



Attend the Public Meeting!



SHA has scheduled an **Informational Workshop for Wednesday, June 11, 2014, from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM, in the Surrattsville High School cafeteria, 6101 Garden Drive, Clinton, Maryland 20735.** Members of the study team will acquaint attendees with the study and present a range of concepts being considered. Participants may talk with study representatives at display stations and share their comments and concerns. **There will be no formal presentation.** Participants may walk through the displays at any time during workshop hours.

Martin O'Malley, Governor
Anthony G. Brown, Lieutenant Governor
James T. Smith, Jr., Secretary
Melinda B. Peters, Administrator



Maryland Department of Transportation
SHA State Highway Administration
Office of Planning and Preliminary Engineering
Mail Stop C-301
707 North Calvert Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202



MD 223 Corridor Planning Study from Steed Road to MD 4



PROJECT NEWSLETTER • SPRING 2014

MD 223 Corridor Planning Study Moves Forward; Public Meeting Scheduled

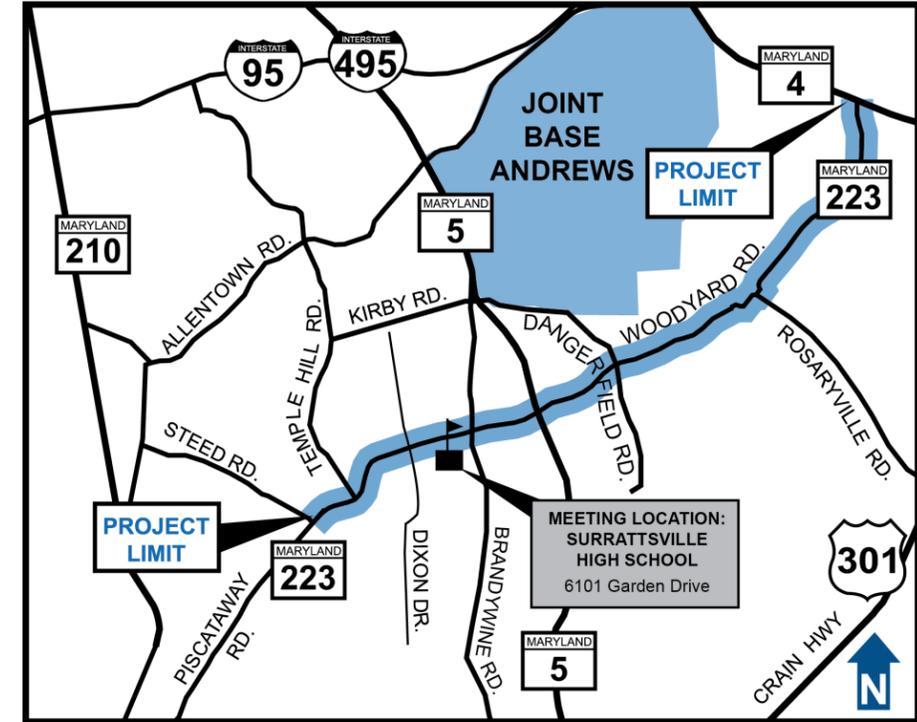
The Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) is conducting a Corridor Planning Study of MD 223 (Woodyard Road/Piscataway Road) from Steed Road to MD 4 (Pennsylvania Avenue) in Prince George's County. The SHA study team is focused on establishing a balanced approach to transportation within the study area while maintaining and enhancing the distinctive roadway character of the corridor.

As the primary east-west roadway that serves neighborhoods south and west of Joint Base Andrews in south-central Prince George's County, MD 223 connects a number of major Maryland routes, including MD 4 and MD 5 (Branch Avenue). Roadway features vary throughout the project corridor. At the south end of the study area, MD 223 is a two-lane open-section roadway from Steed Road to Gwynndale Road; it then changes to a four-lane closed-section roadway from Gwynndale Road to MD 5. MD 223 returns to a two-lane open-section roadway from MD 5 to MD 4.

The study team has begun to review past studies, gather new data, and conduct field work within the corridor. Using existing and future traffic data and the most recent crash analysis, the study team will develop a longer-term view of the corridor, which includes developing concepts that will be presented for public comment at the Informational Workshop on June 11, 2014. Comments from the workshop will be considered as the team completes the Corridor Planning Study Report, which will recommend potential improvements that can move forward in the project development process. The MD 223 project is funded as a Corridor Planning Study only; it is not funded for Project Planning, Final Design, Right-of-Way Acquisition, or Construction. The MD 223 Corridor Planning Study includes agency and public involvement, the development of reasonable transportation concepts, and the identification of potential social, economic, and natural environmental impacts.

Study Goals

The goal of the MD 223 Corridor Planning Study is to develop a long-term vision to manage future traffic volumes and address short-term safety and operational deficiencies. The study will recommend enhanced transportation network connectivity and improvements to pedestrian, bicyclist, and transit-user safety, and access to community resources. The study will also consider ways in which access to homes and businesses can best be accomplished. The study team will analyze the impacts that the recommended improvements may have on existing development and environmental resources along MD 223.



Traffic Level of Service (LOS)

SHA conducted an LOS analysis for existing (2013) and forecasted (2025 and 2040) No-Build conditions along MD 223. LOS is a measure of the congestion experienced by drivers and ranges from “A” (free flow, with little or no congestion) to “F” (failure, with stop-and-go conditions). LOS is normally computed for the peak hours of a typical weekday, with LOS D (approaching unstable flow) or better generally considered acceptable for intersections or highways in urban and suburban areas. At LOS E, volumes are near or at capacity.

Traffic projections for 2025 and 2040 indicate that, without improvements along MD 223, several intersections will fail, especially those near important cultural and historic sites within the community. Motorists can expect stop-and-go traffic and extremely long delays at signalized intersections. The increased traffic and congestion would further contribute to the deterioration of safe driving conditions along portions of MD 223.

Signalized Intersection Level Of Service (LOS)	AM Peak Hour			PM Peak Hour		
	2013	2025	2040	2013	2025	2040
MD 223 at Marlboro Pike	C	D	E	D	D	E
MD 223 at Dower House Road	C	D	D	C	D	D
MD 223 at Rosaryville Road*	D	D	F	E	E	F
MD 223 at Old Alexandria Ferry Road/Dangerfield Road	B	B	C	C	D	E
MD 223 at Mike Shapiro Drive	B	A	A	B	A	A
MD 223 at MD 5	C	B	A	D	C	C
MD 223 at Clinton Plaza Shopping Entrance/Woody Terrace	B	A	B	B	B	C
MD 223 at Clinton Plaza Shopping Entrance/Pine View Lane	C	C	C	D	D	E
MD 223 at Old Branch Avenue/Brandywine Road	F	F	F	E	F	F
MD 223 at Temple Hill Road	C	B	B	D	E	F
MD 223 at Steed Road	C	D	F	B	C	D

Source: 2000 Highway Capacity Manual (HCM)

* 2013 assumes completed construction of MD 223 at Rosaryville Road and optimized signal timing for Rosaryville Road only.

Initial Survey Results

A study questionnaire that was included with the Fall 2013 Project Newsletter received more than 500 responses, including the top responses to the following questions:

- **Question 3:** What are the top issues that should be addressed by this project?
 - Traffic congestion/delays: 73%
 - Pedestrian access (sidewalks, crosswalks, etc.): 62%
 - Intersections on MD 223: 55%
 - Traffic safety: 39%
- **Question 6:** Which of the following potential impacts concerns you most?
 - Impacts on future traffic: 69%
 - Impacts on homes: 32%

Study Background

MD 223 has evolved from a rural two-lane roadway that served 1950s and 1960s communities like Ballard and Sherwood Forest into a major roadway that supports commercial and residential growth in Prince George's County. Large farms (including His Lordship's Kindness, an 18th-century plantation) and tobacco barns in the study area reflect the historic importance of the county's role in tobacco production. The establishment of Andrews Air Force Base (now Joint Base Andrews) in the 1940s and the Maryland State Roads Commission's (now SHA) improvements to MD 5 led to an increase in suburban development. Today, the roadway and intersections can no longer meet the needs of some of the surrounding areas. SHA has studied MD 223 twice since the early 1990s, when SHA identified three intersections from Temple Hill Road to MD 5 that needed safety improvements. Although public opposition to those studies led SHA to put the project on hold until 2007, SHA made improvements to two of the three intersections, separate from the Project Planning Study. In 2008, SHA evaluated potential improvements to safety and traffic operations along MD 223 from Steed Road to MD 5, but the study was put on hold because of the economic downturn. The study has been reinitiated as a Corridor Planning Study, which will evaluate a longer section of MD 223 and provide a wider range of concepts to address traffic and safety concerns.

Next Steps

Refine Concepts from Informational Meeting.....Summer 2014
 Complete Corridor Planning Study Report.....Summer / Fall 2014

Thank You

We want to hear from you. We are committed to keeping you informed and involved during this process. To share your project-related questions and comments, please contact **Mr. Bill Carver, Project Manager, at 410-545-8515, toll-free at 1-800-548-5026, or wcarver@sha.state.md.us.** You may add your name, address, and/or email address to the project mailing list by completing a comment card at the Informational Workshop or emailing your request to Mr. Carver. The project team is available to meet with businesses, homeowners associations, and other groups as the project moves forward. For more information on this project, use the QR Code on this page or visit our project website at: www.roads.maryland.gov and click on **Projects and Studies, SHA Projects Page**, Select a County, then select **Prince George's County, Pre-Construction** and **MD 223 Piscataway Road**.



Request For Assistance

The Maryland 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. Carver by June 4, 2014.

