

Washington Grove Shared Use Bike Path Connection Proposed Town Council “Act Favorably” Response to the Petition

The Town Council, acting on the [Shared Use Bike Path Petition \(PDF\)](#), adopts the following actions:

I. The Mayor will establish a Task Force to examine potential shared use path connections to the Town of Washington Grove.

A. Task Force Mission

The Task Force will evaluate options for shared use path connections to the Town and will present its findings in a report to the Town Council and to Town residents. Study of the options by the Task Force should include fact-based evaluation of short-term and long-term effects on the Town of each potential connection using criteria such as:

1. Overall safety
2. Impacts on specific areas of the Town
3. Environmental and historic impact
4. Legal implications of the Town’s responsibilities regarding maintenance and liability
5. Ease of access to Metro by Town and neighboring communities
6. Recreational value of a shared use path
7. Social equity implications
8. Potential impact mitigations needed for each connection
9. Projections of 10 year use from MCDOT or other sources for this shared use path connection, considering all available data for similar shared use paths.

B. Task Force Actions

The Task Force will consist of nine members proposed at the July 12, 2021 Town Council meeting by the Mayor with Town Council concurrence. It will:

1. Hold an organizing meeting.
2. Share information with residents about steps that have been taken thus far in the connection planning process.
3. Conduct open meetings to accept input from Town residents
4. Consider all relevant issues
5. Present findings to the Town Council at the Town Council’s November 8, 2021 meeting or at a Special Town Council meeting scheduled for presentation of their report.

II. A Special Town Meeting will be scheduled within 60 days of presentation of the Task Force report to the Council. The purpose of the meeting is for the Task Force to present its findings to the Town.

III. The Town Council commits to taking a vote on a shared use path option at a date after the Town Meeting during which the Task Force presents its findings to the Town.

IV. Upon passage, the Mayor will inform the County in writing of this Motion and the process the Town is proceeding with.

V. It is the position of the Town Council that the passage of this motion, in whole or in part, constitutes “act[ing] favorably” under Town Charter section 15(c).