



Khursheed Bilgrami  
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Re: MD 198 (Sandy Spring Road) Sidewalk Improvements

August 27, 2024

Mr. Bilgrami,

The Washington Area Bicyclist Association (WABA) offers the following comment on the [MD 198 \(Sandy Spring Road\) Sidewalk Improvements project](#).

Montgomery County's Bicycle Master Plan calls for a sidepath where the current 30% design shows a narrower sidewalk to fill the missing link between Dino Drive and McKnew Road in Burtonsville, Maryland. WABA asks MCDOT to redo the 30% design to create the master-planned sidepath, which would continue an existing sidepath between US 29-Columbia Pike and Dino Drive, the western end of the current project.

[Montgomery County's Bicycle Master Plan](#) was approved by the Montgomery County Council and adopted by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) in 2018. The plan "sets forth a vision for Montgomery County as a world-class bicycling community, where people in all areas of the County have access to a comfortable, safe and connected bicycle network, and where bicycling is a viable transportation option that improves our quality of life. The plan is a key element in Montgomery County's Vision Zero plan to eliminate traffic-related fatalities and serious injuries."

In accordance with the vision and plan approved by the County Council and adopted by M-NCPPC and with the county's Vision Zero commitment, please redesign the project to create the master-planned sidepath.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Seth Grimes, Maryland Organizer  
seth.grimes@waba.org

Copy: Councilmember Kristin Mink  
Eli Glazier, Montgomery Planning