

Master Plan of Highways and Transitways (MPOHT) - 2025 Technical Update

Good afternoon County Council Members:

I am writing this testimony as Jake Adler, resident of Montgomery County, not as an employee of Montgomery County.

My main concern in the Master Plan of Highways and Transitways (MPOHT) - 2025 Technical Update that has been submitted to County Council to vote on is the removal of M83 extension as a traffic option in the future. Why remove an option just because it may never get built? What if the county really needs it? What if I-270 is never expanded UpCounty? What purpose does it serve to remove this? Will the land be reused for something else (i.e. is there a plan in place already to develop this or will it just sit vacant)?

Anyone who has ever traveled in the Upper County area knows how difficult it can be, especially during rush hour. The county has some great plans for BRT and other transportation initiatives, but we don't know that those will be accepted by the residents, nor do we know they will be successful. Having an option, no matter how slim or expensive it may be today, is worth leaving on the books just in case.

Having an option means we have choices just in case. Removing options only limits what we might be able to do. We tell our kids to dream for a greater future, we don't limit them on what those dreams can be. Let's not limit our future either.

Respectfully,

Yaakov (Jake) Adler

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