



THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

2425 Reedie Drive 14th Floor Wheaton, MD 20902

www.MontgomeryPlanning.org

February 10, 2025

Montgomery County Department of Transportation

c/o Angel Cheng

100 Edison Park Drive

Gaithersburg, MD 20878

RE: Forest Glen Pedestrian Passageway

**Forest Conservation Exemption Request, Existing Conditions and Chapter 22A-9 Plan No.
42025123E - Confirmed and Approved**

Dear Angel Cheng,

On February 7, 2025, Montgomery County Planning Department received a Forest Conservation Exemption Application, Existing Conditions Plan and a Chapter 22A-9 Plan for the Forest Glen Pedestrian Passageway. The Application and Plan number is 42025123E. The Plan is submitted with a Mandatory Referral and the project is at the 35% design stage.

The Forest Glen Pedestrian Passageway consists of building a pedestrian tunnel underneath the intersection of Forest Glen Road and Georgia Avenue to provide safe access between the Forest Glen Metro station and the Holly Cross Hospital and neighborhoods on the east side of Georgia Avenue.

A portion of the proposed pedestrian passageway is situated in the northeast quadrant of Georgia Avenue and Forest Glen Road and is within the tract area of approved Forest Conservation Plan No. F20240040. This Forest Conservation Plan is approved for the redevelopment of 9801 Georgia Ave. The Existing Conditions Plan notes that any project disturbance within the tract area of an approved forest conservation plan is not exempt from the forest conservation law and is subject to conditions of an approved forest conservation plan.

On Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) property, in the southwest quadrant of the Georgia Avenue and Forest Glen Road intersection, construction of the passageway will impact canopy trees including significant sized trees. Tree save measures and tree mitigation are proposed on the Chapter 22A-9 Plan. This area of the project is subject to the Forest Conservation Exemption No. 42025123E and is not currently subject to any approved forest conservation plan.

Except for the portion of project within the tract area of the 9801 Georgia Ave's Forest Conservation Plan (Plan No. F20240040), the Forest Glen Pedestrian Passageway is exempt from the forest conservation law. The project meets the Chapter 22A-5(e) and Chapter 22A-9 requirements for a county highway improvement project. The Forest Glen Pedestrian Passageway is part of the Capital Improvements Program (CIP) and part of CIP Project no. 501911. No forest is to be impacted by the project. The Existing Conditions Plans notes the significant trees and tree canopy to be impacted. The Chapter 22-9 Plan shows a 35% design, includes a limit of construction disturbance (LOD),

proposes removal of two significant sized willow oak trees and provides both tree save measures at the LOD and a mitigation tree planting. The Chapter 22A-9 Plan also notes that an updated Chapter 22A-9 Plan is required to be reviewed and approved prior to construction, at the time of sediment control permit.

Forest Conservation Exemption Request No. 42025123E for the Forest Glen Pedestrian Passageway is confirmed. The Existing Conditions Plan and Chapter 22A-9 Plan for this project is approved.

At the time of sediment control permit application, the Applicant is to submit an updated Chapter 22A-9 Plan for the Forest Glen Pedestrian Passageway to the Montgomery County Planning Department for review and approval.

Any changes from the confirmed Forest Conservation Exemption Request and approved Existing Conditions Plan and Chapter 22A-9 Plan may constitute grounds to rescind or amend any approval actions taken and to take appropriate enforcement actions.

Sincerely,



Stephen Peck
Senior Forest Conservation Inspector
Intake and Regulatory Coordination
M-NCPPC - Montgomery County Planning Department

CC: Stacey Young, RK&K