

**MCPB 6/26/25 - Item 11**  
**Correspondence**

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** June 26, 2025 Agenda Item 11, Forest Glen Passageway Mandatory Referral (MR2025019)  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 9:16:10 AM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

**To:** MCP Board

**Hearing date and agenda item:** June 26, 2025 Agenda Item 11,  
Forest Glen Passageway Mandatory Referral (MR2025019)

**Mailing address:**

[REDACTED]  
10203 Julep Court  
Silver Spring, MD, 20909

**My Statement:**

I am writing in support of **Item 11 - Forest Glen Passageway** – The pedestrian tunnel under Georgia Avenue at Forest Glen Road is important for me, as I live east of Georgia avenue and use the metro station for daily commuting. Crossing Georgia is unsafe with the volume and speed of traffic. It's also unsafe for the many people who use the crossing to get to the hospital on the east side of Georgia Ave.

We need this project to stay on track and I urge you to advance construction to FY 2027. This project will make our community and our roads safer for everyone. Nearby communities and those who use this crossing have been waiting for many years for this important safety update.

Regards,  
[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#); [Hedrick, James](#); [Harris, Artie](#); [Linden, Josh](#); [Pedoeem, Mitra](#); [Bartley, Shawn](#)  
**Subject:** Forest Glen Passageway comments Mandatory Referral NO. MR2025019.  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 8:33:40 AM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

I am writing to support the changes to the Forest Glen Passageway, as noted in the Mandatory Referral NO. MR2025019.

For more than two decades I have been working to get a Metro entrance placed on the eastern side of Georgia Avenue. I have testified repeatedly, and I've sat through multitudes of focus groups. I have met with councilmembers, testified to both council and the planning board, and written numerous letters to state officials. The Metro should never have been built without this entrance. It is the only station in the entire system that lacks entrances on both sides of the nearest busy street. Almost immediately after opening the community realized what a problem it was to not be able to access the station easily without navigating one of the busiest and more horribly designed car intersections in the area. It is a beast.

For decades that intersection has been referred to as the intersection of death, a term coined by a former County Council staff member. Many crashes happen here, and many people have moved to my neighborhood to be close to mass transit to discover that there's close and there is safely walkable and the two are not always the same.

I myself cross here numerous times a week, to go to work via the Metro, and to get to many things on the other side of Georgia. I support

I'm glad to see the changes noted in the plan. **Here are the reasons I like this plan:**

1) It includes both stairs and an elevator on the east side. This is essential. At one point it seemed like we were only going to get an elevator, and that would be stupid because the elevator is slow and although it is needed it would be good to allow those who can use stairs to gain access. Right now the community has no elevator here, and you have to walk or roll a VERY LONG distance to get to the entrance if you need to avoid stairs. That means anyone with a walker, a cane, a wheelchair, a bike -- they all have to go very far down and double back and that's just awful. Thanks for addressing that need. It is worth pointing out that **there currently is NOT AN ELEVATOR from the street to the station AT ALL.**

2) This new design addresses some concerns that had been raised about the existing stairwell across the street, which is good. That old stairwell is awful, and is the main way people get access to the station.

3) I like that this plan will make the entrance mesh with plans for sidewalk enhancements. I am anxious to see the sidewalks added to many spots around this station, including along Forest Glen on the north side.

**I do have one concern:**

I would like to see this plan include a recommendation that the passageway can be used even without using the Metro itself. People in the neighborhood need to be able to traverse this easily and allowing folks the ability to walk through even if they are not using Metro would make this enhancement really worth the cost.

Thanks for considering my thoughts and thanks for being leaders who listen.

[REDACTED]

1826 Brisbane Court  
Silver Spring, MD 20902

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** Hearing date 6/26, item 11  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 10:25:32 AM

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[EXTERNAL EMAIL] Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

I am writing in hopes that the underground pedestrian walkway across Georgia to the Forest Glen metro station be approved and scheduled as soon as possible- 2027, sooner if possible m, to ensure the safety of all of us living in the Forest Estates neighborhood and commuting into work daily. This is my written testimony - individual and siding with the Forest estates neighbors. Thank you

[REDACTED]  
1504 Sanford Rd  
Silver spring, Md, 20902

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** June 26, 2025 Agenda Item 11, Forest Glen Passageway Mandatory Referral (MR2025019)  
**Date:** Monday, June 23, 2025 10:14:34 PM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Good Evening:

I am [REDACTED]. I reside at 1811 Sherwood Rd., Silver Spring, MD 20902. I want to request that Forest Glen Passageway (June 26, 2025, agenda item 11, MR2025019) be fast-tracked to allow for its completion sooner than the currently anticipated FY 2030 projected conclusion date. It is a much-needed project, especially in light of Vision Zero. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** Written Testimony - June 26, 2025 Agenda Item 11, Forest Glen Passageway Mandatory Referral (MR2025019)  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 11:12:31 AM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

- **Hearing date and agenda item:** June 26, 2025 Agenda Item 11, Forest Glen Passageway Mandatory Referral (MR2025019)

I write to support the construction of this pedestrian passageway as soon as possible. The existing street grade crossing at Forest Glen Road and Georgia Avenue is dangerous for pedestrians and drivers alike. It is one of the highest vehicle volume intersections on the state of Maryland. Changes are needed as soon as possible before there are additional injuries or preventable deaths here. Our communities need safety mobility options for all and resiliency against climate change. This project provides both. I request that the planning board approve expedited construction.

[REDACTED]  
1714 Belvedere Blvd  
Silver Spring, MD 20902

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 11 for June 26 hearing  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 11:01:30 AM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

To The Councilmembers:

I am writing in regards to the June 26, 2025 hearing, specifically Agenda Item 11: Forest Glen Passageway Mandatory Referral (MR2025019). I live in the nearby neighborhood at 1719 Dublin Dr, Silver Spring, MD 20902.

My statement is as follows:

I urge you all to take all action necessary to speed the development of the underground pedestrian walkway from the northeast corner of the Georgia Ave/Forest Glen intersection to the Forest Glen Metro station. There are hundreds of people who use the metro every day and must cross Georgia Ave during rush hour to get to work and back home again. The intersection has a well-earned reputation for being exceptionally dangerous for pedestrians. There are multiple traffic light sequences, cars careening off of the Beltway trying to merge over a lane to go north on Georgia, no divider in between the six plus lanes, and it's totally chaotic for cars, much less walkers.

It's essential that this walkway be developed with all haste and no further delay. Someone right now is walking around who one day could be the next fatality at that intersection... unless this tunnel gets built. Please keep in mind the importance of public transportation, safety, and your civic duty.

Thank you very much,

[REDACTED]

1719 Dublin Dr.

Silver Spring, MD 20902

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** Forest Glen passageway plan  
**Date:** Saturday, June 21, 2025 11:45:39 AM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Dear Mr. Harris,

I live in Forest Glen Station so this project directly impacts our neighborhood.

Is there going to be access to the Beltway during this project?

is there a written traffic plan for overflow traffic during the project that I can access?

how long is this project going to take to complete?

Overall, I think this is a great project for safety reasons because it is so dangerous to turn left heading north on George Avenue onto Forest Glen Rd. when a pedestrian is crossing the street

*Thank you,*

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** Forest Glen Pedestrian Passageway (MR2025019) June 26, 2025  
**Date:** Monday, June 23, 2025 7:10:39 PM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Dear Mr. Chairperson:

I am writing to express my view that the Planning Board **not** support and move forward with any additional funding for the Forest Glen Passageway.

An important role of elected and appointed officials. at any level of government. is to act as a fiduciary for the citizens that are paying the taxes that pay for the projects, such as this.

The County has been dealing with and will continue to deal with significant budget pressures. Of that, there is no question.

This project, currently estimated at over \$44 Million, will likely cost significantly more as County presenters have publicly stated in their presentations. Given the high likelihood of a project costing over \$50 plus Million, to be funded by G.O. Bonds, which will add to the long term debt burden of the County and increase its long term debt interest service by over \$2 Million per year going forward until the bonds are repaid. This is not fiducially responsible for a project that is not mission critical to the County.

I have lived in Forest Grove on the east side of Georgia for 40 years and have significant experience in crossing Georgia Avenue, on foot ,at all hours of the day. Traffic is an issue, no question. The answer is rethinking the surface crossing. An example of such an approach is what DC implements in Chinatown prior to Capital One events. Traffic is stopped in all directions every couple of minutes and pedestrians cross the street , even diagonally. This could be done at peak hours of crossing activity and revert to normal cycles outside those hours. Also, more visible crosswalks(brighter lines and solid color similar to what is done for bike lanes) would aid in awareness. All this would be a financially responsible and proactive approach to addressing the concerns of residents.

Additionally, I do not think that this project should be brought forward without full integration in to the 9801 Georgia site planning as the duration of construction will be intolerable to adjacent community residents.

Thanks you for your time in reading and to your consideration of these comments .

Very best regards,



9810 Forest Grove Drive  
Silver Spring, MD

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** Statement re: June 26, 2025 Hearing, Agenda Item 11, Forest Glen Passageway Mandatory Referral (MR2025019)  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 2:30:08 PM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Re: June 26, 2025 Hearing, Agenda Item 11, Forest Glen Passageway Mandatory Referral (MR2025019)

Mailing Address: 1909 August Drive, Silver Spring, MD 20902

To the Montgomery County Planning Board,

As pedestrians who use the Forest Glen metro several times a week, we urge you to fund the Forest Glen Passageway and begin construction as soon as possible. Our community has waited for years for this project to get started, and while it has been delayed, traffic has increased on Georgia Avenue. It is very dangerous to walk across Georgia Avenue, especially during rush hour. I worry that further delaying this project will risk pedestrian injuries and even fatalities in the coming years. Building the passageway will also encourage greater use of public transport, which we care deeply about given the effects of climate change.

Thank you for your consideration.

[REDACTED]  
1909 August Drive, Silver Spring, MD 20902

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** Comment submission on 6/26/25 Meeting, Item 11 - Forest Glen Passageway  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 2:29:48 PM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

To the Chair and members of the Montgomery County Planning Board:

My name is [REDACTED], and for the past 11 years my family and I have lived in the Forest Estates neighborhood of Silver Spring. I am writing in support of Item 11 on the public meeting for June 26, 2025, the Forest Glen Passageway Mandatory Referral.

The Montgomery County Council first voted in favor of a new pedestrian tunnel for the Forest Glen Metro in December 2008, after several serious incidents including pedestrian deaths at Georgia Ave. Since then, the project has faced delay after delay, including in this year's county capital budget proposals. Under the current schedule, the county will complete building a 334-foot tunnel in FY2030, some 22 years after approving the idea.

I support the recommendations of your staff to refer the updated plan with comments to the county Department of Transportation. I also write to urge you to raise the priority of this project back to the level it deserves, and push to begin construction as soon as feasible. The safety reasons that sparked this project have only grown more acute since the traffic studies in this proposal were completed; no other Metro station in the entire tri-state area has a similarly dangerous approach for so many of its pedestrians. Since 2008 our county's commitments to walkable neighborhoods and lowering carbon emissions has increased, yet if given a choice between having to cross eight lanes of Beltway-adjacent Georgia Ave. on foot or driving a few minutes to the Forest Glen Metro, I expect many who would be served by this tunnel divert to the safest option.

We as a county decided long ago that the status quo of foot traffic this location was not acceptable, and your staff and others have gathered all the data and planning necessary to make a change for the better. We need to honor that commitment and move this project ahead with the urgency it deserves — to save lives, improve transit access and make Montgomery County a better place to live.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]  
1711 Woodman Ave, Silver Spring, MD 20902

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** Written testimony for 6/26 Hearing, Item #11  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 11:49:15 AM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Written Testimony  
6/26 Hearing, Item #11

**June 26 – Item 11 – Forest Glen Passageway Mandatory Referral  
(MR2025019)**

[REDACTED]  
1702 Sherwood Rd  
Silver Spring, MD 20902

I'm writing to implore you to expedite the construction of the planned tunnel under Georgia Avenue for the Forest Glen Metro station for FY 2027. As a resident who lives on the east side of Georgia and commutes to work using the Metro, I frequently have to cross the dangerous intersection at Georgia and Forest Glen. While I am always very cautious, I have been nearly hit by a car several times, as there are often cars trying to turn right that disregard the crosswalk and crossing signals. Also, the walk sign turns on right after the green turn arrow onto southbound Georgia ends and I have seen up to three cars run the red arrow, plowing right through the active cross walk.

The proximity of this intersection to the beltway and the important role Georgia Avenue plays as a commuter route to DC sets up inevitable conflicts between car commuters and those trying to use mass transit. This intersection has one of the highest rates of accidents of any intersection near a metro station. Additional high density housing is planned near the Forest Glen metro, which I fully support, but until the safety issues with this intersection are resolved, increasing the number

of metro-riding residents in this area will only increase the opportunity for tragic conflicts between the car and metro commuters during rush hour.

Please consider moving construction of this project forward in FY 2027 or at least do everything possible to keep this project on its current schedule without additional delays. It is of critical importance to the community surrounding this dangerous intersection and we have been waiting for it for far too long.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

1702 Sherwood Rd

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** Hearing date and agenda item: June 26, 2025 Agenda Item 11, Forest Glen Passageway Mandatory Referral (MR2025019)  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 2:30:15 PM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

To Whom It May Concern:

Thank you for your time and consideration in helping to make our community safe and accessible for all.

Given the community's long wait and the daily safety concerns for pedestrians, I firmly believe that construction on the Forest Glen Passageway should begin sooner, ideally in FY 2027, to deliver these much-needed improvements without further delay.

I would like to emphasize the need for this project to stay on track and, if possible, for construction to be advanced to FY 2027. Our community has waited long enough for this project to be about safety and accessibility, and it should be a priority.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

1609 Myrtle Road

Silver Spring, MD 20902-5722

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** June 26, 2025 Agenda Item 11, Forest Glen Passageway Mandatory Referral (MR2025019)  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 2:30:06 PM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

**To:** MCP Board

**Hearing date and agenda item:** June 26, 2025 Agenda Item 11, Forest Glen Passageway Mandatory Referral (MR2025019)

**Mailing address:**

[REDACTED]  
10203 Julep Court  
Silver Spring, MD, 20909

**My Statement:**

I am writing in support of **Item 11 - Forest Glen Passageway** – The pedestrian tunnel under Georgia Avenue at Forest Glen Road is important for me, as I live east of Georgia avenue and use the metro station for daily commuting. Crossing Georgia is unsafe with the volume and speed of traffic.

I need this project to stay on track and, if possible, for construction to be advanced to FY 2027.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** Written Testimony for June 26, 2025 Montgomery County Planning Board - Agenda Item 11  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 2:29:57 PM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Hello,

I am providing the below written testimony for agenda item 11, "Forest Glen Passageway Mandatory Referral (MR2025019)," during the June 26, 2025 Montgomery County Planning Board Meeting. My address is 10009 Forest Grove Dr., Silver Spring, MD 20902.

My husband uses the Forest Glen metro to get to work, and I worry about his safety crossing Georgia Ave & Forest Glen. That intersection is a tragedy waiting to happen. Out of concern for his safety, I often drive to pick him up from the metro, even though we live a 10 minute walk away. The passageway is critical to the safety of my family and our metro-riding neighbors. Given its widespread support in our community, it's unfathomable to me that this project has been delayed for years and is now facing even further delays. Why?! Who is delaying this critical project? This needs to get built before someone in my neighborhood becomes a statistic. Easier access to the metro will also relieve traffic in the area, which benefits everyone. There are no conceivable downsides to this project.

Build it now. Please, no more delays.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** Written Testimony for June 26, 2025 The Montgomery County Planning Board Agenda Item 11  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 2:29:51 PM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Hello,

I am writing regarding Item 11 "Forest Glen Passageway Mandatory Referral (MR2025019)" during the June 26, 2025 Montgomery County Planning Board Meeting.

My address is: 10009 Forest Grove Dr, Silver Spring, MD 20902

I urge you to approve this project and expedite funding, construction, and completion, ideally in FY 2027 or before. I use the Forest Glen metro station daily. After more than a dozen years commuting by metro across this region, the intersection at George Ave is without a doubt the most dangerous crossing I've experienced in the entire system. It is a question of when, not if, an injury - or worse - will occur.

This project is vital to public safety, has unwavering support from the community, and has already faced numerous years-long delays, including the deeply disappointing decision by the Council in May to delay this project yet again. Approve this project and get it built!

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MCP-Chair](#)  
**Subject:** Item 11 Forest Glen Passageway Mandatory Referral (MR2025019)  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 25, 2025 2:13:24 PM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Apologies for the late submission.

This entrance is long overdue and is of vital importance to the safety of all the commuters who use it every day. My wife uses the metro to commute to work and has had many close calls with cars that run the red light at that intersection, she made a police complaint only in May after one such incident where someone turned right in a hurry from Georgia when the pedestrian crossing light was on.

I believe delaying this any further will only endanger more people and cause another rise in the cost of construction. It will also vitally improve the traffic flow which is important due to its proximity to the beltway.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

1701 Belvedere Boulevard,  
Silver Spring, MD20902