

1. Meeting Materials

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

Documents:

[WCAG REPORT 6-4-2025 MINUTE 06-04-2025 \(PDF\).PDF](#)

CONNECTING Chesapeake Beach



Walkable Community Advisory Group (WCAG)

6/4/2025

Meeting Date: N/A

Kickoff Meeting: June 17, 2025 6:30pm Twin Beaches Library Meeting Room East

We will begin in June with introductions, an overview of the WCAG budget, a status on ongoing projects, WCAG action items for ongoing and future projects, and a brainstorming session. Bring your energy and your ideas! There will be plenty of opportunities for you to help shape our town through WCAG projects.

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. A grant for the construction phase of the project can be pursued once the 100% sidewalk design is complete. SHA has reorganized and assigned a new grant manager. The most recent updates from the Town Administrator at the time of this report are as follows: The Town has submitted an updated RFP to SHA and will follow up with the new grant manager. We hope to publish an RFP in July.
 - 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 reached out to Ms. Tran/SHA to schedule a meeting. Laura reached out most recently on 5/31 and is awaiting a response.
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 Letters: Complete. The Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) FY 2026 Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP) Priorities consideration letter dated 4/29/2025 can be found in the May 15, 2025 Agenda. CB Priorities named in the letter include: Safe Routes to School (SRTS) MD 261: Complete Sidewalk Construction from Beach Elementary School to Chesapeake Village and along Old Bayside Road to “F” street; Trails and Greenways: The town is seeking to extend the Chesapeake Beach Railway Trail to E Street...; Traffic Calming in front of Bayfront Park: The town seeks to install traffic calming as a median island on Rt. 261 in front of Bayfront Park...; Boardwalk safe crossing on MD 261: The town submitted a feasibility study to MDOT SHA for the inclusion of a boardwalk walkway for safe crossing on the eastern side of MD 261.
 - B. Include Railway Trail projects in the Program Open Space document: Program Open Space submissions from the Town were submitted by the Town Administrator and have passed Calvert County Planning and Zoning review. They will be reviewed by the BOCC on June 10th.
 - 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.
 - D. Restore Habitat Protections on Calvert County and Maryland State maps: The Town Administrator’s update as of this report is as follows: The Town Planner has spoken with her colleagues, and they have confirmed that habitat protections are on County and State maps. Laura will find time to learn from the Town Planner how to locate the information and share it with the WCAG.
 - 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 Laura in anticipation of future projects.
- A. Communication with volunteers: one-on-one meetings were held in May.
 - B. Kickoff meeting is scheduled for June 17, 2025.
 - C. Coordination Meeting with Mayor Wahl will be rescheduled.
 - D. Review of Previous Efforts: Known previous efforts related to wayfaring signs and interactive QR Code products, the development of pedestrian maps, landscape enhancements along existing walkways, and functional enhancements along existing walkways will be presented for input from committee members.

- E. Market Research: Ongoing- Laura continues to collect information from local companies and not-for-profit organizations. The WCAG will begin collecting and reviewing RFP templates/examples for trail design projects.
- F. Land Preservation and Land Management Research: Laura continues to engage with local companies and organizations to discuss preservation resources, land management plans, best practices, and opportunities for collaboration.
- G. Budget line items requested:
 - Railway Trail Design/Build Open Space Grant Project
 - Signs and Wayfaring Projects (WCAG)
 - Boardwalks, Sidewalks, Railway Trail maintenance
 - Kayak Launch Installation
 - Grant Match Acquisition Projects/Acquisition Opportunities
- H. Engagement with SHA: Laura spoke with SHA on 6/2/2025 to receive updates and to discuss next steps related to the sidewalk project from Chesapeake Village to Beach Elementary School. Laura reached out to SHA about other projects related to safety improvements along Rt.261 and is awaiting a response.
- I. Volunteer Outreach: In-Progress. Great response so far!

II Upcoming Activities

- A. Rescheduled Coordination Meeting: Mayor Wahl was unable to meet on the originally scheduled date for this meeting and will reschedule. A meeting Agenda was provided to the Mayor per his request.
- B. Kick-Off Meeting: 6/17/2025

Report Submitted by:

Councilwoman Laura R. Blackwelder

