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MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCIL
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

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DEC 14 2010

cc: Greg
Aruna
sozand

ROGER BERLINER
COUNCILMEMBER
DISTRICT 1

MEMORANDUM

**DOT
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE**

December 13 2010
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DPWT**

TO: Arthur Holmes, Jr., Director
Department of Transportation

DEC 20 2010

FROM: Roger Berliner, Chair
Transportation, Infrastructure, Energy and Environment (T&E) Committee

**DIV OF CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT
PLANNING SECTION**

SUBJECT: Roberts Tavern Drive Extended facility planning study

On December 9 the T&E Committee reviewed the results of Phase I facility planning for the Roberts Tavern Drive Extended project. The Committee unanimously concluded that this study be terminated at the conclusion of Phase I.

The central concern is the extremely low traffic volume projected for this road. The Prospectus's Year 2030 traffic forecasts shows that MD 355 will carry 1,794 vehicles/hour (vph) in the morning peak hour and 1,650 vph in the evening peak hour, and that Observation Drive will carry 2,132 vph in the morning peak hour and 2,142 vph in the evening peak hour. In contrast, Roberts Tavern Drive Extended will carry only 181 vph in the morning peak hour and 199 vph in the evening peak hour, or about 3 vehicles a minute in both directions combined. Furthermore, the forecasted traffic volume on MD 355 does not suggest the need for adding more north-south capacity in the Town Center vicinity during the next twenty years, beyond what will be provided by extending Observation Drive from Germantown as a 4-lane arterial (a project that is now in the latter stage of facility planning).

The Committee appreciates the work the Department of Transportation has completed for this study, especially the efforts of Greg Hwang and Aruna Miller.

cc: Councilmembers
Françoise Carrier, Chair, Montgomery County Planning Board

cc: Greg
Aruna
sozand