Shared-Use Bike Path Petition

In accordance with Section 15(c) of the Charter of the Town of Washington Grove, we, the undersigned, petition the Mayor and Town Council to:

(1) Set aside the Council's vote at the March 2021 Town Council meeting to endorse connecting the proposed shared-use bike path to Crabb's Branch Way at the southern end of lower Brown Street; and

(2) Retract in writing the Mayor's communication to MCDOT on March 24, 2021 that this was the Town's preferred route, given the lack of formal engagement by town residents to assess shared-use bike path connection options.

These immediate actions are necessary for these reasons:

- After the February 2020 presentation by MCDOT to the Town, the Mayor and Council created a reasonable expectation that they would pursue a formal, transparent and deliberative process to assess the broad implications and impacts of various shared-use bike path connections to the Town, conduct a Special Town Meeting to formalize town resident opinions, and possibly establish a task force based on statements recorded in the Town Meeting minutes during the last 15 months.
- The Special Town Meeting scheduled for March 2020 was cancelled due to the worsening COVID-19 pandemic and was never rescheduled, even as a virtual meeting, while MCDOT continued to pursue its study to determine options for connection without further Town input.
- The Town Meeting form of government is enshrined in our Town Charter, assuring all
 residents are able to participate in important decisions. Further, common practice in the
 Town's governance is consultation with the Town's commissions and committees prior to
 making major decisions. These actions were absent in the Town Council's endorsement of
 lower Brown Street as the specified shared-use bike path connection to Town.

Therefore, this petition further requires the Town Council to:

(3) Initiate a Task Force at the June Town Council meeting, following discussion of this petition, to be comprised of a representative from the Planning Commission, the Historic Preservation Commission, and standing Town Committees, including Woods, Forestry and Beautification, Border, Emergency Preparedness & Safety. The Task Force members will be selected by their respective Commissions and Committees to be formed within 30 days of adoption of this plan. In consultation with their respective commissions and committees and with solicitation of input from all town residents, the Task Force will evaluate options for a shared-use bike path connection to or near the Town, and submit a consensus report with recommendations to the Mayor and Town Council within 60 days of their formation. Thereafter, the task force will continue to act as liaison between the Town and County agencies in discussions concerning the shared-use bike path.

Study of the options by the Task Force should include fact-based evaluation of short-term and long-term effects to the Town by each connection using criteria such as:

- Overall safety concerns from new and increased use of roadways or walkways
- Impacts on specific town homes, blocks, or neighborhoods
- Environmental and historic cultural impact
- Any legal implications of the Town's responsibilities for maintenance and liability of a shared-use bike path
- Ease of Access to Metro by Town and neighboring communities
- Recreational value of the shared-use bike path
- Social equity implications of the selected route
- Mitigations needed for any pathway route
- Contact MCDOT to provide data on the 10-year projected use of the shared-use bike path

Date

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We submit this petition so that a final decision includes input from all residents in the Grove tradition, which will assure the long-term success of the shared-use bike path.

Name/Address

5 30/21 (D) Sarah Campbell Harris 507 Brown St. 2 Paul B. Comfell 507 Brown St 3 Uninday E. Harn 507 Brain St 30/21 (4) Alessandra J. Styles 123 Chestrut Ave. 5/31/21 5) Emilia h. Shits 301 First Arence 5-31-2021 5-31-2021 McCuchan 110 Brown St. Freda Temple 114 Redeefd 5/31/21 5(31/2) Bus le 14 Ridge KJ 5 31/21 Reba Brown St. 311 ČOS MIMI 506 BROWN ST 01/21 NONCO

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Name/Addres Date David Stopak Brann St 5127121 Shilley Minkles Shelley Winkler 501 Brown St. Carol Mahaffey Collymour 5127121 102 Ridge Rd 5/27/21 Joan Mitmahaffey Joan M. Mahaffey 19 5/27/21 102 Ridge Road 16) YASMINE BOUCHLAGHEM 5127122 102, RIDGE ROAD 17 ZIED BOUCHLAGHEM Ziodr 27/21 102 Ridae Charles Malha 18 5-27-2 (Mar)(f Solvia Nori S. Fraheta toraheta rown St. R. Inhete 2000 5/27/2021 20 502 Brown st. Peoply Komis - Bookes Peggy Koniz-Booher 5/29/21 III maple Ave. Thomas L. Regland, Jr. 3 Ridge Rd. Ihones & Kapendick 6/1/21

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