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To: County Council <county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov>; MCP-Chair <mcp-chair@mncppc-mc.org>

Sent: Tuesday, July 8, 2025 at 11:48:57 AM EDT

Subject: MPOHT - 2025 Technical Update

In lieu of an in person testimony (because many of us work), I would like to offer my position on the M83 highway, still included in the Master Plan.

M83 Highway needs to be permanently removed from the MPOHT.

This highway is environmentally criminal.

It's result will exterminate critical parkland, untouched nature preserves, streams, fauna, rock structures, leafy bedding, massive tree canopy, fox dens, homes for owls, deer, racoon, possum, squirrels, fish, rabbit, beaver, snakes, insects, woodpeckers, hawks, herons and other animals that call it their home.

The benefits of this mini Amazonian-like corridor are enormously beneficial in the canopy's natural CO2 filtration, air cleansing, fresh air release, soil stabilization, temperature cooling, habitat providing, wind and noise shear protection - for animals and people.

It's needs to be zoned as a **Conservation Easement**, in perpetuity, and put the ever present nightmare idea of a highway, to bed.

Robert Portanova

--- Beacon Hill Way

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