

From: [Criss, Jeremy](#)
To: [Fuss, Barry](#)
Cc: [Scheffel, Mike](#); [Steed, Melissa](#); [Arnold, Jacqueline](#); [Doug Lechliden](#); [Lonnie Luther](#); [Todd Greenstone \(toddsfarm1@gmail.com\)](#)
Subject: RE: Schaeffer Road Bridge No. M-0137
Date: Friday, April 24, 2020 12:33:00 PM
Attachments: [AAC-New Zion Road Bridge.doc](#)
[Fw Schaeffer Road Bridge No. M-0137.msg](#)

Hello Barry,

As a follow up to my message below, attached is a letter from the Agricultural Advisory Committee dated November 29, 2017 surrounding the replacement of the Zion Road bridge.

The Zion Road bridge and the Schaffer Road bridge are both single lane bridges that create safety issues as motorists race to get across the bridge first.

The Agricultural Advisory Committee will draft a new letter for the Schaeffer Road Bridge and we will discuss it with the AAC members.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thanks J

Jeremy V. Criss
Office of Agricultural Services, Director
18410 Muncaster Road
Derwood, Maryland 20855
301-590-2830 (Office)
301-943-9766 (Cell)

jeremy.criss@montgomerycountymd.gov
<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/agservices>

CONNECT WITH The Office of Agriculture



Montgomery County Ag Reserve
93,000 acres

From: Criss, Jeremy
Sent: Friday, April 24, 2020 9:57 AM
To: Fuss, Barry <Barry.Fuss@montgomerycountymd.gov>
Cc: Mike Scheffel <Mike.Scheffel@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Steed, Melissa <Melissa.Steed@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Arnold, Jacqueline <Jacqueline.Arnold@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Doug Lechliden <doug@laytonsvillemidwest.com>
Subject: FW: Schaeffer Road Bridge No. M-0137

Hello Barry,

I hope you are doing well.

I am responding to your message from Wednesday that was following the Agricultural Advisory Committee-AAC meeting the previous evening-see attached.

Doug Lechlinder is copied on this message because he is the Chair of the AAC.

The AAC would need to schedule a Zoom meeting of the AAC to discuss the replacement of the Schaeffer Road Bridge in order to meet your May 6, 2020 deadline.

The AAC provided recommendations several years ago when the bridge at White Ground Road and Schaeffer Road was replaced.

The AAC recommended a double lane bridge because of safety and the cost of replacement would be shared with the federal government.

The community opposed the double lane bridge because they believed larger trucks would begin using these rustic roads.

The Office of Agriculture will make note of the Schaeffer Road bridge closure to make sure the agricultural community understands the need for detours.

Your message does not provide information on when the bridge will be replaced and when the details on the detour will be available.

Please let us know when this information will be available.

Thanks J

Jeremy V. Criss
Office of Agricultural Services, Director
18410 Muncaster Road
Derwood, Maryland 20855
301-590-2830 (Office)
301-943-9766 (Cell)

jeremy.criss@montgomerycountymd.gov
<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/agservices>

CONNECT WITH The Office of Agriculture



Montgomery County Ag Reserve
93,000 acres

From: Fuss, Barry <Barry.Fuss@montgomerycountymd.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, April 22, 2020 3:14 PM
To: Criss, Jeremy <Jeremy.Criss@montgomerycountymd.gov>
Subject: Fw: Schaeffer Road Bridge No. M-0137

Jeremy,

Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) is beginning the design for the Replacement of Schaeffer Road Bridge No. M-0137 over Little Seneca Creek in Boyds, Montgomery County. Please see the attached location map.

The existing Schaeffer Road Bridge, built in 1925, is a 44'-8" long single span steel beam concrete deck structure with W-beam railing and two-strand-steel-pipe-rail concrete-post barrier on both sides carrying a 16'-0" clear roadway for one lane with two-way traffic and is supported by concrete abutments. The 2019 biennial bridge inspection revealed that the concrete deck and abutments have severe spalls and cracks and the steel beams have heavy corrosion and delaminated rust. The bridge is posted for a weight restriction of 50,000 lbs. for single unit truck and 64,000 lbs. for combination unit truck. The bridge is in need of replacement.

The bridge is located at a tangent road alignment. The existing roadway width is approximately 20 feet along both approach roadways of the bridge. A pedestrian/bicycle crossing over Schaeffer Road is located approximately 120' east of the bridge for the connection of Red Blaze Trail south of Schaeffer Road and a new Schaeffer - Hoyes Mill trail north of Schaeffer Road. A parking lot approximately 20'x50' with gravel pavement is located approximately 50' east of the bridge on the south side. Please see the attached photos.

Schaeffer Road is classified as a rustic road between White Ground Road and Central Park Circle/Germantown Park Drive in the 1996 Rustic Roads Functional Master Plan and 2018 Master Plan of Highways and Transitways with a posted speed limit of 30 MPH. The 2018 Bicycle Master Plan does not recommend a bike facility along the road.

The crash data since 2015 for the Schaeffer Road in the vicinity of the bridge shows only an opposite direction sideswipe with property damage in October 2016 at a curve road alignment with uphill road grade approximately 430' west of the bridge under a cloudy weather with wet surface condition during dusk.

The bridge has an average daily traffic (ADT) of 434 counted in February 2020 but a ADT of 2,964 in 2011 which was possibly counted in summer. The entrance of the nearby South Germantown Recreational Park (Central Park Circle) is located on Schaeffer Road approximately 2 miles east of the bridge and the entrance of the nearby Montgomery County Model Airpark is located on Schaeffer Road approximately 1,400 feet west of the bridge. Please see the attached vicinity map. A new traffic count at the bridge will be conducted under the project in the summer of 2020 for both vehicle traffic and bicycle traffic when both facilities are in most use during the year.

At this time, Maryland Department of Transportation SHA has agreed to provide federal funding for a replacement bridge that accommodates two lanes of traffic with a minimum bridge width of 22 feet.

The Rustic Road Advisory Committee is requesting that the proposed replacement bridge should be reconstructed as a one lane bridge, similar to the existing bridge. A one lane bridge would not be eligible for federal funding and would need to be funded completely by County Funds.

We are hereby requesting if the Agricultural Advisory Committee has an opinion on the proposed width of a replacement bridge at this location.

Your response to this request in a timely manner by **Wednesday, May 6** will be very much appreciated. Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me.

Thank you,

Barry

Barry Fuss

Chief, Bridge Design

Department of Transportation

Transportation Engineering Division

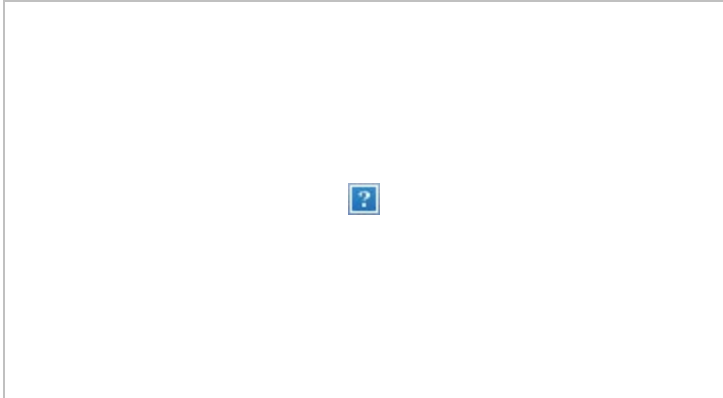
100 Edison Park Dr, 4th floor

Gaithersburg, Maryland 20878

240-777-7261



<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/census/>



<https://montgomerycountymd.gov/coronavirus>