**The Baltimore Avenue Connected Communities Initiative:**  **Smart Roundtable Meeting #3 Minutes January 24, 2019 from 9:30-11**

**Recording of meeting:** [**https://umd.box.com/s/o08mnle6e3ed758548ab52vndxe06rcs**](https://umd.box.com/s/o08mnle6e3ed758548ab52vndxe06rcs)

**Our website:** [**www.smartgrowth.org/city/**](http://www.smartgrowth.org/city/)

**In person attendees**: Bari Anderson – Tessco Technologies; Shannon Redd – Cisco; Nick

Hamilton – Cisco; Alex Seleznyov – KPMG; Eric Moberg – ICF (consultant to Pepco); Scott

Pomeroy – Smart City Media; Scott Tjaden – Pepco; Tami Watkins – Pepco; Steve Beavers - City of

College Park; Kerstin Harper – Town of Berwyn Heights; Roslyn Johnson – Maryland National

Capital Park and Planning Commission, Parks & Recreation Prince Georges County; Emmett Jordan

– City of Greenbelt; Avinder Bhogal – UMD Engineering and Energy, Facilities Management; Tara

Burke – UMD Smart Cities Initiative, National Center for Smart Growth and iSchool; Danielle

Curet – UMD National Center for Smart Growth; Sevgi Erdogan – UMD National Center for Smart

Growth; Andrew Fellows – UMD Campus Community Connection, Smart Cities Initiative; Lucien

Parsons – UMD MAVRIC and Division of Research; Sameer Popat – UMD Office of Innovation and

Economic Development, Division of Research; Gerrit Knaap – UMD National Center for Smart

Growth; Mark Stewart – UMD Office of Sustainability; Rikin Thakker – UMD Department of Electrical

& Computer Engineering, Telecommunications; Susan Winter – UMD College of Information Studies

**By phone attendees:** Jennifer Krusius – Columbia Capital and Vivacity; John Liebovitz – Columbia

Capital and Vivacity; Brittany Lassiter - Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission,

Parks & Recreation Prince Georges County; Duane Prophet - Maryland National Capital Park and

Planning Commission, Parks & Recreation Prince Georges County; Patrick Wojahn – City of College

Park; Gloria Aparicio Blackwell – UMD Office of Community Engagement; Tracy Lee – UMD Office of Corporate and Foundation Relations

Gerrit Knaap gave an overview of the evolution of the Smart Cities initiative – headed by

Architecture and the iSchool with funding support from the Provost; Review of the West Baltimore

NSF-supported planning grant; College Park initiative – use technology to address mini-regional (small jurisdictions) approaches – coordination among the units of local government to leverage the size and impact of initiatives. Potential projects that have some degree of traction: storm water-IOT project; digital kiosks; Engineering is spearheading a push to get Olli, autonomous vehicles on campus. Upcoming funding opportunity – NSF Smart and Connected Communities call 2019 (when/if the government opens).

Susan Winter – former program officer at NSF; that experience gave recognition that academics can contribute interesting theoretical work and create prototypes; to have actual impact must have more partners/stakeholders at the table. Smart Cities emphasis on technology working well not just for large cities but also for smaller ones (< 400K people) is exciting; multiple municipalities working together is a particularly interesting and challenging constraint to design within; if this works it can be a model for other similar regions.

Tara Burke – First two meetings of the Smart Roundtable concerned how to think about smart cities for this region of small municipalities anchored by the UMD footprint; mini-regional approach explanation; municipalities are already doing smart implementations (Hyattsville = smart trashcans etc); how can this group help leverage economies of scale and “mirrored” implementations so as to build a regional smart view? Perfect time to bring in industry/private stakeholders for their knowledge, energy and ideas.

Purpose of the Roundtable: spin off smaller working groups who will work on physical smart implementations in our “mini-regional lab”; goal is to have one up and running within 2019.

MOU overview – Andy Fellows; Draft on collaborative principles – overarching commitment/framework to collaboration; MOU – specific to each community; feedback from municipalities has been that the agreement looks fine as is and does not need further refinement.

**Industry Interests/Capabilities in Smart Cities**

* Cisco, Shannon Redd and Nick Hamilton (Higher Education Account Manager to UMD) o Helping municipalities deal with the tremendous amounts of data that smart city implementations will produce and how to network to and within existing systems.
	+ - Helping cities figure out individualized implementation plans that answer specialized needs.
		- Nick – Higher education account manager for UMD and knows campus well (is an alum).
		- Critical platform development to solve problems; power needed for resiliency is dependent on the strength of the networks – how to secure it, connect it to other applications
		- Work closely with the State – Mark Keister
* Tessco Technologies - Bari Anderson o Tessco is a value-added technology distributor, manufacturer and solutions provider serving commercial and retail customers throughout the wireless industry. My mission is emerging markets and technologies in order to identify where Tessco can bring the greatest value to the smart city.
	+ - Wants to be in a role to facilitate and help connect stakeholders within smart system and leverage our large network: carriers, manufacturers; areas including mobile communications, WiFi, IoT, wireless backhaul, etc.
		- UMD connection already made – applied sensor use – bridge/gap ex = IOT stormwater on campus and mirror this out in the municipalities; helps research projects move forward at a faster pace
* KPMG – Alex Seleznyov o Currently transaction advisors to UMD on their THP power plant; options to achieve energy program goals (next gen). o Help public entities figure out ways of implementing and procuring projects – goal to save money and enhance delivery/service.
	+ - “Smart Cities” is still a concept; we are still figuring out what it is – instead; define goals for communities in order to define solutions = help clients define their Smart Cities Strategy.
		- Expertise in business cases and P3s (public private partnerships)
* Smart City Media – Scott Pomeroy o Expertise is in implementing communication platforms across cities including digital kiosks, mobile apps and beacons to push out information – with a small business component tied into this integrated system; launched three years ago in Kansas City; founded in NYC and now HQ’ed in DC.
	+ Washington Board of Trade is spearheading a digital kiosk program for the greater region; comes back to transportation – Purple Line; Partnering with the Council of

Governments and industry leaders; will be embedded in the Bus Rapid Transit Line

Route 29 – Montgomery County) o Scott – background is with downtown DC Business Improvement District as the sustainability coordinator – has implemented several different programs (low frequency network)

* + Interested in exploring avenues at UMD to do evaluation and deep analysis of data collected from platforms.
* Pepco - Scott Tjaden; Tami Watkins; Eric Moberg – ICF (consultant to Pepco) o Eric Moberg – 3rd party implementer for Pepco’s energy efficiency program that is rate payerfunded; works closely with UMD regarding campus facilities energy projects o Has an energy efficiency communities program targeted at municipalities in Prince Georges and Montgomery counties to offset the cost of their energy efficiency programs; LED streetlighting is a key implementation.
	+ Tami – Govt and External Affairs – works as the conduit between Eric’s programs and the municipalities for smart infrastructure. Smart streetlighting #1 source of energy savings for most; works as an advocate for municipal governments making these investments.
	+ Scott – Innovation part of Pepco - Planning/Emerging Technologies for efficiency or connectivity – does the pilots and proof-of-concepts; new innovation effort to come up with homegrown technologies; working with Takoma Park re. smart lighting deployment.
	+ EV Charging Stations – last week’s decision by MD regulators; Pepco is still going through the ruling but essentially MD has set the stage for more investment in EV charging stations; more focus on programs and incentives. Demand is here; MD is one of top 5 states in the nation re. EV adoption. Also looking at 100% green power to EV charging stations.
	+ UMD - VW settlement funds to replace diesel shuttle buses; batteries; vehicle to grid charging - micro-gridding – is Pepco looking at this? Yes! Micro grid in PG and Mont is being piloted; want to look for partners who already have or are looking at microgrids.
* Columbia Capital/Vivacity – Jennifer Krusius and John Liebovitz o Columbia Capital is a private equity fund based in Alexandria, VA. Specialize in communications and internet infrastructure industries – companies started includes XM Radio; Zayo; Nextel; etc.
	+ Looking to find creative ways to find the next big company in this space; formed Vivacity – targeting helping cities build connected infrastructure to bring services and applications on top of that infrastructure. Current pilot is in Herndon, VA = fiber connected infrastructure into light poles with ability to build a base communications infrastructure for public and private services (think 5G). Build one future-proof infrastructure.
	+ Please feel free to reach out directly.

**Discussion:**

5G - Roslyn Johnson – need to emphasize connectivity infrastructure in addition to visible tokens of smart cities (kiosks, streetlights, trash cans, etc) because without the infrastructure, there are no smart cities, or at least they won’t function as optimally as possible. Invite providers to discuss this topic. Emmet Jordan – Municipalities are very interested in what the shape of the 5G rollout will look like. Andy Fellows: Potential PALS project is to do a thorough analysis about this issue. Tara Burke - demonstration space may be an ideal way to visualize what the 5G future/Fiber/applications outlay needed looks like. Huawei (a Chinese company) owns th[e 5G patents,](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-qualcomm-m-a-broadcom-5g/what-is-5g-and-who-are-the-major-players-idUSKCN1GR1IN) not a U.S. company. Focusing on outcomes for citizens is the key to success.

Riken Thakker - Wireless Connect [– event t](https://www.wirelessconnectevent.com/)o take place Thursday, April 4, 2019 in the Riggs Alumni Center @ UMD, in an effort to connect various stakeholders of wireless eco-systems:

Operators, Service Providers, Infrastructure Providers, OEMs, Policy Makers, and City Planners. <https://www.wirelessconnectevent.com/>

Name for the Initiative: Suggestion from Mayor Jordan of Greenbelt to include “civic engagement” in the name. Online naming competition did not yield a good contender.

Smart Cities Laboratory – great opportunity to involve students in the research and pilots – [PAL](http://www.umdsmartgrowth.org/programs/pals/)[S](http://www.smartgrowth.umd.edu/pals.html) program and/or [iSchool capstones (](https://ischool.umd.edu/partners)Masters and undergraduate level) are good examples.