

Thank you. Three points I'd like to make as regards the UBCP.

1. First on **Housing**, where I support the UBCP

I grew up in Montgomery County, and my wife and I were fortunate enough to be able to buy a home here last year. Although reducing regulation on housing may harm the value of my home, I *support* the UBCP in deregulating housing because I want people - of all ages, but including young families like mine - to have the ability to choose the housing that makes sense for them

Many of the people who oppose these plans due to - admittedly understandable concerns - about their home value or neighborhood character are the same folks lamenting that their now-adult children aren't choosing to move back. I'm surprised it needs to be said, but it's because of low supply and unaffordable housing, and this plan can help address that.

2. My 2nd point is on **Traffic**, where I think the plan needs significant overhaul

I was able to attend councilmember Jawando's meeting with KMCA earlier this week; thank you for making the time. There, the genuine horror of traffic accidents was spoken about. It's a real concern, and I care about the problem.

That said, the street racers invoked in that session **do not** care about speed limits, and they sure as heck don't care about bus lanes. The proposed changes to our traffic patterns will not impact law-breakers, just law-abiders, saddling thousands of us with delays and congestion multiple times per day, every day. Law-abiding commuters - when frustrated or late, rushing to make appointments - take *more* aggressive action on the road, not less

Decreased speeds, traffic jams caused by over-cautious drivers slamming on brakes at the sight of cameras, and the end of right-on-red add up, and we know it won't mean folks spend less time at the office. It means missing a toddler's bathtime, delays on the way to a recital or a soccer game, and getting home late for dinner with my kids. These are real costs.

My wife is currently 39 weeks pregnant, we'll be rushing to Holy Cross at any moment... she had an awful and complex delivery last time. Yet 3 days a week Sligo is closed to cars, already adding several minutes on our trip to the hospital. The proposed changes will only exacerbate the problem. We keep statistics on accidents, but no one keeps statistics on the stroke victim who could have had a different outcome had they arrived to the ER 2 minutes sooner, or the mom who didn't get an epidural because the baby was too close to delivery, and no one is counting up the increased emissions, the added stress, and the missed bedtimes, which would impact literally thousands of people every

single day. THAT's the impact these traffic changes would have in the real-world, not stopping a reckless and/or drunk teen in a Camaro.

What is needed to address traffic fatalities - if that is indeed what you wish to do - is ENFORCEMENT of our existing laws, not making life worse for thousands of hard-working, law-abiding commuters every single day, multiple times per day.

Revert the bus lane to a normal lane, maintain right on red, and maintain current speed limits.

3. My 3rd and final point regards **the plan itself and the process which led to it**, which has been awful

Look around at the number of folks in this room. Multiply it by 2 for the 2 hearings, and then recognize that it's much easier to vote than to come out and testify. A huge number of people, rightly or wrongly, are furious with how this plan has been put together. And it's not just normal NIMBY resistance.

People feel ignored, betrayed, and disenfranchised. Even as a person who in principle supports many components of the plan, I don't believe it makes sense to endorse it in any form because of how terribly the planning board has handled this effort. The UBCP is toxic, and the amount of baggage it has managed to accumulate is hard to overstate.

I hear your constituents talking in synagogue and on WhatsApp groups and I'm telling you sincerely, this is not a hill I would die on. For such a small part of your work and portfolio to have had such a negative impact on how people view our local politics is frankly mind-boggling. Those of you who expect this to pass in some form or fashion with some tweaks I think are vastly underestimating the sentiment around it, and the potential consequences of your support.

Thanks for your time.

-Jeremy Rosenthal