



MID-COUNTY CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

Isiah Leggett
County Executive

Luisa Montero-Diaz
Mid-County RSC Director

January 18, 2018

The Honorable Roger Berliner
President, Montgomery County Council
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, MD 20850

Re: MD 586 Veirs Mill Road Bus Rapid Transit, Draft Corridor Study Report
Additional Comments

Dear Council President Berliner:

The Mid County Citizens Advisory Board (MCCAB) wanted to follow up on our letter of November 17, 2016 regarding the referenced study in order to clarify our comments in hopes that your deliberations and interaction with the project staff will be able to make use of our observations.

1. Limited Growth of Transit Use in Veirs Mill/586 Corridor

While we generally agree with an approach that includes consideration of the overall effects of the various BRT studies in play, we question the effect of the suggestion to consolidate transit user data for the three studies, given that it would obscure a significant element in the cost/benefit analysis for each segment, which appear to vary significantly in the increase of transit users.

2. Traffic Impacts

We raise a question about the study's use of peak operations as being from 7-8 am and 4-5 pm. For example, what happens when one uses a 5-6 pm peak time? We lack the expertise to know and trust that the Study Staff can address that issue, if queried. We also note that extending the green time for the 12 proposed BRT stations, must result in some incremental effect on the cross street traffic and, taken together with the 355 Corridor Study proposals, could have some significant overall effects on traffic flow in all directions.

We thank you for considering our comments as you discuss this study and consider your policy choices. We have supported the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) concept previously, and welcome this study, even as we have questions about what it can deliver along this corridor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'FRANCISCO ROMERO', with several horizontal lines drawn through it.

Francisco Romero
MCCAB Chair

cc: Chair Casey Anderson, Montgomery County Planning Board
County Executive Isaiah Leggett
Montgomery County DOT Joane Conklin
Laura Barcena, Consultant Project Manager, MD SHA