**Smart Cities Roundtable\***

**University of Maryland and Baltimore Avenue Corridor Municipalities and Organizations**

**Minutes from Wednesday, October 17, 2018**

In-person attendees: Tara Burke, Kerstin Harper, Andy Fellows, Len Carey, Gerrit Knaap, Danielle Curet, Susan Winter, Mark Stewart, Duane Prophet, and Brittany Lassiter

Participated via phone: Steve Beavers, Patrick Wojahn, Emmett Jordan, Gloria Aparicio Blackwell, Tracey Nicholson, and Nicole Ard

\* *If you are interested in participating in the Roundtable, please contact Tara Burke* (tburke13@umd.edu).

1. Introductions

2. Updates

 **I. Cooperative Framework**

* MOU parameters – Andy circulated an example Declaration of Principles (City of Hamilton, Ontario). to local mayors He’s taking volunteers for those interested in helping draft an MOU. Target completion timeframe is January 2019.
* Data sharing/hosting potential – Tara recently spoke with the UMD Division of I.T. about the potential for UMD to host data from an implementation project; further discussions are needed.

 **II. Implementation Projects**

* Digital, WiFi kiosk
	+ Discovery District – WMATA; digital signage in Prince Georges County – Signage restrictions in College Park metro station – advertising plan already in place. However, bus stops would be a good alternative since people may want to access information while they are waiting on transportation.
	+ Connectivity 4 All – Washington Board of Trade (10 kiosk-implementation project planned to be agreed upon by leadership team by January 2019 – 4 verticals: university, health system campus, business improvement districts & merchants)
		- Kiosk implementation opportunity
			* Some challenges: University Park is entirely a residential community, so community leaders are resistant to billboard-size digital advertising, but are supportive of community content.
			* As an alternative/supplement to kiosks, suggestion to consider city apps with hyper-local wayfinding & events (similar to Netherlands). Hardware quickly becomes outdated, but software can be updated.

* + - Evaluation of kiosk implementation – Many smart kiosk companies claim kiosks help shrink the digital divide, but not much research has been conducted to date. Research that has been conducted looked at commercial activity immediately surrounding the kiosk and found an increase. The Washington Board of Trade has asked the National Center for Smart Growth to propose an evaluation plan for the effects of their 10-kiosk implementation project, but the potential budget and timeframe of this evaluation are not yet known. If you’re interested in helping us write a one-pager about how we would evaluate the kiosk implementation (including identifying the appropriate evaluation metrics for various stakeholders), please contact Tara Burke or Gerrit Knaap.
* Community/public WiFi exploration – [Municipalities are considering 5G](https://www.citylab.com/life/2018/10/fcc-5g-wireless-broadband-regulations-city-government/571921/), but vendors are currently lobbying the FCC to pre-empt municipal right-of-way in the Maryland Municipal League (see [notes](http://www.mdmunicipal.org/535/Meeting-Announcements-and-Handouts) in paragraph that begins “Lynn Board, MMAA Vice President, reported on the FCC and small cell regulation changes.”)
	+ In exchange for ISPs to use municipal right-of-way, municipalities can negotiate the provision of public WiFi
	+ [Prince George's County Intergovernmental Network](https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/696/Intergovernmental-Network-I-Net) (I-Net)
	+ Columbia Capital, a venture capital firm, is exploring a [pilot program](http://www.fairfaxtimes.com/articles/herndon-announces-new-smart-city-pilot-program/article_d9c7e0bc-7ee4-11e8-9797-0797aa6caeab.html) in Herndon, VA to explore alternative/new partnership opportunities.

**III. Support**

* [Smart Cities Readiness Council application](https://na.smartcitiescouncil.com/article/2019-smart-cities-council-readiness-challenge) (due January 19, 2019). Tara will be working on this application regarding the “Smart Cities Vision” for our initiative with all stakeholders.
* [Sustainability fund grant](https://sustainability.umd.edu/sustainability-fund) – (final deadline January 15, 2019) Funded 100% by undergraduate student funds, so will likely be awarded to a proposal involving undergraduate students. Approx. $500K available this year. A student committee reviews the proposals, and they look to fund projects either on- or closely off-campus that 1) directly offset the impact of university operations on the environment and surrounding community and 2) provide opportunities for students to learn about sustainability

 **IV. Other notable happenings**

* Hyattsville will release an RFI regarding public WiFi in early November
* Hyattsville is working on their “See, Click, Fix” app - both for citizen reporting but also as an internal tracking system
* College Park is working on a citizen Customer Relationship Management-type app for reporting problems, etc.
* Greenbelt has a group of students developing an app for Greenbelt greenspace – just approved by Apple. Began as a partnership with a local business.
* Maryland Transportation Institute (MTI)’s [incenTrip app](https://incentrip.org/Default.html) – Earn points for riding a bike or taking public transportation to redeem for financial incentives
* University of Illinois is considering developing an app for non-student campus visitors, similar to the [San Francisco 49ers app](http://info.localytics.com/blog/49ers-mobile-app-personalizing-fan-experience-meghan-ryan)

3. Initiative Name – Please [vote here](http://www.umdsmartgrowth.org/city/vote-on-our-name-here/) before our next meeting!

4. Next Meeting – Invite external stakeholders – potentially Columbia Capital, Pepco; date TBD.