

Montgomery Planning
**RESOLUTION OF ADOPTION
FOR THE PEDESTRIAN MASTER PLAN**



Description

The Planning Board will review changes made to the Pedestrian Master Plan through the County Council review and approval process and approve the Resolution of Adoption for transmission to the full Commission.



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Report Date

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Planning Board Information

MCPB

Item No. 10

10-26-2023



SUMMARY

This document contains the following information:

- A recommendation to approve the Resolution of Adoption of the Pedestrian Master Plan to be transmitted to the Full Commission
- A list of plan topics discussed and amended through the County Council review and approval process

CONTENTS

PLAN STATUS	3
COUNTY COUNCIL PLAN AMENDMENT TOPICS	4
STAFF RECOMMENDATION	5
NEXT STEPS.....	5
ATTACHMENTS.....	5

PLAN STATUS

The Pedestrian Master Plan is Montgomery Planning's first comprehensive vision to create safer, more comfortable experiences walking or rolling around the county, and to make getting around more convenient and accessible for every pedestrian.

Since the Planning Board voted to transmit the Pedestrian Master Plan to the County Council on May 26, 2023, the following has taken place:

- 1) The County Council held a public hearing on July 25, 2023
- 2) The Transportation and Environment Committee (T&E) held plan work sessions on September 11 and September 18, 2023 and identified potential amendments
- 3) The full County Council held a work session on September 26, 2023 to review and vote on the T&E Committee's recommended amendments
- 4) The full County Council voted unanimously on a resolution of approval for the Pedestrian Master Plan as amended on October 10, 2023

To fully adopt the Pedestrian Master Plan, the Montgomery County Planning Board is required to vote on a Resolution of Adoption, and then transmit the resolution to the Full Commission for approval of a Resolution of Adoption. The Montgomery County Planning Board Resolution of Adoption is Attachment A. The County Council Resolution of Approval is Attachment B.

COUNTY COUNCIL PLAN AMENDMENT TOPICS

The County Council's Pedestrian Master Plan discussion was wide-ranging, but changes to recommendations were limited to the following topics:

1) Potential state action

Modified Key Actions where a state agency is designated as the lead to be less directive.

2) Open Parkways

The Key Action specifying when Beach Drive and Sligo Creek Parkway would be closed to motor vehicle traffic was removed from the plan to allow the Parks Department flexibility on future implementation.

3) Street grid improvements

The Key Action to expand the street grid was modified to focus on building new streets through redevelopment.

4) New county programs to improve the pedestrian network

Language in Key Actions about new programs, such as recommending financial incentives for Homeowner Associations to expand pedestrian connections, were rewritten to identify the provision of technical assistance in addition to funding.

5) State highways

This Key Action was changed from seeking county control of these roads to encouraging the State Highway Administration to facilitate change of state highways by: 1) following local design standards, master plan recommendations, and other policies, and 2) providing feedback on public and private projects within the state right-of-way in a timely manner.

6) Traffic education

Created a new Key Action about annual mailings to county residents about changes to traffic laws.

7) Enforcement

A Key Action about increased in-person traffic enforcement was changed to instead recommend developing a plan for in-person enforcement.

8) Sidewalk materials

The Key Action that recommends constructing the pedestrian clear zone with Portland cement concrete was changed to permit them to be constructed with any material in the MCDOT Design Standards and Specifications.

9) Funding

Some Key Actions identifying additional funding sources for pedestrian projects were removed.

10) Complete Streets Design Guide area types

The plan now notes those Complete Streets Design Guide area classifications that will be confirmed or modified by ongoing master plans.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Approve the Montgomery County Planning Board's Resolution of Adoption for Transmittal to the Full Commission.

NEXT STEPS

After the Planning Board's approval, the Full Commission will review the Resolution of Adoption at their November 15 meeting.

ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment A: MCPB Resolution Number 23-107, M-NCPPC Resolution Number 23-22
- Attachment B: Montgomery County Council Resolution 20-300