

Public Involvement is Important

We want to hear from you! Here's how you can get involved in the study and stay updated as we move forward:

- Fill out and mail the attached postage-paid survey. Your feedback will help us better understand the study area, your community, and your concerns.
- Get on the project mailing list. Add your name and address and/or your email address to the bottom of the attached survey to receive future project updates and announcements.
- Come to our public meetings. We will send you announcements and advertise in local newspapers. Look at the project schedule in this newsletter for general timeframes for upcoming meetings.
- Call us. To speak to the SHA Project Manager, contact Mr. Russell Walto at (410) 545-8547. To contact the SHA Environmental Manager, Ms. Angela Willis, call (410) 545-5651. Mr. Walto and Ms. Willis can also be reached toll-free at 1-800-548-5026 and by email at rwalto@sha.state.md.us or awillis@sha.state.md.us
- Login and view our Project Web Page at: www.marylandroads.com
- In addition to the Alternates Public Workshop and the Location/Design Public Hearing, the project team will be available to meet with various businesses, communities, homeowners' associations and other groups as the project moves forward. Please contact us to set up a meeting.

Contact Information

Written comments/requests may be submitted to:

Mr. Russell Walto, Project Manager
 Project Planning Division
 Mail Stop C-301
 State Highway Administration
 P.O. Box 717
 Baltimore, MD 21203-0717

To speak to a member of the project team, please call toll-free 1-800-548-5026 or email rwalto@sha.state.md.us

Martin O'Malley, Governor
Anthony Brown, Lieutenant Governor
John D. Porcari, Secretary
Neil J. Pedersen, Administrator

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MD 5 Project Planning Study from MD 243 to MD 245



PROJECT NEWSLETTER • FALL 2007

SHA Launches MD 5 Project Planning Study

The Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA), in conjunction with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), has begun a Project Planning Study to evaluate potential improvements to safety and traffic operations along the MD 5 (Point Lookout Road) corridor in St. Mary's County. The project limits extend from the MD 243 (Newtowne Neck Road/Maypole Road) intersection to the west, through Leonardtown, to the MD 245 (Hollywood Road) intersection to the east.

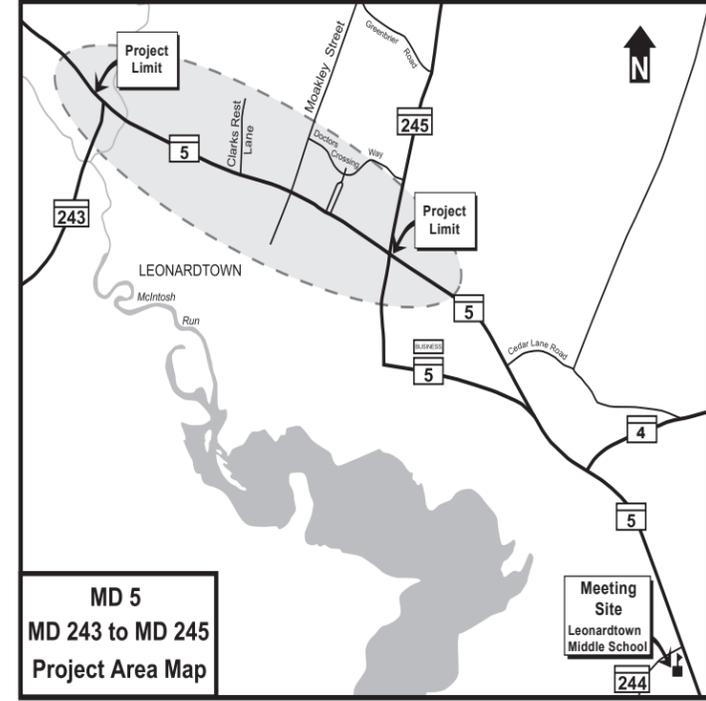
Informational Public Meeting Scheduled

SHA invites interested persons to attend an Informational Public Meeting for the MD 5 Project Planning Study. Meeting participants will have the opportunity to learn more about the study and the project schedule, and be able to provide their comments to project team members.

WHAT: Informational Public Meeting for MD 5 Project Planning Study

WHEN:
 Tuesday, December 11, 2007
 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM
 (Snow Date: Tuesday,
 December 18, 2007)

WHERE:
 Leonardtown Middle
 School - Cafeteria
 24015 Point Lookout Road
 Leonardtown, MD 20650



Maryland Department of Transportation
 STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
 OFFICE OF PLANNING AND
 PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING
 MS C-301
 BOX 717
 BALTIMORE, MD 21203-0717
ATTN: Mr. Russell Walto,
SHA Project Manager

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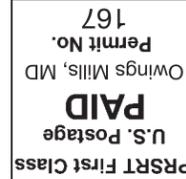
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Maryland Department of Transportation
State Highway Administration
 Office of Planning and Preliminary Engineering
 P.O. Box 717, Mail Stop C-301
 Baltimore, Maryland 21203-0717



Project Background

The MD 5 Project Planning Study is located within the incorporated limits of the Town of Leonardtown in St. Mary's County. The project limits for the study extend from just north of MD 243 to just south of MD 245, a distance of approximately two miles.

MD 5 is on the State's Secondary System and is functionally classified as a Rural Minor Arterial roadway. It is an east-west route that extends from Point Lookout in southern St. Mary's County west to Waldorf. MD 5 functions as the major gateway to Leonardtown (the county seat), provides direct access to properties along the corridor, and serves through traffic south to Point Lookout and north to Charles County and the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area.

In January 2007, SHA initiated the Project Planning Study to investigate possible transportation improvements for safety and traffic operations along the MD 5 corridor in Leonardtown.

Purpose of the Project

The purpose of the project is to improve vehicular safety and traffic operations along MD 5, while supporting existing and planned development in the area. This project will also address pedestrian, bicycle, and horse-drawn vehicle safety and accommodate vehicular access to the residences, businesses, schools, and places of worship along MD 5.

Need for the Project

Improvements along the MD 5 corridor in Leonardtown are needed to improve vehicular and pedestrian mobility, address safety concerns, and provide adequate capacity and improved access for both the existing traffic and the additional traffic that will result from planned development in the area. The study will evaluate necessary improvements to the intersections along the MD 5 corridor to ensure sufficient capacity and safe pedestrian and bicycle compatibility, while also ensuring that adequate accommodations are provided for the Amish and senior communities within the project area.

Increased growth and development along the MD 5 corridor and within the surrounding area have greatly contributed to the increased travel demand and congestion on MD 5 through the Leonardtown area. In addition, the Town of Leonardtown is experiencing substantial redevelopment activity along MD 5. Vehicular congestion and delays are expected to worsen with the continued growth projected for Leonardtown as well as St. Mary's County and the Southern Maryland region.

Questions? — Please contact the Project Manager, Russell Walto, at 1-800-548-5026.

Existing (2007) and Future (2030) Average Daily Traffic (ADT)

Location	Existing (2007) ADT	2030 No-Build ADT	Growth
MD 5 west/north of Maypole Rd./MD 243	23,475	41,425	76%
MD 5 between MD 243 and MD 245/MD 5 Bus.	28,750	50,750	77%
MD 5 east/south of MD 245/MD 5 Bus.	27,400	48,350	76%
MD 243 south of MD 5	8,000	14,125	77%
MD 245 north of MD 5	12,050	19,000	58%
MD 5 Bus./Washington St. south of MD 5	7,975	12,575	58%

Planned and proposed developments in Leonardtown will result in increased traffic volumes and congestion. Traffic projections for the year 2030 indicate that several intersections will fail without improvements to MD 5. Motorists can expect stop-and-go traffic and extremely long delays at signalized intersections and at the unsignalized intersections of MD 5 and Moakely/Abell Street, and the MD 5 entrance to St. Mary's Hospital. The increased traffic and congestion will further contribute to unsafe driving conditions along portions of MD 5. Making left turns across traffic and pulling onto MD 5 from driveways will become increasingly difficult.

Study Status

The MD 5 Project Planning Study is funded for Project Planning only; it is not yet funded for Final Design, Right-of-Way Acquisition, or Construction. The Project Planning phase includes agency and public involvement; review of all reasonable alternatives, including a No-Build option; and social, economic, and natural environmental impact analyses. Citizen involvement is vital to the planning process and is encouraged.

Project Schedule

- Informational Public Meeting - *December 11, 2007*
- Location/Design Public Hearing - *Fall 2008*
- Project Planning Complete - *Spring/Summer 2009*



MD 5 Project Planning Study from MD 243 to MD 245



Please help the project team understand the concerns of those who live/work in the project area by answering the following questions. To return the postage-paid survey, simply fold and seal before dropping it into the mail.

1. What do you like most about this stretch of MD 5?

2. What do you like least about this stretch of MD 5?

3. What are the top issues that should be addressed by this project? (Circle Five)

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| A. Bicycle travel | K. School bus/student safety |
| B. Community character/appearance | L. Speeding |
| C. Crossing/making turns on MD 5 | M. Traffic congestion/delays |
| D. Drainage | N. Traffic safety |
| E. Farm equipment | O. Traffic signs |
| F. Horse-drawn vehicles | P. Transit service/facilities |
| G. Lighting | Q. Truck traffic |
| H. Noise | R. Visibility |
| I. Parking | S. Other : _____ |
| J. Pedestrian access (sidewalks, crosswalks, etc.) | |

Details: _____

4. Which location along MD 5 has the worst traffic problems?

5. Please identify any sensitive natural or community resources in the corridor about which we should be aware (streams, public parks, forest areas, churches, historic buildings, cultural centers, etc.).

6. Please identify any groups in this corridor that may have special or unique needs. (Circle all that apply - please include locations)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| A. Limited English Proficiency: _____ | F. Transit-dependent: _____ |
| B. Low income: _____ | G. Regular bicycle users: _____ |
| C. Minority: _____ | H. Pedestrians: _____ |
| D. Senior: _____ | I. Horse-drawn vehicle users: _____ |
| E. Disabled: _____ | J. Other: _____ |

7. Please provide your comments about the project purpose and need and/or schedule.

8. What else should the project team know?

Project Mailing List - Please provide your name and address if you would like to be placed on the project mailing list for future updates and announcements. *If you would prefer to receive these items by email, please provide your e-mail address.*

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____

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