

WABA Action Committee for

Montgomery County

Conversations

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Forest Glen Sidewalk project comments from WABA Oviews



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neter@waha ord

to 'ayni goksel' via WARA Action Committee for Montgomery County

Jul 6 2021 5:19:57 PM

Below are the comments Dave drafted and which I lightly edited. Please send an email to rebecc...@monmtgomerycountymd.gov. to inform her that the project as currently designed needs to be redone in order to preserve Forest Glen Road. between Sligo Creek and the Forest Glen metro, as a safe means of biking between Sligo Creek and Rock Creek. Feel free to take from our comments:

Dear Ms. Rebecca Park and the DT&E Project Design Team:

Thank you for sharing your 15% Project Design during the June 10, 2021 public meeting. We are supportive of the design objective to construct a sidewalk and buffer on the northside of Forest Glen Rd from Sligo Creek Trail to Forest Grove Drive. However, we believe the design should be improved to meet the needs of all road users. Dave Helms and I would greatly appreciate meeting with you and others at MCDOT about this project. Below are our comments.

- 1. Project Design removes almost 2,000 ft of Bike Lanes which have been used routinely by thousands of bicyclists since 2010 to access FG Metro and connect Sligo Creek Park to Rock Creek Park/Beach Dr/Jones Bridge.
- 2. While the Bicycle Master Plan indicates a sidepath on Forest Glen, the Forest Glen Sector Plan (2020) specifically recommends on-road bikeways:

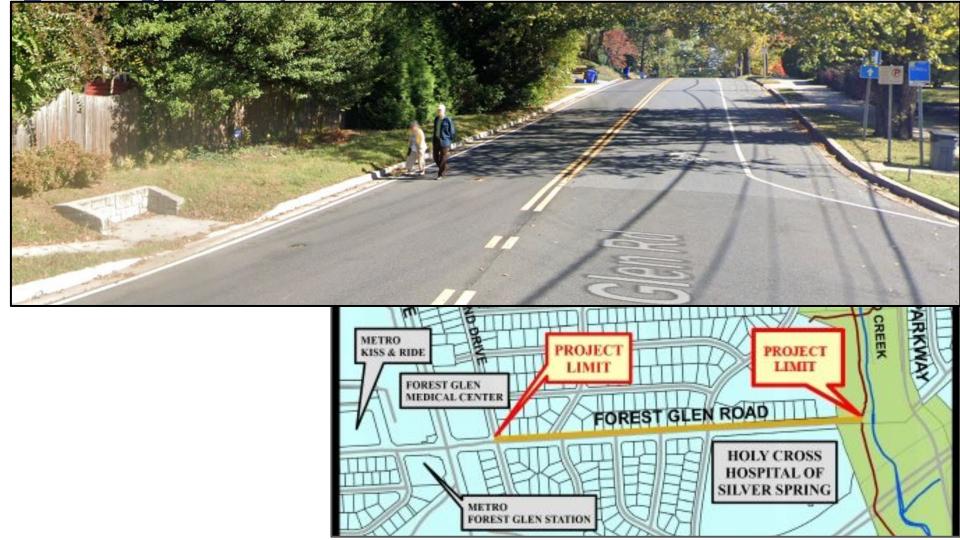
"Due to the substantial volumes and meandering travel patterns of pedestrians in urban environments, on-road bikeways (such as separated bike lanes, buffered bike lanes, traditional bike lanes) are recommended instead of shared use paths along roadways. In these urban environments, the speed differential between pedestrian and bicycle traffic on public sidewalks often leads to conflicts and a degradation of quality for both parties. As a result, bicyclists are often reluctant to travel in what is perceived as a pedestrian-only space."

- 3. Project Design increases Pedestrian/Bicvclist/Driver conflicts and decreases safety:
 - a Driver Conflicts
 - i. Design requires westbound bicyclists to make two dangerous movements across FG travel lanes to access southside sidepath.
 - ii. Narrowing travel lanes and removing shoulders will increase driver and bicyclist conflicts for bicyclists choosing to use the street.
- b. Pedestrian Conflicts: Design requires all bicyclists to use the southside sidepath which puts them in conflict with thousands of pedestrians walking to Holy Cross Hospital from FG Metro.
- 4. Project Design induced pedestrian conflicts will primarily impact Holy Cross staff, patients, and patients' families, and those using FG Metro and WMATA and RideOn Bus Service. These transit users are typically lower income. people of color and mobility challenged. This is a social equity issue.
- 5. Forest Glen Road is identified in the MPOHT as a 80-foot, two lane minor arterial. While the Project Design trades away Bike Lanes for northside 6 foot sidewalk with limited street buffer, the design only uses a fraction of this Right-Of-Way Why is this the case?
- 6. The Project Design improves the current 500ft of on-street parking and 1,000ft channelized right turn lanes while removing the current 2000ft of Bike Lanes. The Complete Streets Design Guide prioritizes Bike Lanes over on-street parking in a constrained Right-Of-Way and states channelized turn lanes should be removed. Utilization of available public parking spaces of FG on-street parking is 18% (3 of 17 spaces). There is ample under-utilized on-street parking on crossing streets within 300-500ft of FG parking spots.
- 7. Project design does not identify boundary connectivity for Sligo Creek Park Facilities. East side of the project at the Sligo Creek Trail needs connectivity through to Sligo Creek Parkway and South Four Corners communities. This is where the majority of pedestrian and bicyclist crashes have occurred. Design should identify pedestrian and bicyclist gaps into and through Sligo Creek Stream Valley and coordinate coincident facility improvements Montgomery Parks Vision Zero planners. This is critical as the northside sidepath over the Sligo Creek Bridge is the only way to access Sligo Creek Parkway for Open Streets with no current or planned southside sidewalk.

Recommended Design Improvements:

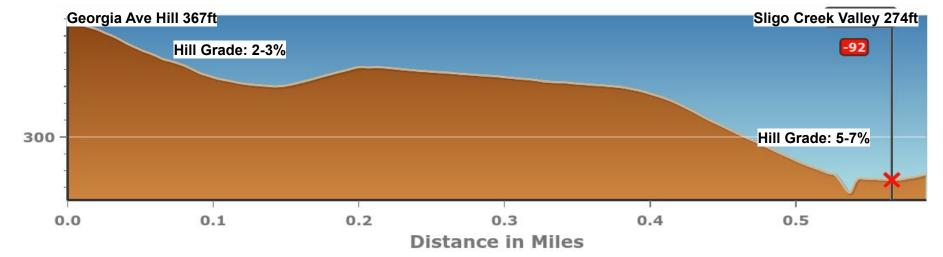
- 1. Keep and extend the existing Bike Lanes (eastbound and westbound) for the entire project area
- 2. Use existing available Right-Of-Way for meeting all road user needs

Privacy • Terms



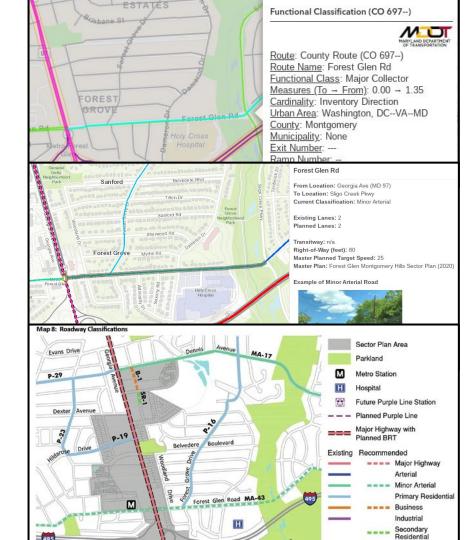
Distance Between Signalized Intersections and Grade Change





Forest Glen Road Roadway Classification

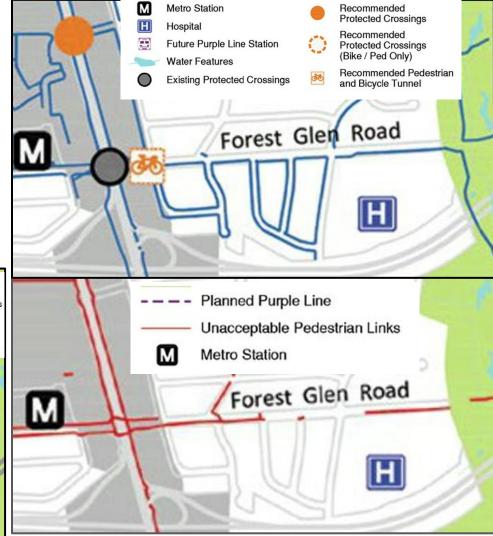
- MDSHA Roadway
 Classification:
 Major Collector
- MPOHIT Functional Classification:
 Alinor Arterial
 Target Speed: 25mph
- Forest Glen Sector Plan
 - Mynor Arteri



Forest Glen Road Forest Glen Sector Plan

Recommended Bike Network
 Recommended Pedestrian Links





Forest Glen/Montgomery Hills Sector Plan March 2020 Bikeway Recommendations

• "Install a sidepath on the south side of Forest Glen Road, from Georgia Avenue to Brunett Avenue, Forest Glen Road is the most direct route between the Forest Glen Metrorail Station and Holy Cross Hospital one of the largest employers in the plan area. Currently, the hospital provides a bus circulator to ensure safe access between the two destinations.

Eorest Glen/Montgomery Hills Sector Plan Transportation Appendix - Separation from Pedestrians in Urban Areas

Due to the substantial volumes and meandering travel patterns of pedestrians in urban environments, on-road bikeways (such as separated bike lanes, buffered bike lanes, traditional bike lanes) are recommended instead of shared use paths along roadways. In these urban environments, the speed differential between pedestrian and bicycle traffic on public sidewalks often leads to conflicts and a degradation of quality for both parties. As a result bicyclists are often reluctant to travel in what is perceived as a pedestrian-only space.

Forest Glen Road Roadway Classification Attributes

• Complete Streets Guide Road Type: Neighborhood Connector Street Zone:

```
Treet Zone:

The anes: 10ft

Left Turn Lanes: 105ft

Inside Travel Lane: 10.5ft

Dutside bravel Lane: 10.5ft

Bikeway Types / Widths:

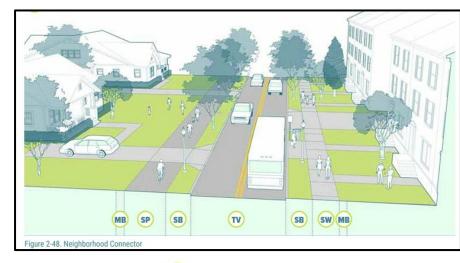
Sidepath: 10f default: 8' min, or

Protected Crossing Minimum Spacing:

Signalized Intersections: 1,300ft

Ctive Zone: 6ft (min. 5ft)

Sidewalks: 6ft (min. 5ft)
```



MB Maintenance Buffer

SP) Sidepath

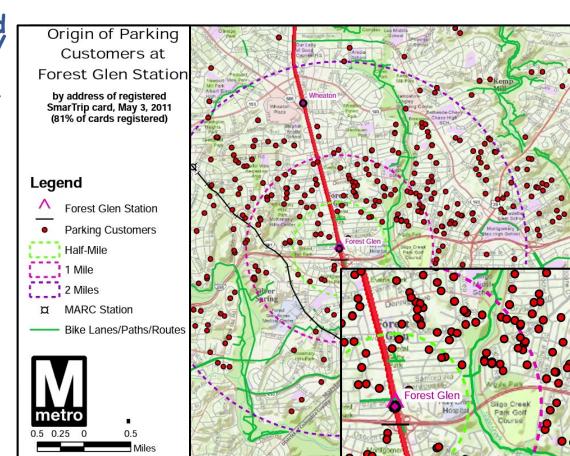
SB) Street Buffer

(TV) Travel Lane

(SW) Sidewalk

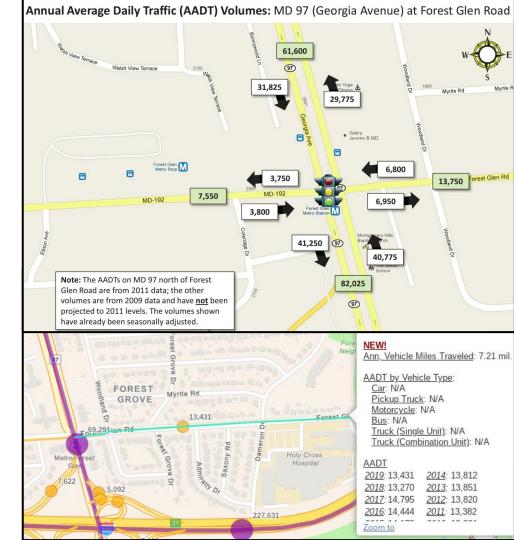
Forest Glen Road Traffic Forest Glen Metro Parkshed:

The majority of driving commuters reside in the neighborhoods to the north and east of the many originating from east of sligo Creek using Forest Glen Rd to access the Metro. Most Metro users walk if they live within \(\frac{1}{2} \)



Forest Glen Road Forest Glen Rd

- MDSHA Average Annual Daily, Traffic (AADT):
 - EB: 50 5%



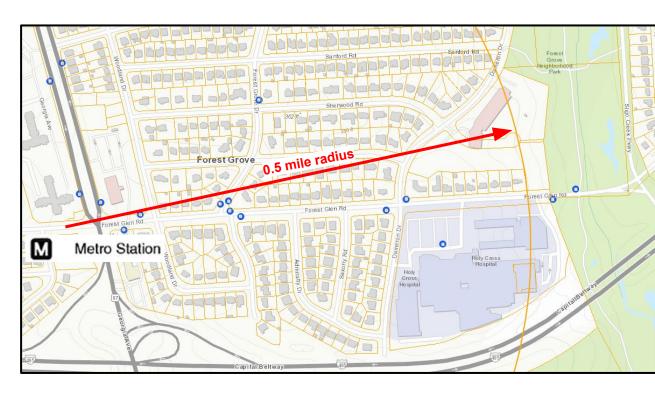
Eorest Glen Road Transportation

• MCDOT RideOn:

3 bus stop
pairs

Forest Grove
pameron

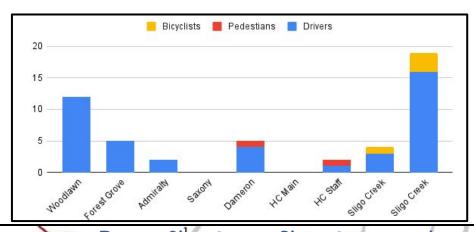
MATA Glenmont
Metro
Holy Cross
Hospital is within
5 mile of
Forest Glen



Forest Glen Road Crashes

- Most crashes are west of Admiralty and east of Holy Cross Staff entranced with the
- exception of Dameron.
 Pedestrian and bicyclist crashes are concentrated at Dameron and between Sligo Creek Pkwy and the HC Staff entrance.

All Crashes, by Intersection, by Road User, 2015-2019,

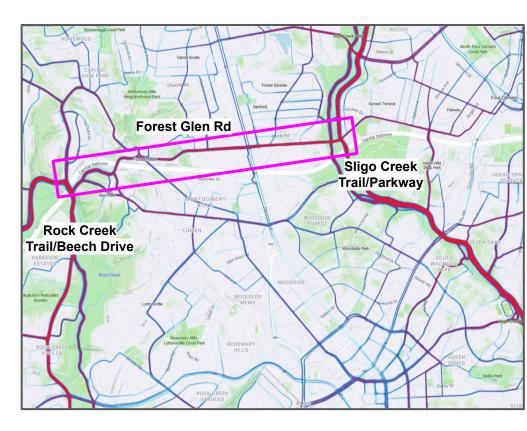




Forest Glen Road Bicyclist Activity

Bicycling Activity (from Strava Heatmap):

Regional Connectivity: Forest Gleb is the MOST IMPORTANT east—west roadway for bicycling in Montgomery County south of ICC and Henson I rail Connecting Sligo Creek Trail Beech Drive also serving as an alternative to the closed Purple Line/Capital Crescent Trail between Silver Spring and Bethesda.



Local Pedestrian and Bicycling Activity

• Bicycling and Pedestrian Activity (from

Local Connectivity: With Forest Glen
Metro and Holy Cross Hospital (500)
Metro and Holy Cross Hospital (500)
Metro and Holy Cross Hospital (500)
Walking distance Forest Glen has high
activity from pedestrian commuters as
Well as bike commuters maying between
Eour Corners and Forest Glen Metro
Forest Glen is crossed by Forest Grove
Dr. a local Greenway bike route to
Wheaton to the north and Silver Spring
to the south.



1495 Multi-Use Bridge

Forest Glen Road Pedestrian Activity

• Eorest Glen Rd/Georgia Ave Intersection Pedestrian Activity: east-west ○ 854 pedestrians/day

AM Peak Hour:

• 101: % 59 northside

PM Peak Hour:

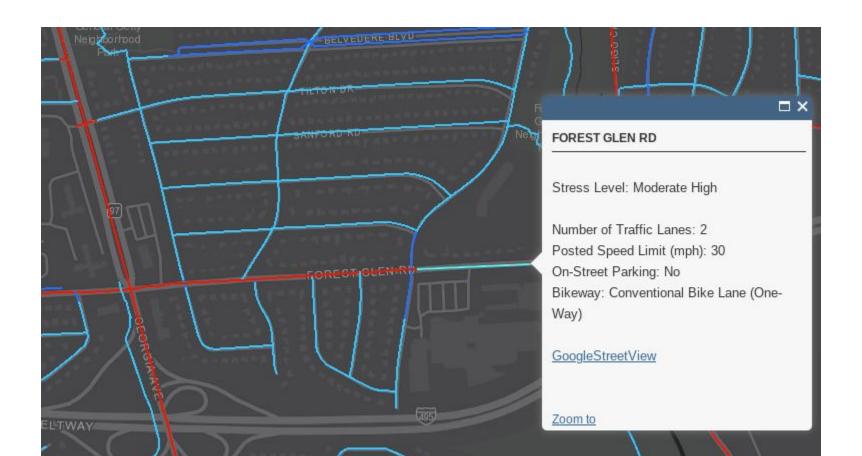
• 150: 79 northside 71 southside

Peak Hour Pedestrian Volumes



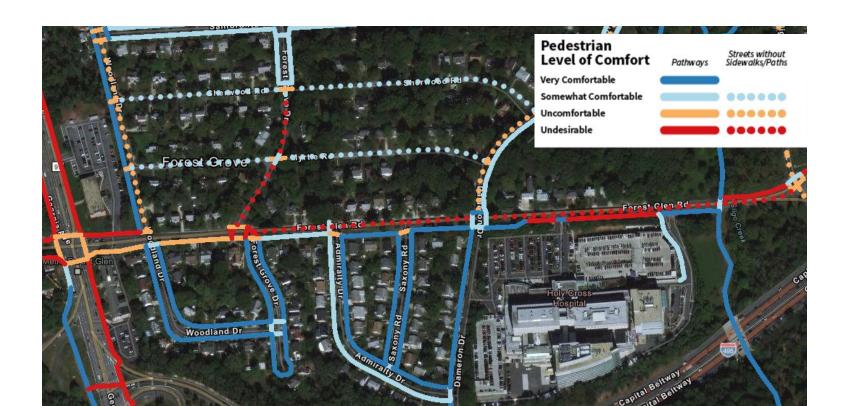
Forest Glen Road

Bicycle Level of Stress: Moderately High to High



Forest Glen Road

Pedestrian Level of Comfort:
Northside: Undesirable
Southside: Very Comfortable to Undesirable



Eorest Glen Road School Service Areas

Flora M. Singer ES - Service Area 1 mile Walkshed



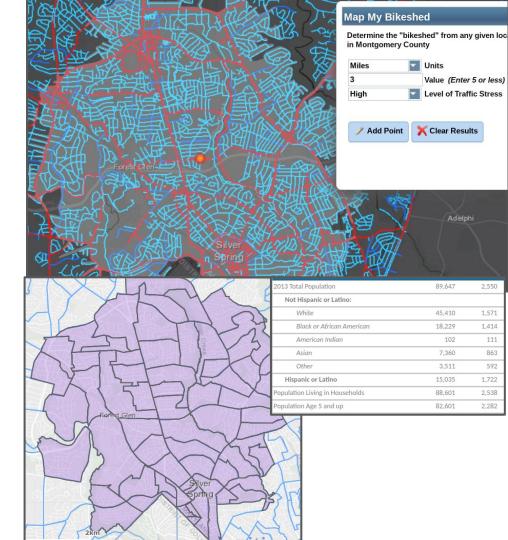
Ecrest Glen Road School Service Areas

Sligo MS - Service Area 1 mile Walkshed



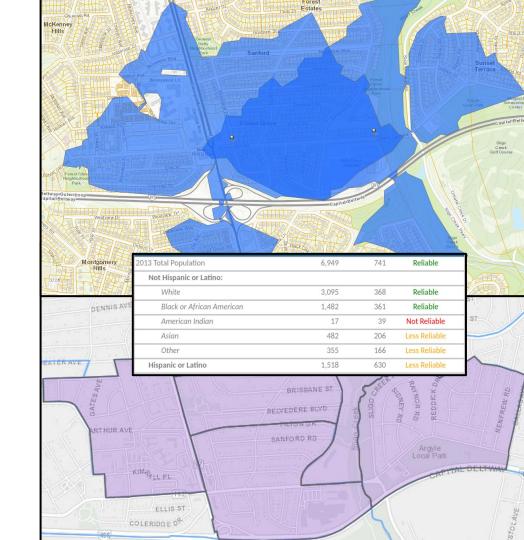
Forest Glen Road Bikeshed

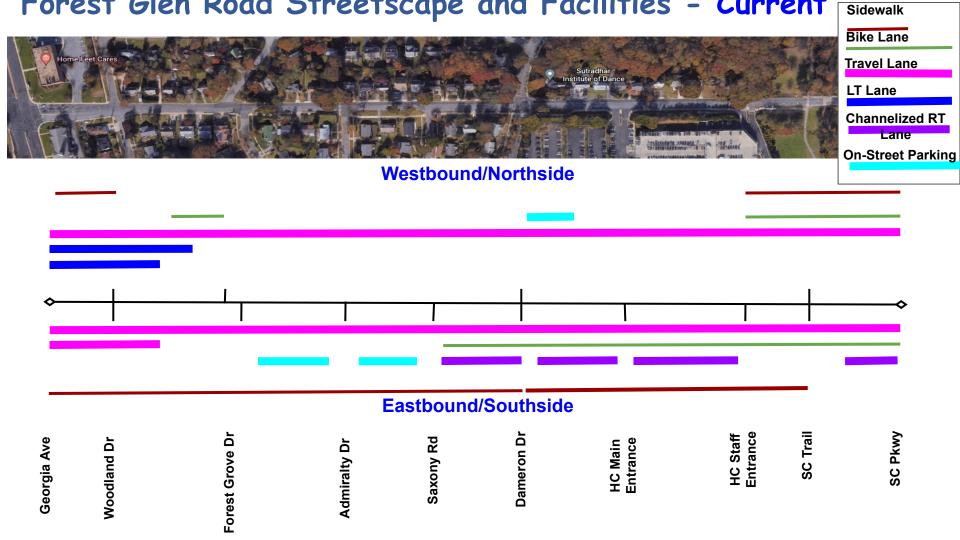
- From Forest Glen mile bikeshed include Woodmoor hood to the east IF willing to endure ess roadways 10,000 includes 90,000

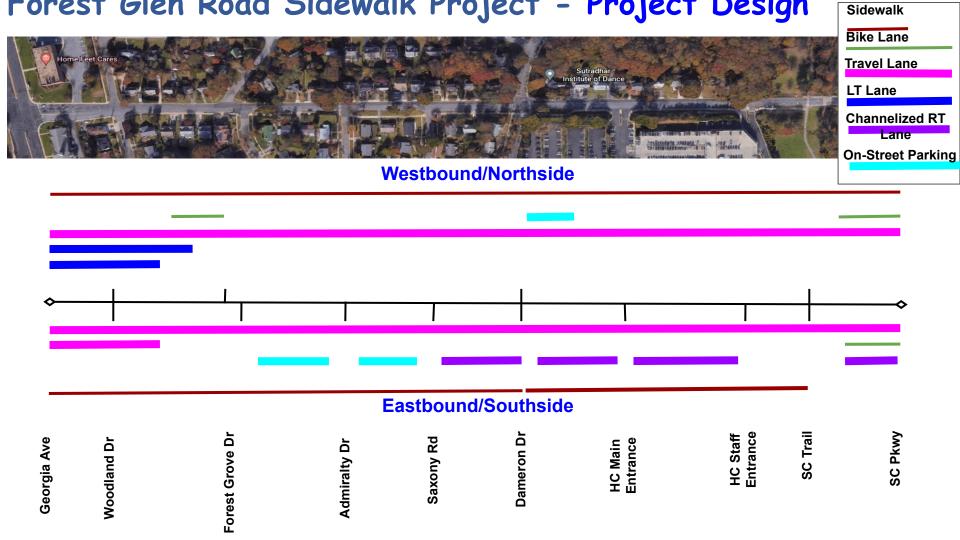


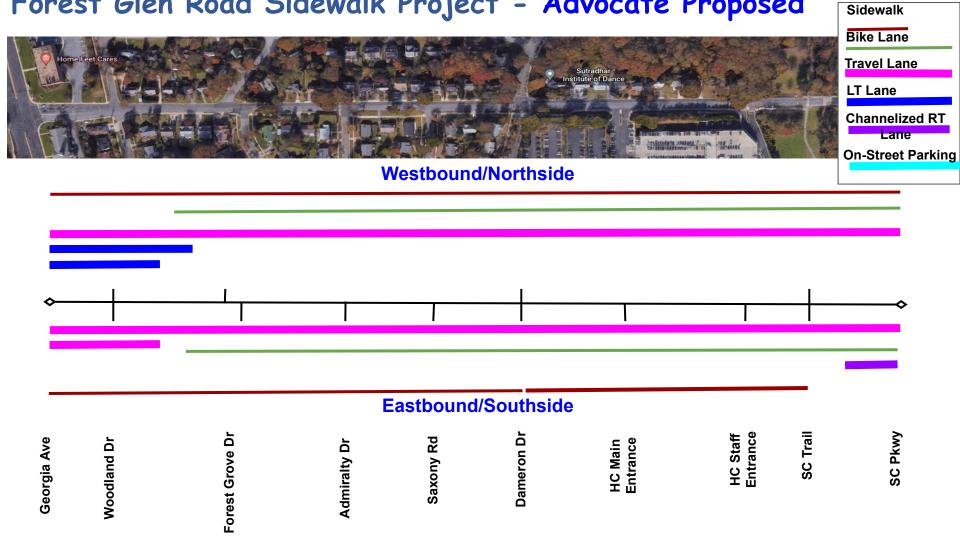
Forest Glen Road Walkshed

- From Forest Glen Rd the 1/2 mile walkshed includes neighborhoods of McKinney Hills west of
 - Eorest Grove, Forest
 Estates between MD97
 Ind Sligo Creek Pkwy
 - Sunset Terrace in South
 Eour Corners east of
- Walkshed Population: 7,000 residents









Streetscape Changes

Advocate Proposed Streetscape using Complete Streets Guide Priorities in a Constrained ROW

- **SC Bridge Segment:** Widen northside Sidewalk, shifting Travel Lanes and and existing Bike 3ft south to transition to HC Bus Stop segment alignment
- HC Staff Bus Stop Segment: Wedge street buffer from 5ft northwest side to 0ft northeast side;
 vary street buffer from 3ft southwest side to 5ft southeast side
- **HC Main to Staff Segment:** Remove EB Right Turn Lane and southside Parking; keep Bike Lanes and add Sidewalk and Street Buffer northside
- Dameron Dr to HC Main Segment: Remove EB Right Turn Lane and northside Parking; keep Bike Lanes and add Sidewalk and Street Buffer northside
- Saxony Rd to Dameron Dr Segment: Remove EB Right Turn Lane; keep Bike Lanes and add northside Sidewalk and Street Buffer
- Admiralty Dr to Saxony Rd Segment: Remove southside Parking; add Bike Lanes and northside Sidewalk and Street Buffer
- Forest Grove Dr to Admiralty Dr Segment: Remove southside Parking; add Bike Lanes and northside Sidewalk and Street Buffer

Streetscape Changes

Changes to Facilities, by Roadway Segment (width in feet):

Bike Lane

Lane

Lane

10.5

10.5

10.5

10.5

10.5

10.5

10.5

10.5

10.5

10.5

10.5

10.5

10.5

10.5

10.5

Lane

10.5

10.5

10.5

10.5

10.5

10.5

10.5

10.5

10.5

10.5

10.5

Lane

10.5

10.5

10.5

Bike Lane

Parking

Shoulder

Street

Buffer

NA

NA

NA

Sidewalk/

Sidepath

NA

NA

NA

	currer	IT, Pro	ојест	Desigr	i, Adv	осате	Propo	sed		
6			North/WB					a ===	South/EB	į
Sidewalk/	Street				Right Turn	Travel	Travel	Right Turn		

Parking

Curren	it, Project	Design,	Advocate	Proposed	
	North/WB	40		80	88
		R	Right	Right	

		Curre	nt, Pr	oject	Desigr	ı, Adv	ocate	Propo	sed	
		3	sa	North/WB	9 50				89 EV	3
	1									

Shoulder

Sidepath

Current

Project

Current

Project

Proposed

Proposed

Current

Project

Current

Project

Current

Project

Current

Project

Current

Project

Proposed

Proposed

Proposed

Proposed

Proposed

Buffer

Project Segments - East to West

SC Bridge Segment

SC Bridge Segment

SC Bridge Segment

HC Staff Bus Stop Segment

HC Staff Bus Stop Segment

HC Staff Bus Stop Segment (east)

HC Staff Bus Stop Segment (west)

HC Main to Staff Entrance Segment

HC Main to Staff Entrance Segment

HC Main to Staff Entrance Segment

Dameron Dr to HC Main Segment

Dameron Dr to HC Main Segment

Dameron Dr to HC Main Segment

Saxony Rd to Dameron Dr Segment

Saxony Rd to Dameron Dr Segment

Saxony Rd to Dameron Dr Segment

Admiralty Dr to Saxony Rd Segment

Admiralty Dr to Saxony Rd Segment

Admiralty Dr to Saxony Rd Segment

Forest Grove Dr to Admiralty Dr Seq

Forest Grove Dr to Admiralty Dr Seq

Forest Grove Dr to Admiralty Dr Seg Proposed

Net Changes to Facilities (length in linear feet)

	Cur	rent	Project		
	Northside/WB	Southside/EB	Northside/WB	Southside/EB	Delta
Sidewalks	550	2660	2660	2660	2110
Bike Lanes	500	1610	140	140	-1830
Parking	100	375	100	375	0
Right Turn Lane	0	933	0	933	0

	Cur	rent	Advocate		
	Northside/WB	Southside/EB	Northside/WB	Southside/EB	Delta
Sidewalks	550	2660	2660	2660	2110
Bike Lanes	500	1610	2660	2660	3210
Parking	100	375	0	0	-475
Right Turn Lane	0	933	0	0	-933

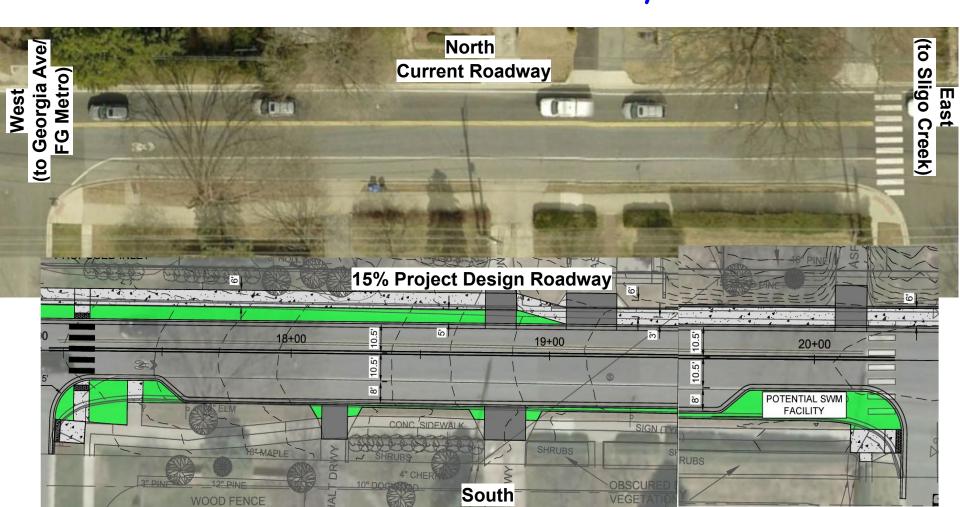
Forest Grove Dr to Admiralty Dr Current Alignment and Facilities



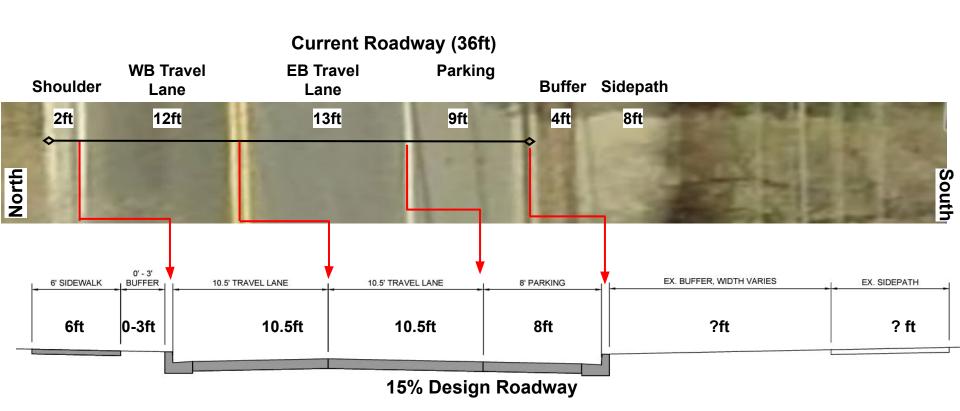
View from Forest Grove Dr Intersection to East towards Admiralty Dr Intersection

View from Admiralty Dr Intersection to West towards Forest Grove Dr Intersection

Forest Grove Dr to Admiralty Dr



Take the WB Shoulder (aka Bike Lane)... Keep Parking?



TYPICAL SECTION - CLOSED SECTION WITH PARKING LANE ON SOUTH SIDE

FOREST GROVE DRIVE TO SAXONY ROAD

NOT TO SCALE

Forest Grove Dr to Admiralty Dr - Advocate Proposed



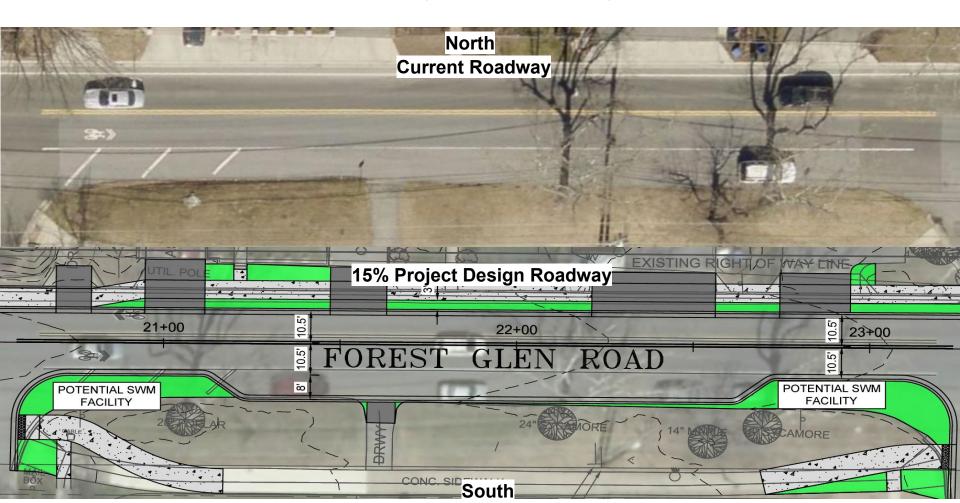
Admiralty Dr to Saxony Rd Current Alignment and Facilities



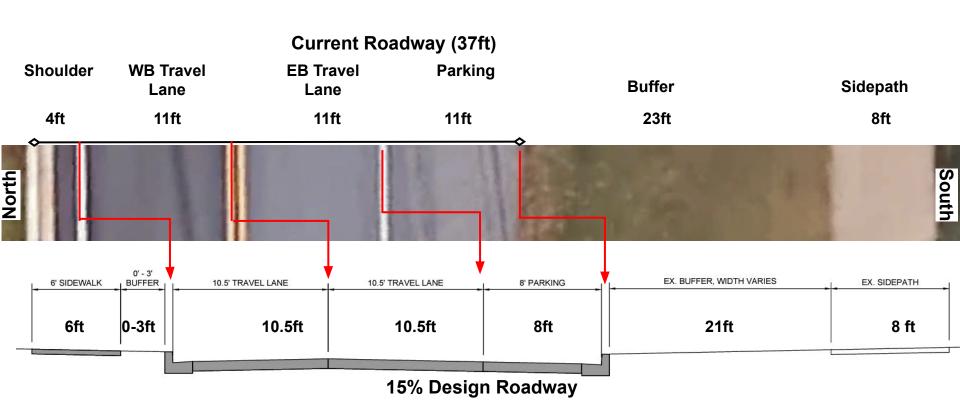
View from Admiralty Dr Intersection to East towards Saxony Dr Intersection

View from Saxony Rd Intersection to West towards Admiralty Dr Intersection

Admiralty Dr to Saxony Rd



Take the WB Shoulder (aka Bike Lane)... Keep Parking?

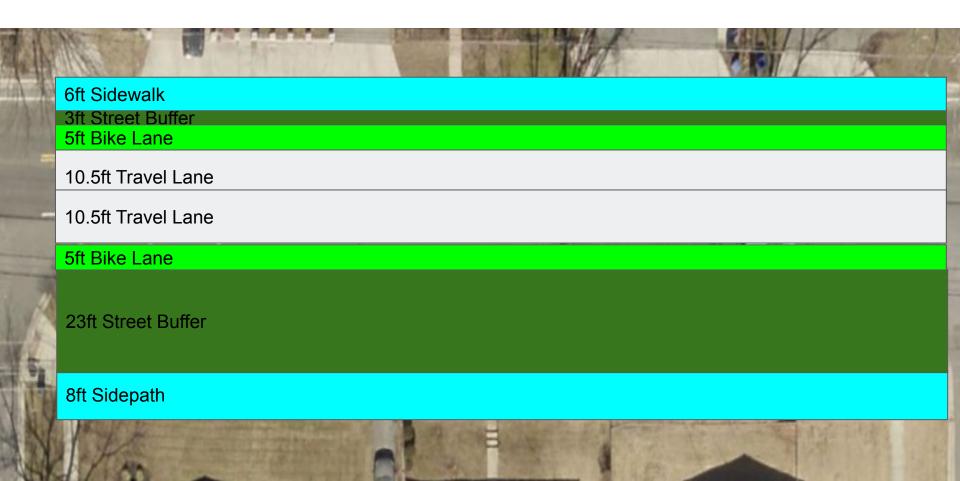


TYPICAL SECTION - CLOSED SECTION WITH PARKING LANE ON SOUTH SIDE

FOREST GROVE DRIVE TO SAXONY ROAD

NOT TO SCALE

Admiralty Dr to Saxony Rd - Advocate Proposed



Saxony Rd to Dameron Dr Current Alignment and Facilities

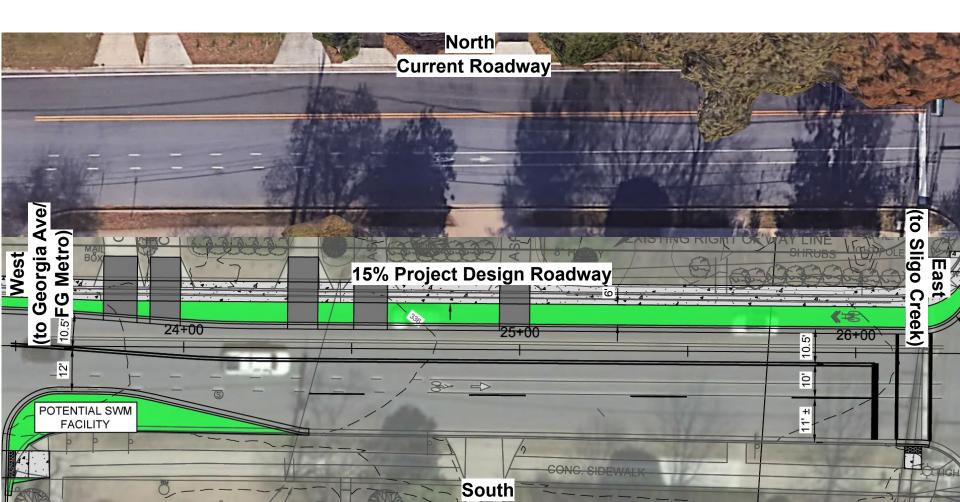


View from Saxony Rd Intersection to East towards Dameron Dr Intersection

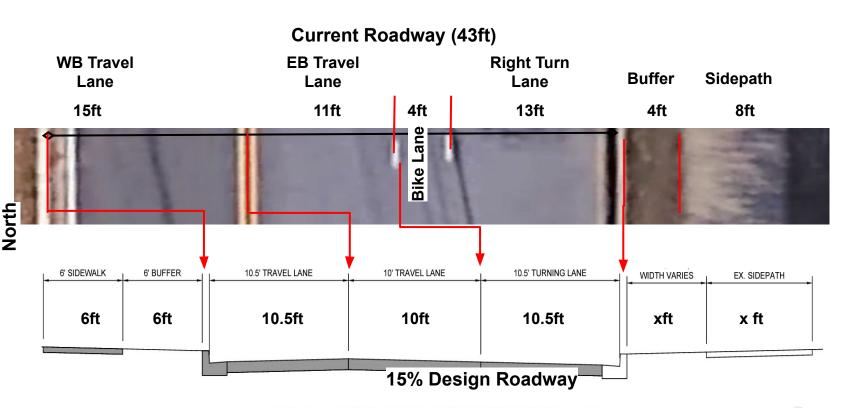


View from Dameron Dr Intersection to West towards Saxony Rd Intersection

Saxony Rd to Dameron Dr



Saxony Rd to Dameron Dr. Take the Bike Lane... Keep Right Turn?

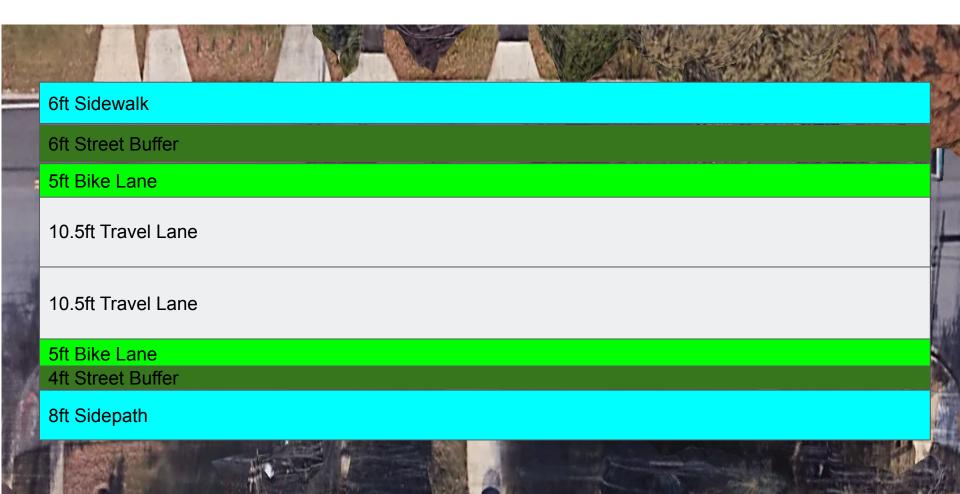


TYPICAL SECTION - CLOSED SECTION WITH TURNING LANE

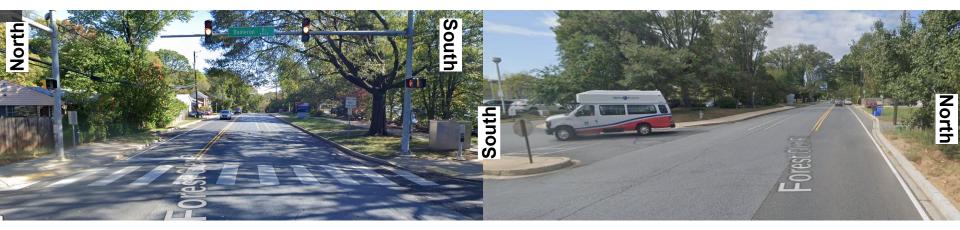
SAXONY ROAD TO DAMERON DRIVE NOT TO SCALE



Saxony Rd to Dameron Dr - Advocate Proposed



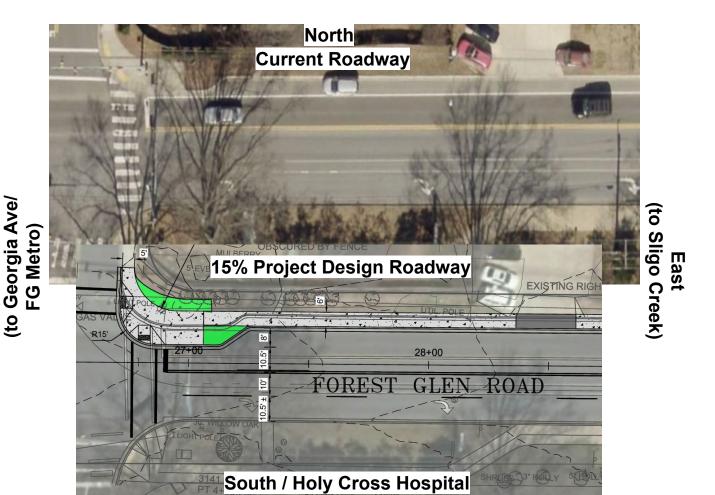
Dameron Dr to HC Main Intersection Current Alignment and Facilities



View from Dameron Dr Intersection to East towards HC Main Intersection

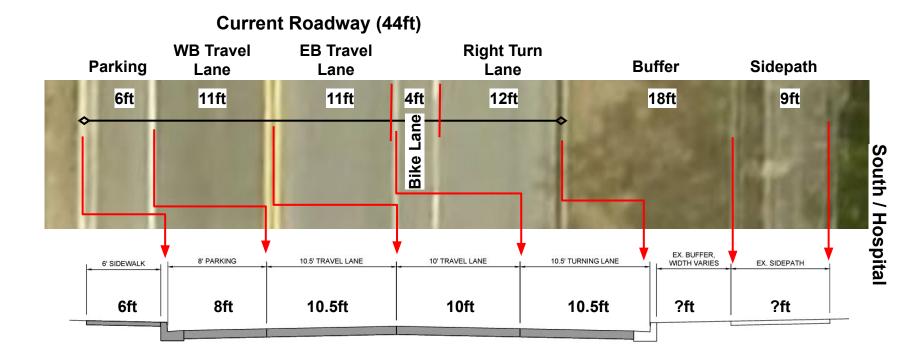
View from HC Main Intersection to West towards Dameron Dr Intersection

Dameron Dr to HC Main Intersection



West

Take the Bike Lane... Keep the Parking and Right Turn?



TYPICAL SECTION - CLOSED SECTION WITH PARKING LANE ON NORTH SIDE

DAMERON DRIVE TO HOSPITAL ENTRANCE NOT TO SCALE

15% Design Roadway

Dameron Dr to HC Main Intersection - Advocate Proposed



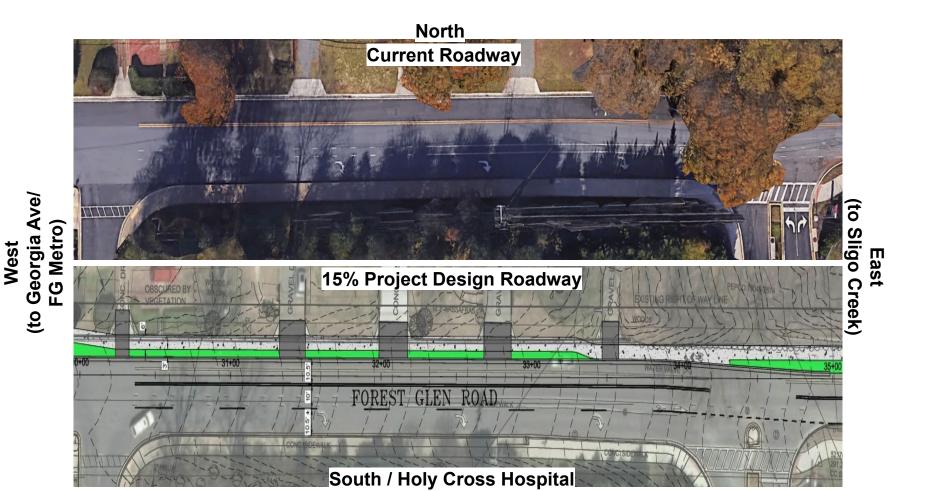
HC Main to Staff Entrances Current Alignment and Facilities



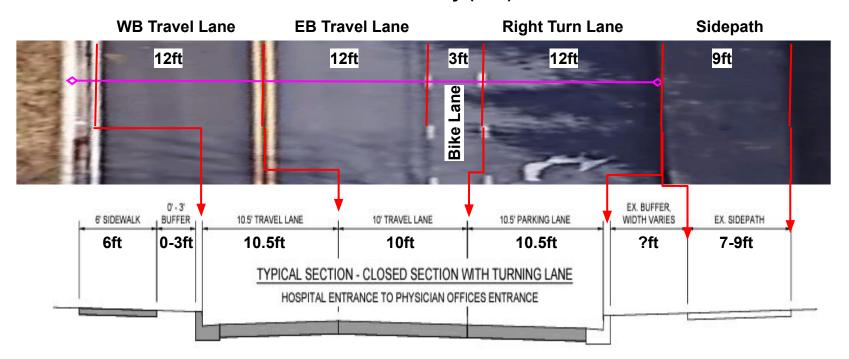
View from HC Main Intersection to East towards HC Staff Intersection

View from HC Staff Intersection to West towards HC Main Intersection

HC Main Intersection to HC Staff Intersection



Current Roadway (48ft)



15% Design Roadway

HC Main Intersection to HC Staff Intersection - Advocate Proposed



Current Alignment and Facilities



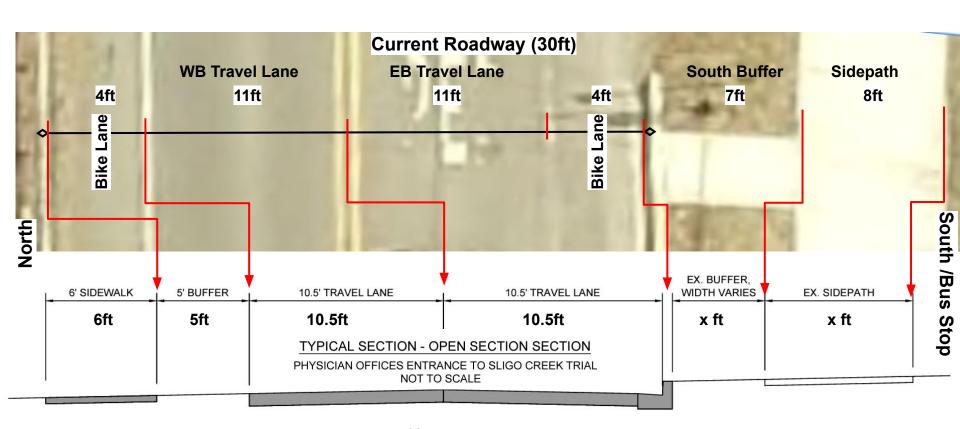
View from HC Staff Intersection to East towards HC Bus Stop

View from Sligo Creek Bridge to West towards HC Staff Intersection

Forest Glen Road Sidewalk Project:

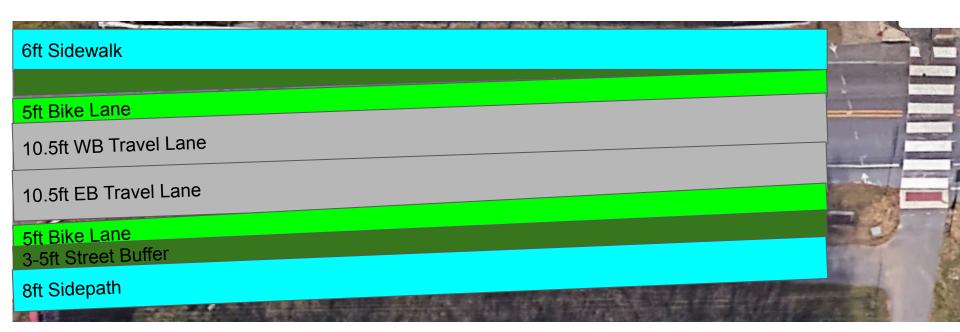


Take Two (2) Bike Lanes... For Buffer??



15% Design Roadway

HC Bus Stop to SC Trail - Advocate Proposed



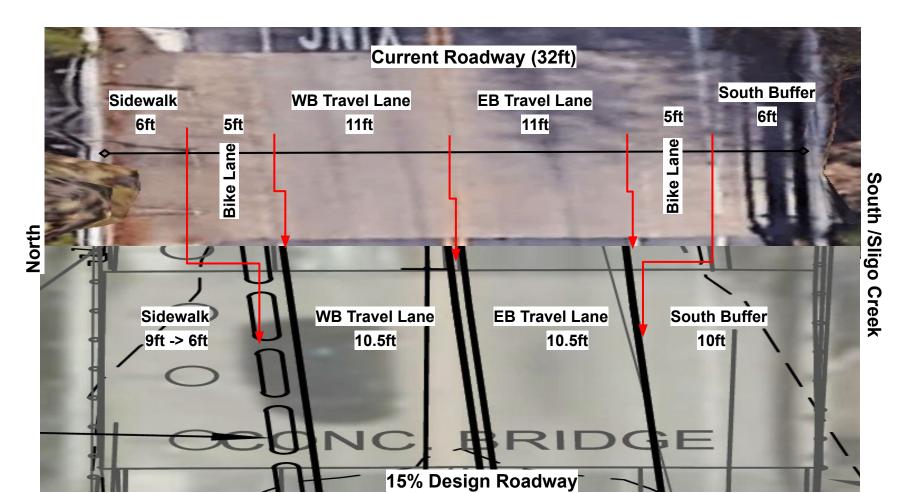
Current Alignment and Facilities



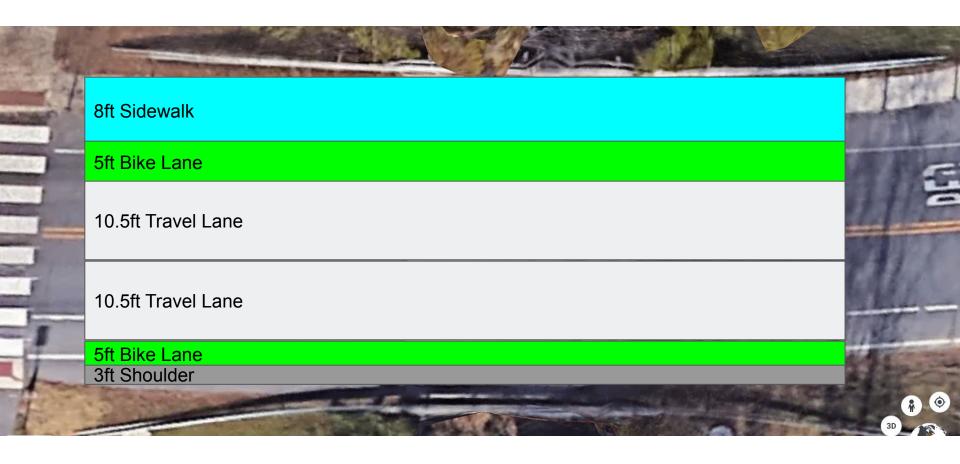
View from Sligo Creek Trail to Eest towards Sligo Creek Parkway

View from Sligo Creek Parkway Intersection to West towards Sligo Creek Trail

Sligo Creek Bridge: Take Two (2) Bike Lanes... For Buffer??



Sligo Creek Bridge - Advocate Proposed



Streetscape Changes

Southside and Northside: Saxony to Dameron

- 4ft sidewalk (southside only)
- Open culverts
- 6-8ft shoulders, on-street parking, limited driveways
- Right Turn Lane (southside only)



Streetscape Changes

Southside: Saxony to Dameron

- Sidewalk widened
- Curb added
- Shoulder removed



Streetscape Changes

Northside: Saxony to Dameron

- Driveway entrances widened and lengthened
- Curb added
- Shoulder removed, on-street parking eliminated
- Lanes shifted northward

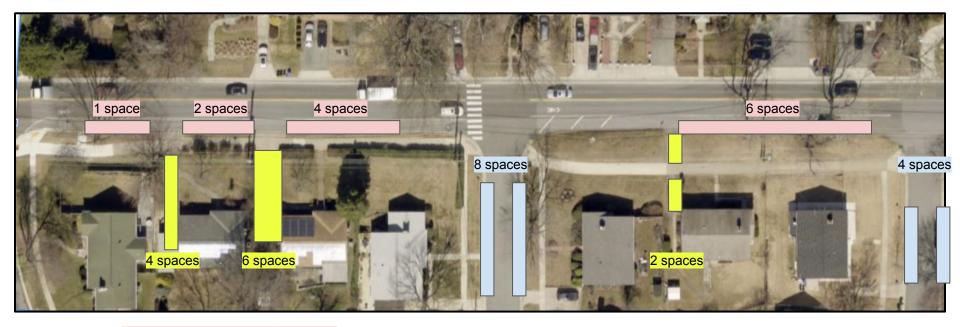
Eastbound:

Bike Lane added



Forest Glen Road Sidewalk Project Southside On-Street Parking

- * Of 13 on-street parking spaces, typically 11-12 spaces are unoccupied
- * Of 12 off-street parking (within 250ft), typically 10 are unoccupied



Southside On-Street Forest Glen Rd

Southside Off-Sured Forest Glen Rd

Southside Driveways on Forest Glen Rd

Forest Glen Road Sidewalk Project Southside On-Street Parking

Repurposing on-street parking for bike lanes will have little impact on vehicle owners as nearby parking utilization rates are low (<24%) and off-street parking parking on Admiralty and Saxony (within 250ft) underutilized

	On-Street Parking	Utilization of On-Street Parking	Off-Street Parking (within 250ft)	Utilization of Off-Street Parking (within 250ft)	Utilization of Off- and On-Street Parking	Utilization if only Off-Street Parking is available
# total spaces	13		12			
	# Occupied	% Occupied	# Occupied	% Occupied	% Occupied	% Occupied
2021	3	23.1%	3	25.0%	24.0%	50.0%
2021	1	7.7%	4	33.3%	20.0%	41.7%
2020	1	7.7%	2	16.7%	12.0%	25.0%
2019	0	0.0%	2	16.7%	8.0%	16.7%
2017	4	30.8%	1	8.3%	20.0%	41.7%
2015	1	7.7%	0	0.0%	4.0%	8.3%
2014	1	7.7%	0	0.0%	4.0%	8.3%
2012	1	7.7%	4	33.3%	20.0%	41.7%
Average	1.5	11.5%	2	16.7%	14.0%	29.2%

Forest Glen Road Sidewalk Project Northside On-Street Parking

- There are currently 5 permit spaces on northside Forest Glen RD
- There are 33 permit parking spots within 500ft walking distance:
 - Dameron Dr (East Side): 20 spots
 - Dameron Dr (West Side): 3 spots
 - Myrtle Rd (North Side): 5 spots
 - Myrtle Rd (South Side): 5 spots
- Planning Board Historic Imagery shows an average 2-3 vehicles parked on Forest Glen Rd spots, with surplus on-site parking and permit street parking on Dameron and Myrtle to accommodate church parking in every case.

Parking History, 2012-2021

ı aık	9 1113	tory, z	012-20	4 1		_			
	Forest C	en Rd		Dameror	n Dr		The second of th	A they	(Marital)
	Legal (5, 100ft)	llegal	On-Site (12)	Nearest (5, 110ft)	FG-HC Resource Center (15, 315ft)	Surplus Parking: (Dameron Available + On-Site Available) - FG Parked		Distance ② 501 ft ▼	tart
2021	1	0	5	2	12	12			
2021	5	1	12	4	15	-5			*
2020	0	0	2	0	15	15		Universal	
2019	0	0	4	2	15	11	Sutradhar Institute of Dance	Evangelical Church	
2017	0	0	5	2	14	11		10	
2015	0	0	6	3	11	12		7 1/2	-
2014	5	3	12	3	8	1			藻
2012	3	3	9	5	5	7		Lawrence & Company	









9.3 Project Development Process

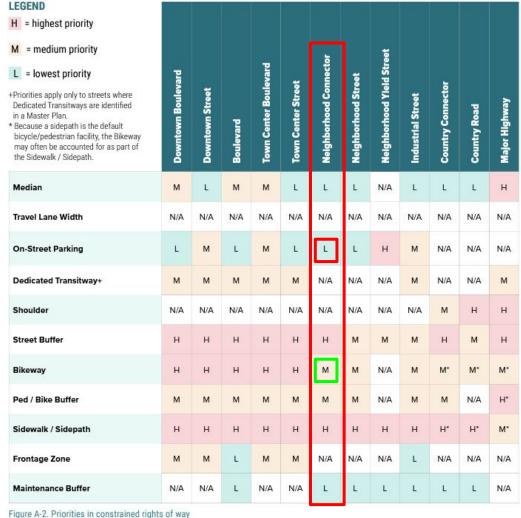


Project Prioritization

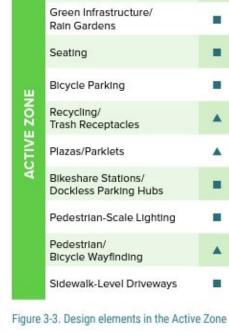
"Most new projects included in the Capital Improvement Program are likely found in master plans and countywide guidance such as this Complete Streets guide. Public resources to implement new projects is limited, given the ongoing costs of planned retrofits, reconstruction, and maintenance activities. Therefore, it is necessary to develop a means of prioritizing how projects would be implemented over time. With Vision Zero a foundational goal of this guide, prioritization should consider the needs of the most vulnerable road users first."



Complete Streets Design Guide A.2 Street Design in Constrained Rights of Way Priorities



Complete Streets Guide Active Zone



LEGEND

Required

Recommended

(Context-Sensitive)

Not Permitted or N/A
 Unless determined

Optional (Context-Sensitive)

otherwise by Planning Board

Trees/Landscaping in buffer

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Neighborhood Street

Yield Street

Neighborhood

Country Connector

Industrial Street

Page Reference

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Major Highway

Country Road

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Complete Streets Guide -Street Zone



Figure 4-3. Guidance for elements in the Street Zone

LEGEND

Complete Streets Required Guide -Street Design **Feature Priories**

	Recommended (Context-Sensitive)
0	Optional (Context-Sensitive)
	Trees/Landscaping in Buffer
	Green Infrastructure/Rain Gardens
	Seating
ä	Bicycle Parking
oz =	Recycling/Trash Receptacles
2	Plazas/Parklets
C	Bikeshare Stations/Dockless Parking Hub
4	Pedestrian-Scale Lighting
	Pedestrian/Bicycle Wayfinding
	Sidewalk-Level Driveways
	Roundabouts (Modern or Mini)
ž	Crossing Islands
Ĕ	Pedestrian Signals (when traffic signals ar
Ë.	Pedestrian Recall on Signals
	Pedestrian Lighting (unless pedestrians a
Ę	Protected Intersections, Bike Boxes, or Tv
	Bicycle Markings/Facilities (when bikeway
	Lane Diet
튲	Road Diet (if volumes meet thresholds for
Ę.	Speed Humps/Cushlons
믕	Speed Tables/Raised Crosswalks
ğ	Raised Intersections
₫	Curb Extensions/Bulb Outs
0	Neckdowns/Chokers
Щ	Traffic Diverters
S	Chicanes/Roadway Curvature
	Textured Paving Treatment
	Green Infrastructure In Median (when me
	Street Trees/Landscaping in Median (whe
뿔	Minimize/Consolidate Driveways
20	Undergrounding Utilities (Master Plan rec
ь	Transit Shelters (where transit routes are p
끮	Loading/Pick-up and Drop-off Zones
SI	Accessible Parking
	Carshare Parking
	E/V Charging Stations

ext-Sensitive) nsitive)	Not Permitted or N/A Unless determined otherwise by Planning Board
Buffer	
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Signals	
	re prohibited, e.g., some Major Highways)
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Driveways	
	commendations supersede this guidance)
	present and boarding thresholds are met)
Drop-off Zones	

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Neighborhoo Yield Street

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Complete Streets Guide Bike Lane

Figure 5-26. Guidance on appropriate bikeway by street type

Street Type	Street Buffer	Ped / Bike Buffers	Default Bikeway Types and Widths*
Downtown Boulevard	8' default, 6' min	6' default, 2' min	Two-Way SBL on both sides of street. (each SBL: 11' default; 8' min)
Downtown Street	6'; 11' if this space is shared with on-street parking	6' default, 2' min	One-way SBL: 6.5' default; 5' min
Boulevard	8' default, 6' min	6' default, 2' min	Sidepaths on both sides of the street. (each sidepath: 11' default; 8' min)
Town Center Boulevard	8' default, 6' min	6' default, 2' min	Two-Way SBL on both sides of street. (each SBL: 11' default; 8' min)
Town Center Street	6'	6' default, 2' min	One-way SBL: 6.5' default; 5' min
Neighborhood Connector	6'	6' default, 2' min	Sidepath on one side of the street: 10' default; 8' min, or Bike Lanes: 6' default, 5' min

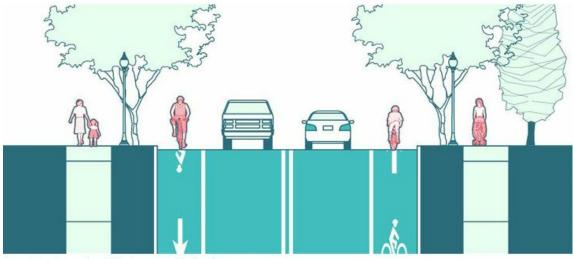


Figure 5-16. Conventional Bike Lane: Neighborhood Connector

Forest Glen Connectivity Limitations - Metro and Neighborhood Access

Expand Capital Bikeshare by infilling nodes between Wheaton and Silver Spring to include Forest Glen Metro, Sligo Creek Trail, and Immediate Neighborhoods.

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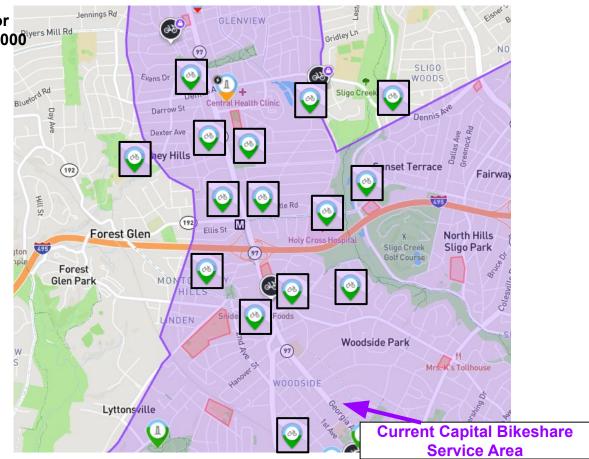
FG Sector Plan - Provide expanded corridor accessibility within 3 mile from serving 90,000 residents.

Recommended new nodes:

- Metro:
 - Forest Glen Metro
- Neighborhoods:
 - Sunset Terrace
 - Montgomery Hills
 - McKinney Hills
 - Forest Grove
 - Sligo Woods
- Shopping Centers
 - Montgomery Hills
- BRT Stops

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- Dexter Ave
- POIs:
 - o General Getty Park
 - Holy Cross Hospital
- Sligo Creek Trail:
 - Dennis
 - Forest Glen



Forest Glen Road Sidewalk Project

Project Web Page:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dot-dte/projects/forestglenrd/index.html

Reference Maps and Notes:

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1m98xexw2hj8pDUoWZDnniA3FZN5WrApgb-XUZBt4Co0/edit?usp=sharing

Key Design Issues:

- The Project design removes almost 2,000 ft of Bike Lanes which were built over 10 years ago.
- These Bike Lanes provide primary local connectivity to Forest Glen Metro and regionally between Sligo Creek Trail/Parkway to Rock Creek Trail/Beech Drive
- Assuming bicyclists will stop using Forest Glen Rd and merge onto the southside sidepath is
 probably wrong; however, those bicyclists that use the sidepath will add conflicts with
 pedestrians on this heavily used sidepath where there are no conflicts today. This design will
 also increase conflicts between bicyclists and drivers as bicyclists cross travel lanes to
 continue to/from Sligo Creek Parkway and Forest Glen Metro from the sidepath.
- It is unreasonable to expect cyclists to cross over the busy road from the north side to use the sidepath on the south side at the Sligo Creek Trail. Therefore, it is expected that most westbound cyclists will continue to bike in the north side traffic lane, even at their peril, even if the bike lane is removed. The design puts bicyclists at greater exposure risk as lanes are narrowed to 10-10.5ft width decreasing the small buffer they use today.
- Lane narrowing without a Bike Lane will be MORE dangerous for the westbound hill climb (5-7% grade) east of Holy Cross main entrance, where bicyclists will be going 5-8mph, drivers will get frustrated (speed limit is 30mph) and attempt to pass, crossing the double yellow lane divider, risking a crash with on-coming eastbound traffic and cutting off or hitting the bicyclist when passing drivers realize they are putting themselves at risk.

Design Objects Inappropriately Prioritized and/or Lack Full Roadway User Scope Consideration

- Per feedback received during the public meeting on June 10, 2021, no one is asking to remove bike lanes, and especially, all residents agreed that on-street parking was not desired.
- Project design needs to consider ALL road users, not just northside pedestrians.
- Design do not support county Vision Zero, needlessly increasing conflicts between drivers and bicyclists, as well as bicyclists and pedestrians.
- Design prioritizes 475ft of on-street parking and 1,000ft of channelized right turn lanes, apparently to optimize free-flowing through traffic, over bicyclist and pedestrian safety.
- Project Design is in conflict with Montgomery County Complete Streets Guide (CSG):
 - CSG prioritizes Bikeways over On-Street Parking in a constrained Right of Way (Figure A-2)
 - CSG policy is to "reduce the speed of turning vehicles to increase the safety of all users at intersections"
 - Channelized right turn lanes "are not recommended for Complete Street intersections and removal of existing channelized right turn lanes should be pursued during road reconstruction projects in locations where pedestrians are permitted."
- Design does not support the <u>Master Plan of Highways and Transitways (MPOHT)</u> target speed of 25mph for roadway (current Posted Speed Limit is 30mph) for Forest Glen Rd by keeping channelized right turn lanes.

Project Design Continuity with Adjacent Roadways

- Project design does not identify boundary connectivity for Sligo Creek Park Facilities
 - East side of the project at the Sligo Creek Trail needs connectivity through to Sligo Creek Parkway and South Four Corners communities. Design should identify pedestrian and bicyclist gaps into and through Sligo Creek Stream Valley and coordinate coincident facility improvements Montgomery Parks Vision Zero planners. This is critical as the northside sidepath over the Sligo Creek Bridge is the only way to access Sligo Creek Parkway for Open Streets with no southside sidewalk.
- Project design does not incorporate <u>Forest Glen Sector Plan (2020)</u> recommendations:
 - Forest Glen Passageway: Building a designated pick-up/drop-off area completely contained on the Forest Glen Medical Center site. This facility will complement future access to the Forest Glen Metro station by way of the planned bicycle and pedestrian passageway project which will be constructed under Georgia Avenue at Forest Glen Road.
 - Creation of a Civic Green Urban Park at Forest Glen Medical Center
 - Enhanced north-south connectivity by building the Woodland Drive Extended which will connect Forest Glen Road to Dennis Avenue.
 - Separation from Pedestrians in Urban Areas: Due to the substantial volumes and meandering travel patterns of pedestrians in urban environments, on-road bikeways (such as separated bike lanes, buffered bike lanes, traditional bike lanes) are recommended instead of shared use paths along roadways. In these urban environments, the speed differential between pedestrian and bicycle traffic on public sidewalks often leads to conflicts and a degradation of quality for both parties. As a result, bicyclists are often reluctant to travel in what is perceived as a pedestrian-only space.
 - Bike share: Stations should also be timed to open with bikeway recommendations identified in the Sector Plan. Bike share stations should be located so that they can provide access to key destinations within the Plan area which include but are not limited to:
 - Forest Glen Metrorail Station
 - Holy Cross Hospital
 - Forest Glen and Montgomery Hills shopping destinations
 - Multi-unit residential sites
 - General Getty Park
 - Sligo Creek Trailheads
 - Planned BRT Stations

Recommended Design Objective Priorities

In re-allocating roadway right of way space to add the northside sidewalk, the project design should follow Complete Streets Design Guide by prioritizing bike lanes over on-street parking and channelized right turn lanes.

Parking utilization of the 17 Forest Glen Rd on-street spaces is very low. All households on Forest Glen Road adjacent to on-street parking have private driveways. Replacement on-street parking for the 17 spaces to be repurposed are consistently available on nearby side roads (Admiralty Dr, Saxony Rd, and Dameron Dr) within 250-500ft.

There are currently over 1,000ft of continuous right turn lane (RTL) between the Holy Cross Hospital Staff Entrance to the Saxony Dr. intersection. The only apparent purpose of this extensive channelized turn lane to enable the free flow of eastbound through traffic. Driver access to Holy Cross Hospital is good with west side access through Dameron Dr, Main Entrance access 350ft east of Dameron Dr, and staff and direct access to the Emergency Room on the east side of the facility. Right-turning traffic from eastbound Forest Glen Rd has significant vehicle storage space (100-250ft) in Holy Cross Hospital parking lanes if backup queues occur entering from the Dameron Dr or Main Entrances; the eastside staff/Emergency Room entrance has over 300ft unobstructed on-site roadway.

Protected Bike Lanes are preferred, but "standard" Bike Lanes are a design option for Neighborhood Connector Roadways according to the Complete Streets Design Guide (CSDG). Standard Bike Lanes offer less protection than Protected Bike Lanes, crash history indicates low the risk of bicyclist/driver injury crashes and 5ft standard Bike Lanes are an improvement over the current 3ft Bike Lanes. Lowering the Posted Speed Limit from 30mph to 25mph will further reduce risk of crash severity risk. Therefore, continuous standard Bike Lanes will provide connectivity with good safety if the Master Plan of Highways and Transitways (MPOHT) 25mph target speed is incorporated into the project design.

Specific Project Design Recommended Changes

- **SC Bridge Segment:** Widen northside Sidewalk, shifting Travel Lanes and existing Bike Lanes south in preparation for transition to HC Bus Stop segment alignment
- **HC Staff Bus Stop Segment:** Wedge street buffer from 5ft northwest side to 0ft northeast side; vary street buffer from 3ft southwest side to 5ft southeast side
- HC Main to Staff Segment: Remove EB Right Turn Lane and southside Parking; keep Bike Lanes and add Sidewalk and Street Buffer northside
- **Dameron Dr to HC Main Segment:** Remove EB Right Turn Lane and northside Parking; keep Bike Lanes and add Sidewalk and Street Buffer northside
- Saxony Rd to Dameron Dr Segment: Remove EB Right Turn Lane; keep Bike Lanes and add northside Sidewalk and Street Buffer
- Admiralty Dr to Saxony Rd Segment: Remove southside Parking; add Bike Lanes and northside Sidewalk and Street Buffer
- Forest Grove Dr to Admiralty Dr Segment: Remove southside Parking; add Bike Lanes and northside Sidewalk and Street Buffer

Summary Streetscape Changes:

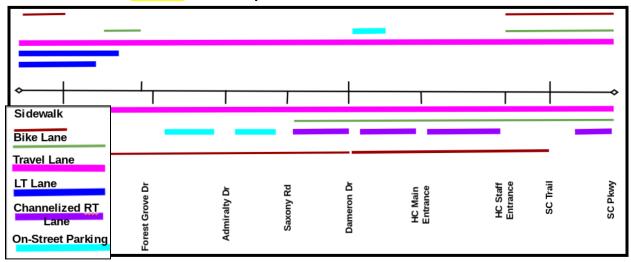
Streetscape Changes: Current to Project Design

	Current		Project Design		
	Northside/WB	Southside/EB	Northside/WB	Southside/EB	Delta
Sidewalks	550	2660	2660	2660	2110
Bike Lanes	500	1610	140	140	-1830
Parking	100	375	100	375	0
Right Turn Lane	0	933	0	933	0

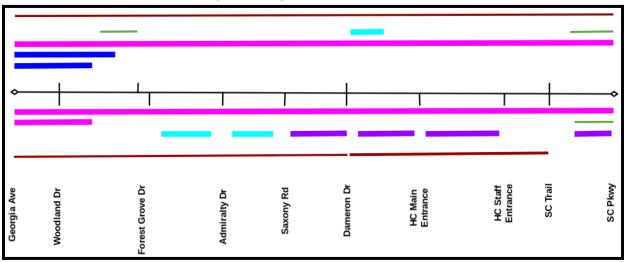
Streetscape Changes: Current to Advocate Proposed

	Current		Advocate Proposed		
	Northside/WB	Southside/EB	Northside/WB	Southside/EB	Delta
Sidewalks	550	2660	2660	2660	2110
Bike Lanes	500	1610	2660	2660	3210
Parking	100	375	0	0	-475
Right Turn Lane	0	933	0	0	-933

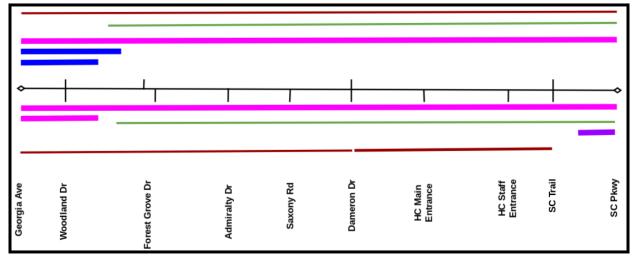
Forest Glen Road Current Streetscape and Facilities



Forest Glen Road Sidewalk Project Design Streetscape and Facilities



Forest Glen Road Sidewalk Avocate Proposed Streetscape and Facilities



Detailed Project Design Concerns:

Specific Project Design Concerns by Roadway Segment

Forest Grove Dr to Admiralty Dr (380ft)

To build the northside 6ft sidewalk and provide a 0-3ft buffer, the curb is moved 6-9ft southward. Travel lane width is reduced to 10.5ft. 2ft WB buffer is removed. Southside parking width is reduced from 10ft to 8ft.

Impacts:

- With no buffer, westbound bicyclists will be forced into WB travel lane slowing traffic for long distances. Drivers will get frustrated and attempt to pass bicyclists crossing the double yellow line. This will be a risky movement in moderate traffic risking a head-on crash or an aborted "pull-in" hitting or cutting off the bicyclist.
- 9ft southside parking serves as a narrow space for EB bicyclists to travel (although in the "door zone"). Narrowing parking and travel lanes will force EB bicyclists into EB travel lanes increasing driver-bicyclist conflicts.
- Bicyclists may attempt to use the south sidepath but crowded conditions will cause conflicts with pedestrians walking to/from Holy Cross Hospital and Forest Glen Metro.

Recommendation: Remove southside Parking; add Bike Lanes and northside Sidewalk and limited Street Buffer; narrow southside Street Buffer from 4ft to 2ft.

Admiralty Dr to Saxony Rd (290ft)

To build the northside 6ft sidewalk and provide a 0-3ft buffer, the curb is moved 6-9ft southward. Travel lane width is reduced to 10.5ft. 3ft WB buffer is removed. Southside parking width is reduced from 10ft to 8ft. Southside curb moved 9-12ft southward.

Impact:

- With no buffer, westbound bicyclists will be forced into WB travel lane slowing traffic for long distances. Drivers will get frustrated and attempt to pass bicyclists crossing the double yellow line. This will be a risky movement in moderate traffic risking a head-on crash or an aborted "pull-in" hitting or cutting off the bicyclist.
- 11ft parking serves as a narrow space for EB bicyclists to travel (although in the "door zone"). Narrowing parking and travel lanes will force EB bicyclists into EB travel lanes increasing driver-bicyclist conflicts. Bicyclists may attempt to use the south sidepath but crowded conditions will cause conflicts with pedestrians walking to/from Holy Cross Hospital.

Recommendation: Remove southside Parking and northside shoulder; add Bike Lanes and northside Sidewalk, if northside Road Buffer is needed, move roadway southward reducing 22ft southside street buffer to 19ft street buffer (which will not be expensive since there is not currently a curb on the southside).

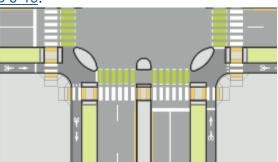
Saxony Rd to Dameron Dr

To build northside 6ft sidewalk and provide a 6ft buffer, the curb is moved 12ft southward. Travel lanes and right turn lane width are reduced to 10ft to 10.5ft. EB Bike Lane is removed. Southside curb was kept close to the current location.

Impacts:

- With no buffer, westbound bicyclists will be forced into WB travel lane slowing traffic for long distances. Drivers will get frustrated and attempt to pass bicyclists crossing the double yellow line. This will be a risky movement in moderate traffic risking a head-on crash or an aborted "pull-in" hitting or cutting off the bicyclist.
- A similar dangerous condition of lack of buffer for eastbound bicyclists. Bicyclists may attempt to use the south sidepath but crowded conditions will cause conflicts with pedestrians walking to/from Holy Cross Hospital.
- Bicyclists electing to stay to the right in the channelized right turn lane will have greater conflicts with right turning traffic onto SB Dameron especially when bicyclists continue eastbound.

Recommendation: Remove EB Right Turn Lane; keep EB Bike Lane, add WB Bike Lane and add northside Sidewalk and Street Buffer. Consider protected intersection at Dameron Dr, reference CSDG Figure 6-19.



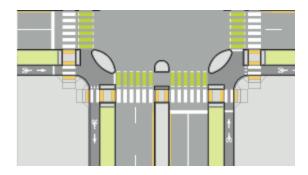
Dameron Dr to HC Main Intersection

To build northside 6ft sidewalk, curb is moved 6ft southward. Existing parking is kept but moved 6ft south and widened 2ft (to a total width 8ft). Travel lanes and right turn lane width is reduced to 10ft to 10.5ft. EB Bike Lane is removed. Southside curb is moved southward 1-2ft narrowing southside buffer.

Impacts:

- With no buffer, westbound bicyclists will be forced into WB travel lane slowing traffic for long distances. Drivers will get frustrated and attempt to pass bicyclists crossing the double yellow line. This will be a risky movement in moderate traffic risking a head-on crash or an aborted "pull-in" hitting or cutting off the bicyclist.
- A similar dangerous condition of lack of buffer for eastbound bicyclists. Bicyclists may stay near the right side of EB travel lane or the right side of the Right Turn Lane causing conflicts with right turning traffic into HC Hospital and with traffic exiting hospital.
- Bicyclists may attempt to use the south sidepath but crowded conditions will cause conflicts with pedestrians walking to/from Holy Cross Hospital.

Recommendation: Remove EB Right Turn Lane and northside Parking; keep Bike Lanes and add Sidewalk and Street Buffer northside. Consider protected intersection at the hospital main entrance, reference <u>CSDG Figure 6-19</u>.



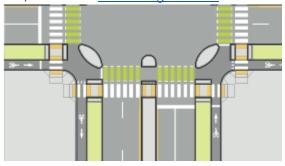
HC Main to Staff Entrances

Design does not change curb to curb width nor does it appear to change the south sidepath of bus stop access. Design shifts roadway 9ft southward to accommodate 6ft sidewalk and 3ft Road Buffer by removing EB Bike Lane, narrowing travel lanes and EB Right Turn Lane.

Impact: Westbound bicyclists climbing from Sligo Creek Stream Valley will be required:

- Share lane with WB travel lane drivers, slowing traffic flow and creating new conflicts with drivers, or,
- Merge northside 5ft sidewalk which is not to standard as a multi-use path creating new conflicts with pedestrians, or,
- A similar dangerous condition of lack of buffer for eastbound bicyclists. Bicyclists
 may stay near the right side of EB travel lane or the right side of the Right Turn
 Lane causing conflicts with right turning traffic into HC Hospital and with traffic
 exiting hospital.
- Bicyclists may attempt to use the south sidepath but crowded conditions will cause conflicts with pedestrians walking to/from Holy Cross Hospital.

Recommendation: Remove EB Right Turn Lane; keep EB Bike Lane and add WB Bike Lane, add northside Sidewalk and add Street Buffer. Removing the block-long RTL, causing right turning drivers to begin their from the travel lane which will reduce the peak speed of the corridor as required by MPOHT target speed (25mph), slowing the entry speed into right turns, and slow speeds through the turn reducing crash severity. Consider protected intersection at the hospital staff entrance, reference CSDG Figure 6-19.



HC Staff Entrance and Bus Stop to Sligo Cross Trail

Design removes both EB and WB Bike Banes and replaces these facilities with a north 6ft sidewalk and 5ft buffer. Design shifts roadway 11ft southward.

Impact:

- Westbound bicvclists climbing from Sligo Creek Stream Valley will be required:
 - Bicyclists will be slowing significantly to 5-7mph due to 5-7% grade hill climb; drivers behind bicyclists in WB Travel Lane will being to queque, slowing traffic flow and creating new conflicts with drivers attempting to pass using narrow Travel Lane, or,
 - Alternatively, bicyclists may merge northside 6ft sidewalk which is not to standard as a multi-use path creating new conflicts with pedestrians, or,
 - Westbound bicyclists may follow project design to merge onto southside sidepath after making dangerous right/left/right turning movement creating numerous conflicts with Sligo Creek Trail and Holy Cross sidepath pedestrians.
 - This design introduces new and dangerous conflicts with drivers at the Sligo Creek Trail intersection which do not exist today. WB bicyclists will have difficulty looking over their shoulder to see WB drivers because their bikes will be facing westward, 180 degrees in the opposite direction of where they need to be looking. Bicyclists may be tempted to keep their momentum for the climb up the hill and not stop with tragic results. Rolling through the intersection is an unsafe and unadvisable bicyclist behavior, but one that is predictable with this dangerous design at an uncontrolled intersection.

Recommendation: Wedge street buffer from 5ft northwest side to 0ft northeast side; vary street buffer from 3ft southwest side to 5ft southeast side, move southside curb 9ft southward southwest side, straighten sidepath from sidewalk to trail junction.

Sligo Creek Bridge

Design removes both WB Bike Lane and EB Bike Lane and replaces them with a sidepath on the northside and travel lane shoulder southside.

Impact:

- Westbound bicyclists moving rapidly from descent into Sligo Creek Stream Valley will be required to:
 - Merge into WB travel lane creating new conflicts with drivers, or,
 - Merge into northside 5ft sidewalk which is not to standard as a multi-use path creating new conflicts with pedestrians
- Westbound bicyclists staying in travel lanes will be exposed to traffic conflicts due to removal of current Bike Lane.
- Eastbound bicyclists on southside sidepath (per design) will be required to merge onto EB travel lanes at relatively slow speeds relative to drivers who are accelerating into stream valley and focused on "making" the green light at Sligo Creek Parkway intersection creating new and dangerous conflicts. All the bicyclist crashes in the past 5 years on the project area occurred between the SC trail intersection and the SC Parkway intersection. The project design exacerbates bicyclist crash exposure.

Recommendation: Widen northside Sidewalk, shifting Travel Lanes existing Bike Lanes southward to transition to HC Bus Stop segment alignment