed the length of the northbound US 301 double left-turn lanes.

**Safety**

SHA collected information on police-reported crashes between 2011-2013 (see Figure 1). Injury and property-damage collisions throughout the project area occur at a higher rate than the statewide average for similar types of roadways. Most collisions along US 301 involve rear-end, angle, and sideswipe crashes. These types of collisions within the project area exceed the statewide average. As the project moves forward, the project team will evaluate factors that may contribute to these crashes.



**Project History**

In 2006, SHA began to evaluate improvements to US 301 at MD 228/MD 5 Business to address safety and traffic flow as part of the US 301 Waldorf Area Project. That project was put on hold in 2009, with no decision on a preferred alternative. In 2014, SHA completed feasibility efforts along the US 301 corridor between MD 227 and the US 301/MD 5 split at T.B. These efforts allowed SHA to update traffic volume information and crash data, as well as assess potential strategies that could be used in addressing key mobility and safety issues. Based on these initial analyses, SHA determined that the US 301/MD 228/MD 5 Business intersection should move forward as an independent Project Planning Study to improve safety and traffic flow in this vicinity.

**Project Status**

The US 301 at MD 228/MD 5 Business Project Planning Study is funded for Project Planning only. During the Planning phase, the study team gives careful consideration to a project’s impacts on the community and natural environment before choosing an alternative. The project will move into the Final Design, Right-of-Way Acquisition, and Construction phases as funding becomes available. For information about this project planning study, visit our website at [www.roads.maryland.gov](http://www.roads.maryland.gov) and click on **Projects and Studies, SHA Projects Page, Charles County, US 301 Crain Highway** or use the QR code below.



**Schedule**

Conduct Purpose and Need Workshop.....March 5, 2015  
 Conduct Alternatives Public Workshop.....Fall 2015  
 Conduct Location/Design Public Hearing.....Fall 2016  
 Receive Location/Design Approval.....Fall 2017

**Request for Assistance**

The MD Relay Service can assist teletype users at 7-1-1. Persons requiring assistance to participate in the Informational Workshop (an interpreter for hearing/speech difficulties or assistance with the English language) should contact Mr. Beck by February 26, 2015.