



WHEATON URBAN DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Isiah Leggett
County Executive

Luisa Montero-Diaz
Director

May 10, 2017

County Executive Isiah Leggett
101 Monroe Street, 2nd Floor
Rockville, MD 20850

Dear Executive Leggett:

At the May 8th monthly meeting of the Wheaton Urban District Advisory Committee (WUDAC), a number of business owners from the area surrounding Parking Lot 13 voiced strong objections to the County's plans for Triangle Lane during construction and criticism of the MCDOT's communications to the affected businesses. The need for improved MCDOT's communications has been the subject of numerous WUDAC recommendations over the past two years. Although, MCDOT has been providing monthly project updates at WUDAC meetings, it is obvious from last night's meeting that outreach to the business community has been inadequate.

Specifically, the small business owners voiced the following concerns:

- 1) the relocation of utility structures will make parking along Triangle Lane extremely difficult, if not impossible for anything larger than a compact car;
- 2) deliveries and trash pickup may not be possible with the reduced width on Triangle Lane; and
- 3) the Small Business Assistance Program may not provide the promised financial assistance until it is too late for the survival of small businesses that must meet monthly obligations.

The business community's concerns need to be addressed by county officials as soon as possible, especially considering the official groundbreaking for the redevelopment is planned for June 4. **WUDAC recommends that this meeting take place before Friday, May 19th, and sooner if possible and that this meeting be held in the Wheaton Urban District.**

The business owners expressed their desire that County officials in attendance include County department staff as well as elected officials. WUDAC recommends that the County meet personally with these businesses to hear their serious and urgent concerns.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Leah Haygood,
Chair, WUDAC

cc: President Roger Berliner
Councilmembers