



MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCIL
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

ANDREW FRIEDSON
COUNCILMEMBER, DISTRICT 1

CHAIR, PLANNING, HOUSING AND PARKS COMMITTEE
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND FISCAL POLICY COMMITTEE

October 25, 2023

Michael F. Riley
Director, Montgomery Parks
Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission
2425 Reddie Drive, 12th Floor
Wheaton, MD 20902

Dear Director Riley,

I am writing regarding the upcoming Planning, Housing, and Parks (PHP) Committee meeting on Monday, November 27, 2023, on the realignment of Little Falls Parkway between Arlington Road and Dorset Avenue.

On May 8, 2023, the Council voted 10-1 to require Montgomery Parks ("Parks") to come before the Council for review before any funds may be spent on the realignment of Little Falls Parkway between Arlington Road and Dorset Avenue. In the interim Parks has maintained the pilot conditions on the parkway, and I continue to hear from residents who are anxious to understand the next steps in this process and share their feedback on the realignment of the parkway.

To provide advanced notice and ample time for the public to review and comment on Parks' presentation, I am requesting that you share your presentation with the Council and publicly on your website, and proactively with any resident who has contacted Parks about Little Falls Parkway throughout the duration of the pilot project by November 1, 2023. The presentation should include a background and timeline of events from the passing of Ned Gaylin at the Capital Crescent Trail crossing in 2016 to present, as well as information regarding the pre-pandemic condition, the Planning Board recommendation, and a non-Planning Board-recommended option that includes a road diet on either side of the median consistent with direction provided by councilmembers at the May 8, 2023, Council session on the Parks CIP. Please also share on your website and proactively the link to this Council webform, which the Council will use to facilitate the collection of public feedback for the PHP meeting: <https://mcgmd.wufoo.com/forms/zeaw96h1qznp1/>.

Upon receipt of Parks' presentation on November 1, I will ask Council staff to share it along with the webform on the Council website. Residents should submit their feedback to the Council via the webform on or before Sunday, November 19, if they would like their feedback to be included in the Council staff packet prepared for the November 27 PHP Committee meeting. Any feedback submitted on or after November 20 will be made available to the Council but will not be included in the packet.

At the conclusion of the November 27 PHP Committee meeting, I expect the Committee will make a recommendation on its preferred alignment of the parkway. A final vote will be held at a subsequent meeting of the full Council.

I appreciate your cooperation in facilitating a timely distribution of your presentation that allows for sufficient public input to ensure a thorough Committee review.

Sincerely,



Andrew Friedson
Chair, PHP Committee
District 1

cc:

Miti Figueredo, Deputy Director, Montgomery Parks
Montgomery County Planning Board
District 16 General Assembly Delegation
Marc Elrich, County Executive
Chris Conklin, Director, Department of Transportation
Councilmembers and Chiefs
Pam Dunn, Council Analyst
Glenn Orlin, Council Analyst
Stephen Kenny, Council Analyst