

I am writing to ask you to vote against the University Boulevard Corridor Plan (UBCP) and any additional plans with similar goals. The UBCP is strongly opposed by ¾ of the residents. Civic association leaders and residents testified against this plan several months ago during the Planning Board hearing. They have also reached out to you via emails, petitions, listening sessions, and in-person meetings. The UBCP will create traffic-choking chaos for the residents along University Boulevard. It will also harm the vibrant neighborhoods in and around the plan's footprint. The University Boulevard Corridor Plan is an unwelcome overreach by the Montgomery Planning Board and county leaders. The UBCP proposes the introduction of unwarranted new bus lanes, traffic-inducing speed limit reductions, unwanted redesigns of on- and off-ramps to the Capital Beltway, and excessive right-turn restrictions. The goal is to deliberately create a gauntlet of obstacles to the normal flow of traffic our beautiful suburban neighborhoods rely on.

These changes are explicitly targeting drivers in a suburban neighborhood that residents love and want preserved. The plan will make it much harder for the vast majority of citizens to take their children to centrally located schools, shopping, and entertainment venues. The plan will push angry drivers off University Boulevard and onto small residential streets to avoid the traffic. These traffic-avoiding drivers will make side streets much more dangerous and congested for residents, including children who play on these side streets. UBCP simply shifts fast-moving car traffic from roads that were designed for many cars, to side streets where residents will not be expecting to see many cars. In addition, lower speed limits on University Blvd will encourage more people to jaywalk, not less.

Slower speeds, longer commutes, and congestion will also materially increase the air pollution and carbon footprint in this area.

I am asking you to stand with the community that elected you - and will vote next election. Vote "no" on the UBCP - in its entirety. You will be voted out of office otherwise.

Sincerely,

Maria Warner