

# Woodside Park Civic Association

Woodside Park  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

March 7, 2022

Montgomery County Council Planning, Housing, and Economic Development Committee (PHED)  
From: Woodside Park Civic Association (WPCA)  
Subject: WPCA Resolutions re: Silver Spring Downtown and Adjacent Communities (SSDAC) Plan

Dear PHED Committee Members:

Woodside Park Civic Association (WPCA) held its virtual monthly meeting on February 9, 2022. At this meeting, WPCA residents overwhelmingly passed two separate resolutions regarding the Silver Spring Downtown and Adjacent Communities (SSDAC) Plan.

The First Resolution calls for the removal of seventeen Woodside Park properties from the proposed Silver Spring Downtown and Adjacent Communities Plan. The second Resolution requests that the County delay adopting a supplement to the SSDAC based on a new recommendation regarding the future of Colesville Road, which had not yet been subject to public comment. The full text of these Resolutions follows.

Thank you for thoughtfully taking the views of the Association into account as you consider the SSDAC plan.

Respectfully Submitted,



Robert E. Oshel, Vice President

## **Woodside Park Civic Association Resolution calling for removal of seventeen Woodside Park properties from the SSDAC (adopted February 9, 2022)**

Whereas seventeen properties in Woodside Park, including sixteen homes and the Seventh-day Adventist Church, were arbitrarily included in the SSDAC plan, and

Whereas these properties were included because of an algorithm's erroneous calculation of the walking time of residents to the Purple Line station at the Silver Spring Library, and

Whereas the seventeen arbitrarily selected properties do not even comprise full blocks but were included in a way that puts adjoining homes on a block in different master plan areas, and

Whereas true communities must be defined by the people living in them and not by factors that vary among individuals, such as walking time to a transit station, and

Whereas these seventeen properties are not a "community" in and of themselves; instead they are part of an existing unified neighborhood, unrelated to the CBD, and

Whereas Woodside Park has been in existence for 99 years and so recognized historically by the Planning Board and Woodside Park residents, and

Whereas the Woodside Park neighborhood should not be divided or balkanized for planning purposes but respected and treated as a unified neighborhood,

Therefore, the Woodside Park Civic Association, on behalf of its members, objects to the inclusion of the seventeen lots conscripted into the SSDAC Plan and asks that they be removed from the plan before its adoption by the County Council.

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**Woodside Park Civic Association Resolution requesting that the County delay adopting a supplement to the SSDAC based on a new recommendation regarding the future of Colesville Road, which had not yet been subject to public comment (adopted February 9, 2022)**

Whereas a Supplement to the Silver Spring Downtown and Adjacent Communities Plan was submitted to the County Council on February 1, following the January 11, 2022 official transmission of the SSDAC plan to the Council, and

Whereas, much of the Colesville Road area shown in the supplement is not in the area included in the Silver Spring Downtown and Adjacent Communities Plan, and was not studied by the planners, discussed in any public meetings about the plan, or presented for public comment, and

Whereas the street cross-sections referred to on pages 9-12 for Colesville Road are presented as conceptual direction for the future of traffic and transit on Colesville Road, and

Whereas the cross-sections in this Supplement differ markedly from the recommendations of a recently issued Mobility Study for Route 29 (Colesville Road) in the use of right of way, and

Whereas the proposed street cross-sections may have a substantial impact on the residents along Colesville Road, and Whereas the affected Colesville Road residents and the Woodside Park, Woodside Forest, and Seven Oaks-Evanswood neighborhoods bordering Colesville Road were not asked to participate in discussions with the Montgomery Planning staff or MCDOT or provide input on the development of these conceptual changes.

Therefore the Woodside Park Civic Association requests that the Montgomery County Council table consideration of the Supplement to the Silver Spring Downtown and Adjacent Communities, with the understanding that affected residents and neighborhoods participate with M-NCPPC Planning Staff in an open process for discussion and review of both the Mobility study and the Supplement's recommended Colesville Road cross-sections, and that there should be no further consideration of the Supplement by the Council take place until this process has been completed.

The WPCA further requests that the Council table any proposed modification to the Colesville Road right-of-way so that there is sufficient time to incorporate the findings of the Route 29 Mobility and Reliability Study and to address the adverse effects of the new proposal in the SSDAC Plan Supplement.