

I am writing to express my strong support for the University Blvd Corridor plan. I am quite dismayed at the misinformation being spread about the nature of this plan by the County Executive, presumably with my tax dollars. He sent an email with strawman bullet points of misinformation such as that it would destroy the tree canopy, when the plan includes specific steps to enhance the tree canopy. He just makes up that there is no need for increased affordable housing. Our economy is being incredibly stressed by the actions of the Trump administration, federal employees are losing good paying jobs and will replace them with lower paying ones, this will increase the need for affordable housing. Inflation and stagnation are reaching highs, again stretching household budgets, increasing the need for affordable housing.

Let me turn to the desirable aspects of the plan. The plan envisions University Blvd not as the stroad it is now, but as a vibrant complete street, with businesses and restaurants along the way. These kinds of complete streets lead to increased economic activity, more people out and about and decreased criminal activity.

I ride my bike for both transportation and recreation, and I encounter University Blvd mainly at the intersection of Sligo Creek Blvd and University. This is a terrifying intersection, with cars whizzing by. In a more complete streets picture envisioned by the Corridor plan, traffic would slow, pedestrians would be more abundant since they would visit the businesses along the way, and the community would be improved.

I urge the Council to implement the University Blvd Corridor Plan.