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November 6, 2015

Mr. Casey Anderson
Planning Board Chair
M-NCPPC
8787 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

Subject: Bowie Mill Road Bikeway

Dear Mr. Anderson:

The Greater Olney Civic Association (GOCA) represents over 35 homeowner and civic associations, which collectively comprise over 80% of the households in the Olney Master Plan area. For nearly 40 years, GOCA has promoted the civic, cultural, and economic welfare of the Olney community.

At our October 13 meeting, GOCA Members continued to discuss the Bowie Mill Road Bikeway, and in light of additional feedback and recommendations from the community regarding safety considerations, passed the following resolution supporting fully separated bike lanes:

Whereas GOCA overwhelmingly supported, and continues to support, a Resolution on April 14, 2015 in favor of the construction of bike lanes along Bowie Mill Road (the "Bowie Mill Bikeway"); and

Whereas GOCA's Transportation Committee has continued to actively study and communicate with County planning officials, elected leaders, and local residents regarding the Bowie Mill Bikeway; and

Whereas the Transportation Committee has determined that additional planning considerations for the Bowie Mill Bikeway should be taken into account, in recognition of:

- *The relatively high (40 m.p.h.) speed limit on Bowie Mill Road for vehicular traffic;*
- *The potential for increased vehicular traffic on Bowie Mill Road at certain times of day, particularly during peak rush hour times that coincide with school arrival/departure times;*
- *The potential for increased utilization of the Bowie Mill Bikeway by a greater proportion of the population, through certain safety enhancements;*
- *Active proposals by the Montgomery County Planning Department to solicit feedback and implement safety measures in response to similar considerations in nearby areas; and*
- *An active proposal by the Montgomery County Planning Department to update the Countywide Bikeways Functional Master Plan more generally;*

GOCA hereby resolves to endorse the recommendation of its Transportation Committee, that the Bowie Mill Bikeway should be constructed as separated bike lanes (also known as cycle tracks or protected bike lanes).

GOCA Members strongly believe that separated bike lanes are essential for creating a safe Bikeway for cyclists and improving utilization of the Bikeway as a direct byproduct of the enhanced safety features. Expanded use of alternate transportation methods is essential for reducing automobile congestion.

We look forward to your favorable consideration of and response to our request.

Sincerely,

John Webster
President, GOCA

Cc: District 14 Delegation
Montgomery County Council
Mr. Al Roshdieh, Acting Director, MCDOT
Ms. Patricia Shepherd, Bikeways Coordinator, MCDOT
Mr. David Anspacher, Planner Coordinator, MC Planning Department