

Attachment A: Master Plan of Highways and Transitways – 2025 Technical Update - Racial Equity and Social Justice Statement

The Montgomery County Council passed the Racial Equity and Social Justice Act in November 2019. The act requires the Planning Board to consider the impact of a plan on racial equity and social justice in the county. This is accomplished through changes in policy, practice, and allocation of county resources to ensure that all people have the same rights and opportunities regardless of race, socioeconomic status, age, sex, religion, or other characteristics.

The Master Plan of Highways and Transitways - 2025 Technical Update is primarily implementing the policy direction made by the County Council as part two bills in 2022 (Bill 24-22 and 34-22) that revised the street types and default target speeds identified in Chapter 49 of the County Code, also known as the “Road Code,” to conform to the county’s Complete Streets Design Guide. An amendment to the plan’s scope of work, approved by the Planning Board after the first public hearing, expanded the plan to consider removing the unbuilt sections of Midcounty Highway.

Throughout the planning process, Montgomery Planning has actively sought out opportunities to engage with the public as part of the process. This includes holding public outreach efforts in March through May of 2024. Additional outreach focused on Midcounty Highway extended was also held in October 2024. Outreach has included multiple approaches, including providing e-letters, public meetings (virtual and in person), and an online comment map. Additionally, a public hearing was held in Germantown to provide the community greater opportunities to testify about the proposed removal of the unbuilt sections of Midcounty Highway.

Technical materials have also been developed to make them as accessible as possible. Montgomery Planning created the [Complete Streets Design Guide](#) (CSDG) webpage that provides materials and videos on the concept of Complete Streets and the different types of streets that are identified in the MPHOT. Additionally, the [MPOHT Technical Update](#) webpage has also provided links to public hearings and their associated materials, as well as providing updates on the project status, including engagement efforts.