

September 2023 shared use path liaison committee report to mayor

On 8-21-23, members of the shared use path liaison committee (Barbara Raimondo and Jay Everhart) and Mayor Compton had a productive videoconference with Council member Katz and staff members Laurie Edberg and Sharon Ledner. As of that date, the report out of the 7-20-23 planning board meeting had not been submitted to County Council. Nevertheless, Mr. Katz understood and supported our requests regarding the Washington Grove (WG) Connector.

We stressed the importance of keeping the planning and construction of the WG Connector completely separate from any road or path across the lower meadow (Piedmont Crossing Local Park). We noted that it has been several years since the County prioritized building the trail and that it was expected to be completed in 2024. To this point, however, planning has not proceeded beyond an early design phase. We urged that the planning and construction of the Connector proceed quickly, and that full funding be provided. We also expressed our support for either of two routes for the path.

Mr. Katz's office has arranged a follow-up videoconference between those on the call and the director of the county department of transportation Christopher Conklin and staff on September 21st when we hope to obtain commitment by DOT to timely completion of the Connector.