

Most of the new Pedestrian Master Plan sounds excellent to me, reflecting much of what I wish for as I bike and walk around Bethesda from my home of nearly 35 years. The proposal that truly terrifies me is B-11. For someone who has no remotely affordable way to install a driveway and lives only a block and a half from Wisconsin Avenue, the thought that I would have to compete with non-residents for parking near my home is a sure way to lose sleep.

Please be thoughtful of how you would implement this policy for those of us who may have this difficulty. I have heard blithe comments from rulemakers who don't seem to realize the damage this does to long-time sweat equity homeowners. We already have a much more competitive parking environment due to developers who willy-nilly chop up the street frontage for individual driveways, leaving less and less yardage for those of us without them. The loss of residential street parking would be the death knell of the home I have worked on for many years. If you eliminate residential street parking, please consider those of us who are not able to easily rip up our front yards/trees/hills to come home and be able to park remotely near our homes.

We are not New York or DC with well-designed streets. This is an old dirt road paved over with minimum planning. There would simply be no space for my own car to come home to any longer with no residential parking permit system. Thank you for your consideration.