

# City of Takoma Park, Maryland

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*Talisha Searcy, Mayor*

February 20, 2026

Director Chris Conklin  
Montgomery County Department of Transportation  
101 Monroe St #10  
Rockville, MD 20850

RE: New Hampshire Flash Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project

Dear Mr. Conklin,

On behalf of the City of Takoma Park, I write to support the New Hampshire Avenue Flash Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project on MD-650. The New Hampshire Avenue corridor is home to our biggest commercial district, as well as the City's Recreation Center, multiple houses of worship, and a wide range of housing that supports some of the most diverse parts of our community. The staff supports the BRT hybrid option, with two requests: 1) that the design details address the requirements of the Takoma Park New Hampshire Avenue Bikeway project, and 2) that the synergies of construction of the BRT and the Bikeways project be considered whenever possible.

The City of Takoma Park has strongly supported the County's plans for BRT on New Hampshire Avenue for many years, along with other key investments in transit for the area such as the Purple Line and the Takoma/Langley Transit Center. The New Hampshire Avenue Corridor Concept plan, adopted by the City in 2008, specifically calls for a pedestrian-friendly, multi-way boulevard, envisioning "a rapid bus route with limited stops and frequency" for New Hampshire Avenue.

The City requests that, as the design details are developed, the BRT project incorporates the existing plans to build the New Ave Bikeway, a two-directional separated bike path that would extend along the southbound side of New Hampshire Avenue, between Holton Lane and Poplar Avenue, before connecting to DC through Takoma Park neighborhood streets. Since 2016, the City has spent over \$1,600,000 to achieve final designs for the New Ave Bikeway, sections A & B. City staff has worked with the project team throughout the BRT study and shared the final designs for the New Ave Bikeway to be considered in project development. The City requests that synergies of construction for the BRT and the New Ave Bikeway sections A & B be considered to improve the efficiency and cost of both initiatives. For your convenience, here is the link to our project web page, which includes the most up-to-date, publicly available designs for all sections of the project: <https://takomaparkmd.gov/1524/New-Avenue-Bikeway>.

## **Attachment C - City of Takoma Park Letter of Support**

The provision of high-quality, fast, and efficient bus service moves the City toward a number of its goals to improve safe, connected transportation networks and decrease racial equity disparities. We look forward to the success of the BRT project on New Hampshire Avenue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. Searcy".

Talisha Searcy  
Mayor