

1. Meeting Materials

There is no agenda available for this meeting. Please review the minutes.

Documents:

[WCAG REPORT 8-12-2025 MINUTE 08-12-2025 \(PDF\).PDF](#)

CONNECTING Chesapeake Beach



Walkable Community Advisory Group (WCAG)

8/12/2025

Next Meeting: AUG 19, 2025, 6:30pm, Twin Beaches Library, Meeting Room East

I Ongoing Projects and Efforts

1. The following projects are with staff for action and are included in the WCAG report for the purpose of tracking:
 - A. Chesapeake Village Sidewalk to Beach Elementary School (BES): This project is funded under the Capital Improvements line item in the budget. The project is being tracked on the Town Administrator's report and the Town Engineer's report. A 30% design and other documents can be found on the town website. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the State Highway Administration (SHA) is in place for a state grant-funded (80% State/20% Town cost share) sidewalk design project. The Town and SHA participated in an initial scoping meeting and SHA has identified a contractor for the design project. Details will be provided in the Town Administrator's Report for the August Town Council Meeting.
 - B. Boardwalk Connector, 261 across from the North Beach Volunteer Fire Department: This project is not funded or prioritized. A feasibility study, an alignment document, and a cost estimate can be found on the town website. Further coordination will be required with the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and SHA. The WCAG will evaluate how this project should be prioritized and will determine next steps.
 - C. Safe Crossings/Pedestrian Safety throughout town: The Town Administrator and Laura have scheduled a meeting on 8/28 with SHA. The WCAG will provide a slide presentation.
2. The following efforts that will impact WCAG projects require staff action and are included in the WCAG report for the purpose of tracking:

- A. Submit MDOT Priority Letter: Complete. See WCAG Report, 6/4/2025 or Town Council Agenda, 5/15/2025 for details. This item will no longer be tracked.
 - B. Include Railway Trail projects in Program Open Space: Complete. Approved projects for Program Open Space include two Railway Trail expansion projects. The program document can be found on the DNR website at dnr.maryland.gov. This item will no longer be tracked.
 - C. Renew Sustainable Community Designation: The recertification application is due in 2026. Town staff is leading the effort to complete the application in coordination with the Green Team. WCAG members will participate in a Sustainable Maryland work session at Town Hall on August 20th.
 - D. Restore Habitat Protections on Calvert County and Maryland State maps: Ongoing. There are many sites that contain maps. The Town Planner has directed the WCAG to MERLIN.
 - E. Support Rural Legacy Designation for Fishing Creek Watershed: The Town Planner will take the lead on this. The WCAG will assist with advocacy for the 2026 Rural Legacy application as needed.
 - F. Preserve and Secure the 200+ acre FIDS property: This can be accomplished through development negotiations and agreements.
3. The following efforts are being conducted by the WCAG in anticipation of future projects.
- A. WCAG Meetings: The July WCAG Meeting was held on July 22. Minutes will be loaded to WCAG Committee page on the Town website. Highlights include:
 - (1) The team brainstormed safety concerns around town and will identify WCAG SHA safety priorities in a slide presentation for the 8/28 meeting with SHA.
 - (2) The team discussed Railway Trail and recreational projects and decided to begin with rustic boardwalk-style projects to align with the town's character.
 - a. The team noted the need for construction designs and an RFP
 - b. Railway Trail and Boardwalk/Rustic (or wooden) Connectivity Projects mentioned during brainstorming included:
 - i. BES to Fishing Creek
 - ii. BES to Harbor Road
 - iii. Horizons to Seagate
 - iv. Chesapeake Village to BES connecting through the neighborhood to the South of BES to Woodshire Street
 - v. From Bayfront Park's asphalt path to existing boardwalk
 - vi. Railway Trail end to continue on Railroad Right of Way
 - (3) The team did not have time to discuss Wayfaring Projects (where/what/design/approach?), and will reschedule the discussion for a future meeting.

- (4) The team did not have time to discuss Outreach (how/when?). This will be planned for next meeting by request.
- B. Website Updates: The WCAG continues to update our committee page and will add this to a future Agenda to receive committee input.
- C. Market Research: Ongoing
- D. Vendor Engagement There is an opportunity to schedule a presentation by an approved SHA vendor at a future Town Council meeting. Initial coordination with SHA for project feasibility evaluations is in progress and must be completed first.
- E. Engagement with SHA: Laura and the Town Administrator have a meeting scheduled with SHA on 8/28. WCAG members are providing photographs and text to illustrate identified safety concerns/potential projects and will provide a slide presentation for the meeting.

II Upcoming Activities

- A. Reschedule Coordination Meeting: Laura will reach out to Mayor Wahl to reschedule a coordination meeting for WCAG efforts related to Railway Trail expansion projects in the near future.
- B. Next Meeting: 8/19/2025
- C. Sustainable Maryland Training and work session: 8/20/2025
- D. SHA Meeting 8/28- work with SHA to identify next steps to complete safe crossing, complete street, and traffic calming priorities throughout Chesapeake Beach.
- E. Complete a draft RFP for Trail Network design and implementation, focusing on boardwalk style projects for near term implementation.
- F. Identify outreach opportunities.

Report Submitted by:

Councilwoman Laura R. Blackwelder