

Honorable Ben Cardin United States Senate 509 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Honorable Chris Van Hollen United States Senate 110 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Honorable Jamie Raskin United States House of Representatives 2242 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

March 1, 2023

Dear Montgomery County Congressional Delegation:

I am writing on behalf of the Washington Area Bicyclist Association (WABA) and its more than 7,000 members across the Washington metropolitan area to express our strong support of the Montgomery County Department of Transportation's (MCDOT's) proposed project to implement a road diet on Montrose Road between Josiah Henson Parkway and Towne Road.

For fifty years, WABA has worked to transform the capital region by improving the conditions for people who bike. Our work to advocate for dedicated bike infrastructure, pass laws that promote safe roadway behavior, and provide education programming for all road-users has resulted in a drastically different cultural and political approach to biking for transportation. Biking can and should be an equitable, safe, low-cost, time-saving, and sustainable way to navigate our region for all residents and visitors.

For much of its history, Montrose Road served as an important artery between I-270 and MD-355 in Rockville. The construction of the now renamed Josiah Henson Parkway in 2008 diverted the majority of the 74,000 vehicles per day to a new, parallel roadway. The existing 5-lane Montrose Road now has excess capacity. Several crashes involving pedestrians or cyclists, including a fatal crash in 2019 have occurred on this segment of Montrose Road. The proposed road diet to reduce the number of travel lanes for cars and provide a safe space for pedestrians and cyclists will improve safety and reduce vehicular speeds, helping the County to achieve its Vision Zero goal of eliminating serious and fatal collisions on County roads by the end of 2030.



Honorable Glenn Ivey United States House of Representatives 1529 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Honorable David Trone United States House of Representatives 2404 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 I appreciate the Montgomery County Congressional Delegation's commitment to funding high-quality projects with visible and sustainable community benefits, and we urge you to support this worthy project.

Sincerely,

Jeremiah Lowery, Advocacy Director

cc: Timothy H. Cupples, PE

Acting Deputy Director – Transportation Policy

Montgomery County Department of Transportation