



MONTGOMERY COUNTY PLANNING BOARD
THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

May 13, 2021

Mr. Christopher Conklin, PE, Director
Montgomery County Department of Transportation
Executive Office Building
101 Monroe Street, 10th Floor
Rockville, Maryland 20850

SUBJECT: Project Briefing: Washington Grove Connector and Crabbs Branch Way Extension: Facility planning studies for new trail connection and planned road extension, *Shady Grove Master Plan, Shady Grove Minor Master Plan Amendment*

Dear Mr. Conklin:

At its regularly scheduled meeting on April 29, 2021, the Montgomery County Planning Board received a briefing from Montgomery County Department of Transportation on the Washington Grove Connector and Crabbs Branch Way Extension projects. The Planning Board has provided the following comments:

1. Washington Grove Connector Alternative #3 (Brown Street) should be advanced as the preferred trail alignment. This trail should be designed to county typical standards, including a trail width of ten feet with 2-foot wide unpaved, graded shoulders, and with no obstructions within two feet of the trail edge. We concur with Alternative #3 as the most cost-effective and therefore practicable and desirable alignment in the near term, and we support connectivity through the Meadow. We also concur with the planned inclusion of the Picea Court Connector as an additional bicycle/pedestrian improvement, either as part of this project or as a separate project.
2. A paved trail connection between Amity Drive and Crabbs Branch Way should be built in the interim (until the Crabbs Branch Way Extension project is constructed) along the planned Crabbs Branch way Extension alignment.
3. The cross section used to design the Crabbs Branch Way Extension should use the Neighborhood Connector street type presented in the Complete Streets Design Guidelines.
4. MCDOT should come back for a second briefing for the Crabbs Branch Way Extension project once significant study and conclusions are reached for this facility planning study.

5. Any trail or roadway alignments pursued are required to proceed through Montgomery Parks Concept Review process and Park Construction Permit Review and Approval prior to any construction.

The Planning Board appreciates the opportunity to review this project and continue coordinating with your staff on future projects. If you have questions, please contact Stephen Aldrich at 301-495-4528 or Stephen.Aldrich@montgomeryplanning.org.

Sincerely,



Casey Anderson
Chair

cc: Stephen Aldrich, Master Planner, M-NCPPC
Jason Sartori, Chief, M-NCPPC
Kyle Lucacs, MCDOT
Corey Pitts, MCDOT
Dan Sheridan, MCDOT

Enclosure:
M-NCPPC Staff Briefing Staff Report

CA:SA:aj