

January 25, 2011

Councilmember Roger Berliner, Chairman
Transportation, Infrastructure, Energy and Environment Committee
Montgomery County Council
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, Md. 20850

RE: MARYLAND 97/28 INTERSECTION

DELIVERED VIA EMAIL TO: COUNCILMEMBER.BERLINER@MONTGOMERYCOUNTYMD.GOV

Chairman Berliner:

Pursuant to the Montgomery County "Priority Road Improvements" list that was prepared in 2008, this intersection was rated number 5. It is our understanding this list is currently being revised by the county and we are requesting your committee examine this intersection carefully and give consideration to advancing this intersection higher on this priority list.

The impending opening of the Intercounty Connector will no doubt significantly impact Olney and its quality of life. The Olney area is desperate for major improvements (and has been for many years) at the intersection of Routes 97 and 28. This crossroads per the Maryland State Highway Administration, and Montgomery County DOT, traffic analysis shows this intersection is "failing" and will continue to do so once the ICC is opened. SHA studies have shown the intersection can only be improved by constructing a grade-separated interchange and the design phase is over 85% complete. This improvement is called for in the **2005 Olney Master Plan** and our plan clearly states "an interchange at Georgia Avenue and Norbeck Road **should** be constructed". We have met with Montgomery County Officials and Maryland SHA on many occasions regarding this interchange and are appealing to you as we feel this intersection should be made a higher priority.

One additional important fact, per the **2009 Highway Mobility Report compiled by Montgomery County Park and Planning** two of the most six congested corridors identified were Maryland Route 97 (Georgia Avenue) and Maryland Route 28 (Norbeck Road). According to this report these intersections are "perennially congested, coupled with reduced travel speeds, frequent delays, and low mobility measurements". Simply put, this interchange would allow Montgomery County "to kill two birds with one stone"!

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions or require additional information. Thanks very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Matt Zaborsky

Matt Zaborsky
President

Matt Zaborsky
President
NORBECK MEADOWS

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