

Contact

Questions or concerns? – Please contact the Project Manager, Suseela Rajan, by telephone at 410-545-8512 or 1-800-548-5026, via email at srajan@sha.state.md.us, or in writing at the following address:

Ms. R. Suseela Rajan, Project Manager
 Project Planning Division
 Mail Stop C-301
 State Highway Administration
 P.O. Box 717
 Baltimore, MD 21203-0717

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

COMING SOON:
 Public meeting to kick off
 the MD 223 project
 scheduled for Spring 2008.
 Stay tuned for details!

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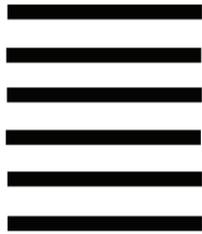


Maryland Department of Transportation
 STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
 OFFICE OF PLANNING AND
 PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING
 MS C-301
 BOX 717
 BALTIMORE, MD 21203-0717
ATTN: Suseela Rajan
SHA Project Manager



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**MD 223 Project Planning Study
 from Steed Road to MD 5**



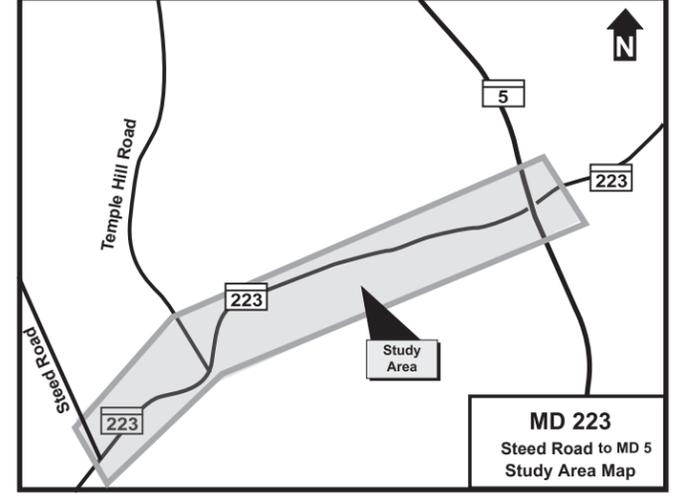
PROJECT NEWSLETTER • WINTER 2007 - 2008

SHA Launches MD 223 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 MD 223 (Piscataway Road) in Prince George's County. The project limits extend from just west of Steed Road to just east of the MD 5 (Branch Avenue) interchange, a distance of approximately three miles.

Project Background

Project planning studies for MD 223 from MD 5 to MD 4 were conducted in the late 1970s and again in the early 1990s, with the western limits extended to Temple Hill Road. Based on public input, SHA, in coordination with the county, focused its efforts on intersection improvements. Of the three intersections identified, two have been improved. Area developers plan to make improvements at the remaining intersection.



INSIDE: Please complete the MD 223 survey and add your name/email to the project mailing list.

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 (continued from page1)

From Temple Hill Road to Gwynndale Road, MD 223 is a two-lane open-section road, and from Gwynndale Road to MD 5 it is a four-lane curbed roadway with intermittent sidewalks on both sides. Three of the four signalized intersections on MD 223 within the study area experience noticeable traffic delays during morning and evening rush hours.

Purpose of the Project

The primary purpose of this project is to address the need for safety improvements and additional capacity to accommodate existing and future traffic volumes on MD 223. The project will provide enhanced transportation network connectivity between MD 5 and Steed Road and address pedestrian and bicycle safety and access to the residences, schools, and places of worship within this section of MD 223. Better access to Clinton's commercial and residential areas, and improved east-west connectivity within the regional transportation network are also part of the project planning study.

Need for the Project

Improvements along MD 223 are needed to enhance vehicular and pedestrian mobility, address safety concerns, increase capacity, and provide better roadway access for existing traffic and additional traffic generated by planned development within the surrounding area. Vehicular congestion and delays are expected to worsen as development expands throughout Prince George's County, especially in areas along the MD 223 corridor.

Statistics indicate that MD 223 from Steed Road to MD 5 has a crash rate significantly higher than the statewide average for similarly designed highways. Traffic projections for the year 2030 indicate that without improvements to MD 223, several intersections will fail, causing stop-and-go traffic and extremely long delays at signalized intersections. The increased traffic volume and congestion will further contribute to unsafe driving conditions along portions of MD 223. Making left turns across traffic and pulling onto MD 223 from driveways will become progressively more difficult under No-Build conditions.

Project Status

The MD 223 project is funded for Project Planning only. It is not funded for Final Design, Right-of-Way Acquisition, or Construction. The Project Planning phase includes agency and public involvement; a review of all reasonable alternatives, including the No-Build alternative; and social, economic, and natural environmental impact analyses. Citizen involvement is vital to the planning process and is encouraged.

MD 223 Existing (2007) and Future (2030)
Average Daily Traffic (ADT)

Location	Existing (2007) ADT	2030 No-Build ADT	Increase
Steed Road to Temple Hill Road	20,000	30,075	50%
Greenfield Lane to Dixon Drive	19,150	29,075	52%
Gwynndale Drive to Hardesty Drive	21,275	31,375	47%
Garden Drive to Old Branch Avenue	23,650	34,000	44%
Pine View Lane to Woody Terrace	35,850	46,300	29%
Stuart Lane to MD 5	40,400	51,275	27%

Project Schedule

- Informational Public Workshop - *Spring 2008*
- Alternates Public Workshop - *Winter 2008-2009*
- Location / Design Public Hearing - *Spring 2010*
- Project Planning Complete - *Summer 2011*

Public Involvement is Important

We want to hear from you! Here is 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 Ms. R. Suseela Rajan at (410) 545-8514. To contact the SHA Environmental Manager, Ms. Patricia Greene, call (410) 545-8528. Ms. Rajan and Ms. Greene can also be reached toll-free at 1-800-548-5026 and by email at srajan@sha.state.md.us or pgreene@sha.state.md.us, respectively.
- 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 schedule a meeting.




MD 223 Project Planning Study

from Steed Road to MD 5




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 223?

2. What do you like least about this stretch of MD 223?

3. What improvements do you think would help most? (Circle five)

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| A. Bicycle travel | I. School bus/student safety |
| B. Community character/appearance | J. Speeding |
| C. Crossing/making turns on MD 223 | K. Traffic congestion/delays |
| D. Drainage | L. Traffic safety |
| E. Lighting | M. Traffic signs/markings |
| F. Noise | N. Transit service/facilities |
| G. Parking | O. Truck traffic |
| H. Pedestrian access
(sidewalks, crosswalks, etc.) | P. Visibility |
| | Q. Other: _____ |

Details: _____

4. Which location along MD 223 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, places of worship, historic buildings, cultural centers, etc.)

6. Please identify any groups in the 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. Other: _____ |
| E. Disabled: _____ | |

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 email address.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____

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