From: Jay Everhart j54ac@icloud.com

Subject: Shared use path committee report for February 2025

Date: Feb 7, 2025 at 10:29:17 AM

To: Compton John johncompton@me.com

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Dear Mayor Compton,

Progress on the WG Connector by DOT has regrettably taken one step forward and two steps back. The 35% design plan that DOT submitted to the planning board could not be reviewed because it lacked a forest conservation plan and approval. According to Jean Kapusnick on a call with me a day ago, "We are back to square one." It is not quite that bad. While she does not know when the forest conservation plan will be submitted, much less approved, or when the now further delayed mandatory referral will take place (probably not in April, contrary to what she told the committee on January 16th), the contractor is allowed to continue to work on completion of the design of the trail. My understanding is that WG must approve its own forest conservation plan for the short stretch of its land that will be occupied by the Connector.

Funding to complete the design is in the capital improvements plan budget for FY 2025 with a request for additional funding for FY 2026.

A public meeting about the design and plans will be held at McCathran Hall on March 20th at 7 pm for residents of WG and neighboring communities to hear from DOT.

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## Dear Mayor Compton,

On December 9th, the committee had a productive face to face discussion with Jean Kapusnick, the DOT project official, to review the 35% design plan for the Washington Grove shared use path. The plan was subsequently submitted to the Planning Board for review two weeks later. That public meeting is scheduled for February 20th. The Committee is working on written comments for that meeting. The plan is generally favorable to the town's interests. Importantly, the plan is restricted to construction of the WG Connector and does not mention a roadway across the lower meadow between Crabbs Branch Way and Amity Drive. Attached are links to the many design documents submitted to the Planning Board. We request that they be made accessible to town residents, whom we would be happy to hear from.

M-NCPPC: Search Result Page eplans, montgomery planning, org



In about a month individuals will be able to sign up to testify at the meeting.



Sign Up to Testify Form montgomeryplanningboard.org

Yours truly,

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