

Sayers, Margery

From: Jung, Deb
Sent: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 2:13 PM
To: Sayers, Margery
Subject: FW: Columbia Flier Building Resolution has NO Easement for Continued Access in Wilde Lake Village

Deb Jung

Council Chair, District 4
3430 Court House Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043
410-313-2001

Sign up for my newsletter [here](#).



From: Larry Schoen <larryschoen@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, December 7, 2020 3:55 PM
To: Jung, Deb <djung@howardcountymd.gov>; Rigby, Christiana <crigby@howardcountymd.gov>; Sidh, Sameer <ssidh@howardcountymd.gov>; Cabellon, Angela <acabellon@howardcountymd.gov>
Cc: Kevin McAliley <klmcaliley@gmail.com>
Subject: Fwd: Columbia Flier Building Resolution has NO Easement for Continued Access in Wilde Lake Village

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Deb, Christiana, Sam and Angela:

Please work towards getting the **ped/bike easement on the "Flier" property** to continue off-road public access from Wilde Lake Village Center to the new traffic signal at LPP, as described below and in the attached documents, regarding Council Resolution 174-2020.

Council Resolution 174-2020 - A RESOLUTION pursuant to Section 4.201 of the Howard County Code, authorizing the County Executive's sale of real property known as the "Flier Building" owned by Howard County, Maryland, containing approximately 2.159 acres, and located at 10750 Little Patuxent Parkway, Maryland; waiving the advertising and bidding requirements of Section 4.201 of the Howard County Code so that the property can be listed with Chartwell Enterprises; and providing that the County Executive is not bound to sell the property if he finds that it may have a further public use. (No expiration date) C

Thanks
Larry

Larry Schoen, P.E., chair Howard County Multimodal Transportation Board
work: 410-730-9797

mobile: 410-340-1525
larryschoen@gmail.com

Begin forwarded message:

From: <klmcaliley@gmail.com>
Subject: [bikehoco] URGENT: Columbia Flier Building Resolution has NO Easement for Continued Access in Wilde Lake Village
Date: December 7, 2020 at 1:31:26 PM EST
To: <board@bikehoco.org>
Reply-To: board@bikehoco.org

Hi team,

I found that the easement we were told existed through the Columbia Flier property protecting the rights of pedestrians and others using the Wilde Lake Middle School Trail to access Little Patuxent Parkway and Downtown Columbia from Wilde Lake Village Center and the schools, does not exist.

I also found that the Columbia Flier Building Resolution will be up for a vote Monday night 12-7-20 at 7pm during the County Council legislative meeting. It is too late to sign-up to testify live.

The only option at this late date is to email County Executive Ball cball@howardcountymd.gov and the entire County Council councilmail@howardcountymd.gov to amend the resolution for passage and insert the following now:

“AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Executive shall not convey the Property unless the purchaser agrees to establish and mark for the public an easement for a trail that connects through the Property to Wilde Lake Middle School.”

At your earliest convenience, please let me know if you have any concerns with me sending this request on behalf of Bike HoCo or if any of you are able to send an email. I am sending an email on behalf of the Wilde Lake Village Board of Directors (see sample below).

You are each more than welcome to send a similar email and ask other residents and groups to send an email.

The WL board and residents have sought public accessibility from the WL Village Center and WL schools to Little Patuxent for years and now that the official trail (or pathway) exists, it would be unfortunate to lose that access if a purchaser of the Columbia Flier property chose to close off the route.

Thanks in advance for your prompt response.

Respectfully,
Kevin

Kevin McAliley
Bike HoCo, Board of Directors member
410-336-6593 cell/text
klmcaliley@gmail.com

Some history:

I am not sure why during the public meetings and question and answer sessions over the years, the easement for access was always responded to with an affirmative. Eventually it has been stated that the easement existed for this popular community running and cycling access point for students from the New Downtown Columbia to their future middle and high school via the Downtown Columbia Trail [Downtown Columbia Trail - Toole Design](#); the Howard County Striders weekly runs; personal trainer Darrell Gough's Basic Training Class (Basic Pals) runs; Howard County Cycle2Health bicycle rides (Larry Schoen uses this trail for his popular senior tours); and so many others.

Unintentionally closing off access to the public through this property has been a concern and presented at numerous budget hearings from many groups. Thankfully, Howard County Office of Transportation's Chris Eatough has been an advocate for the connectivity between Wilde Lake Village Center and Little Patuxent Parkway since the pathway's very first brainstorming accessibility walking tour and its eventual inception (even geo-positioning it online).

Howard Community College board and leaders are the guest presenters at the Monday, 12-7-20 Wilde Lake Village Board meeting at 6:30pm where they will be showing plans for the new Math and Athletic Building. We will be discussing Wilde Lake Village students, adults and youth to their campus via continued access and usage through the Columbia Flier Building property. College staff were also on the initial walking tours and implementation of the Wilde Lake Middle School Trail due to their desire for accessibility and receptivity of the renovated WL Village Center to their college campus. The village center offers their students and faculty pedestrian and cycling access to personal and business services from restaurants to UPS (a commercial zone bringing vibrancy to WL). The Howard County Office of Transportation has even had discussions with the college station, WL, Vista Apartments and Kimco regarding possible future Bike Share mobility between these locations via the Columbia Flier Property access point.

In case no one has seen it recently, here is a picture of the official Howard County budgeted, approved and built pathway (approximately \$40K because of the accompanying sustaining wall and fencing) that efficiently and effectively leads the Howard County Community Outreach Police units (via bicycle and all-terrain vehicles) to Wilde Lake Middle School, Wilde Lake High School, Wilde Lake Village Center, The Rouse Theatre, The Columbia Swim Center, The Columbia Tennis Club, Vista Wilde Lake Apartments, Enterprise's Roslyn Rise Apartments, Slayton House Theatre, Wilde Lake Community Association, and numerous highly attended after-school events, from their headquarters location directly across the street from the old Columbia Flier Building on Little Patuxent Parkway [Howard County, Maryland > Departments > Police > Community Outreach \(howardcountymd.gov\)](#).

Sample Email:

Dear Howard County Executive Calvin Ball and Howard County Council,

It has come to my/our attention that Council Resolution 174-2020, authorizing the County Executive sale of real property known as the "Flier Building," does not contain language that grants the rights of residents, pedestrians, community police, students, runners, cyclists and other existing users to continued access through the property from the ADA compliant Wilde Lake Middle School Trail (GPS Maps pathway listing).

Please add the suggested amendment to the resolution regarding an accessibility easement.

Thank you,
Concerned Resident (Your Name and address)

Regarding:

General

Council Resolution 174-2020 - A RESOLUTION pursuant to Section 4.201 of the Howard County Code, authorizing the County Executive's sale of real property known as the "Flier Building" owned by Howard County, Maryland, containing approximately 2.159 acres, and located at 10750 Little Patuxent Parkway, Maryland; waiving the advertising and bidding requirements of Section 4.201 of the Howard County Code so that the property can be listed with Chartwell Enterprises; and providing that the County Executive is not bound to sell the property if he finds that it may have a further public use. (No expiration date)

Proposed:

Amendment ____ to Council Resolution No. 174-2020

BY: Deb Jung

Legislative Day No. ____

Date: _____

Amendment No. ____

(This Amendment would set terms and conditions on the final sale of the Flier Building.)

On page 2, at line 13, insert:

“AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Executive shall not convey the Property unless the purchaser agrees to establish and mark for the public an easement for a trail that connects through the Property to Wilde Lake Middle School.”



Image of the official Wilde Lake Middle School Trail

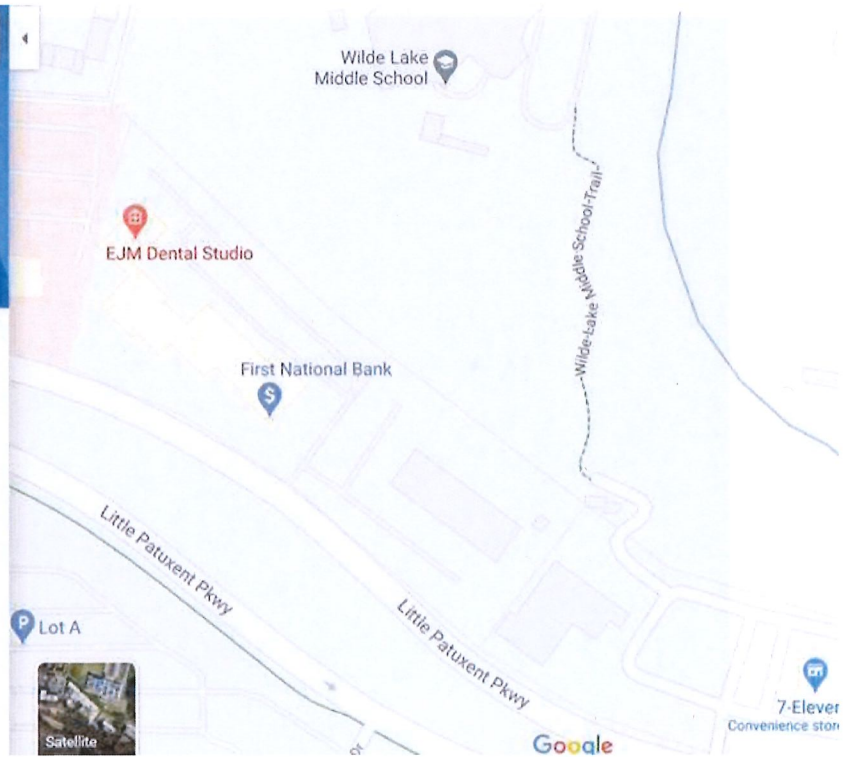


Wilde Lake Middle School Trail

Columbia, MD 21044

- Directions
- Save
- Nearby
- Send to your phone
- Share

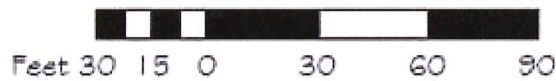
- Report a problem on Wilde Lake Middle School Trail
- Add a missing place
- Add your business



Google Maps WLMS Trail



Connection Between the
Downtown Columbia Trail
and Wilde Lake
Village Center



Sign Number	
1	W
2	D.
3	W
4	D.
5	W
6	D.
7	W
8	D.
9	W
10	S.
11	H.
12	H.

Signage suggested by County for Wilde Lake Connectivity via pathway through Flier property.

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You received this message because you are subscribed to the Google Groups "Bike HoCo Board of Directors Mail List" group.

To unsubscribe from this group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to board+unsubscribe@bikihoco.org.

Sayers, Margery

From: Warren Wortman <wortmanwj@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 10:53 AM
To: CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin B
Subject: Columbia Flier Building

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear County Executive Ball and the Howard County Council,

I'm writing to offer my support for making sure that the Columbia Flier property includes an easement to ensure the continued use of the shared use pathway that connects Little Patuxent Parkway and Downtown Columbia from Wilde Lake Village Center and the schools through the building's parking lot.

Please amend the resolution for passage and insert the following:

“**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the County Executive shall not convey the Property unless the purchaser agrees to establish and mark for the public an easement for a trail that connects through the Property to Wilde Lake Middle School.”

Thank you! These easements and multi-use pathway connections are great ways to ensure safe ways to move around the county, and losing access to this connection would be unfortunate.

If anything, we should be continually looking for where easements like this can exist to create low-stress, low-traffic alternatives to main thoroughfares.

Best,

Warren Wortman
Oakland Mills Resident

Sent from my iPhone

Sayers, Margery

From: Lynn Foehrkolb <lfoehrkolb@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, December 7, 2020 8:17 PM
To: Ball, Calvin; CouncilMail
Subject: Council Resolution 174-2020

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear County Executive Ball and the Howard County Council,

I'm writing to offer my support for making sure that the Columbia Flier property includes an easement to ensure the continued use of the shared use pathway that connects Little Patuxent Parkway and Downtown Columbia from Wilde Lake Village Center and the schools through the building's parking lot.

Please amend the resolution for passage and insert the following:

“AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Executive shall not convey the Property unless the purchaser agrees to establish and mark for the public an easement for a trail that connects through the Property to Wilde Lake Middle School.”

Thank you! These easements and multi-use pathway connections are great ways to ensure safe ways to move around the county, and losing access to this connection would be unfortunate.

If anything, we should be continually looking for where easements like this can exist to create low-stress, low-traffic alternatives to main thoroughfares.

Thank you,

Lynn Foehrkolb
Chairperson
Town Center Community Association

Sayers, Margery

From: Chris Tsien <chrisbike@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, December 7, 2020 4:32 PM
To: Ball, Calvin; CouncilMail
Subject: Council Resolution 174-2020

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Mr County Executive

It has belatedly come to my attention (I have been out of town) that the referenced Resolution will be up for consideration tonight! You know that I have been a consistent voice supporting active transportation in Howard County. This Resolution hits particularly close to home; I live in Running Brook and often use the path from Wilde Lake Village Center, past the Flier building, to Little Patuxent, not only by bicycle, but also on foot.

The resolution has a significant flaw, to wit: it does not provide for continued access through the subject Flier property from Wilde Lake Village Center to Little Patuxent Parkway and beyond to HCC.

Many, whether residents, community police, students, pedestrians, runners, cyclists and others use the existing path from Wilde Lake Middle School to LPP and HCC. That use must be preserved. It is a critical link between HCC and Wilde Lake Village Center for active users. Howard County built (or at least paid for) that link, one that the Police find desirable. Frankly, Bicycling Advocates of Howard County has been pushing first to create and then to preserve that connection for years now. To find such concerns ignored at this late moment is more than a bit disquieting; one hopes it was simply an easily corrected oversight.

Allow me to suggest the following amendment to the Resolution:

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Executive shall not convey the Property unless the purchaser agrees to establish, mark, and maintain for the public a permanent easement over and through the Property for at least a ten (10) foot wide trail that connects through the Property to Wilde Lake Middle School.

This County has done much to look forward, so to overlook preserving an important link providing a low-stress alternative to busy thoroughfares should not be what this County now does.

Thank you

Christopher Tsien

"It is by riding a bicycle that you learn the contours of a country best, since you have to sweat up the hills and coast down them. Thus you remember them as they actually are, while in a motor car only a high hill impresses you, and you have no such accurate remembrance of country you have driven through as you gain by riding a bicycle." Ernest Hemingway

Chris Tsien
League of American Bicyclists Certified Instructor
office 410-997-6870
home 410-740-2475

cell 410-908-6870

email chrisbike@verizon.net

Sayers, Margery

From: Fran Horan <franhoran33@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, December 7, 2020 3:19 PM
To: Ball, Calvin; CouncilMail; Jones, Opel
Subject: Fwd: [bikehoco] URGENT: Columbia Flier Building Resolution has NO Easement for Continued Access in Wilde Lake Village

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Howard County Executive Calvin Ball, Council Member Opel Jones, and Howard County Council,

It has come to my/our attention that Council Resolution 174-2020, authorizing the County Executive sale of real property known as the "Flier Building," does not contain language that grants the rights of residents, pedestrians, community police, students, runners, cyclists and other existing users to continued access through the property from the ADA compliant Wilde Lake Middle School Trail (GPS Maps pathway listing).

Strengthening the active transportation connections and transportation choice in Columbia will improve the quality of life in the community and downtown area, and this in turn will help attract and retain residents and businesses in this vital area of the county.

Please add the suggested amendment below to the resolution regarding an accessibility easement.

Thank you,

Francis Horan

5314 Debbie Ct

Ellicott City, MD 21043

Regarding:

General

Council Resolution 174-2020 - A RESOLUTION pursuant to Section 4.201 of the Howard County Code, authorizing the County Executive's sale of real property known as the "Flier Building" owned by Howard County, Maryland, containing approximately 2.159 acres, and located at 10750 Little Patuxent Parkway, Maryland; waiving the advertising and bidding requirements of Section 4.201 of the Howard County Code so that the property can be listed with Chartwell Enterprises; and providing that the County Executive is not bound to sell the property if he finds that it may have a further public use. (No expiration date)

Proposed:

Amendment ____ to Council Resolution No. 174-2020

BY: Deb Jung Legislative Day No. ____

Date

: _____

Amendment No. ____

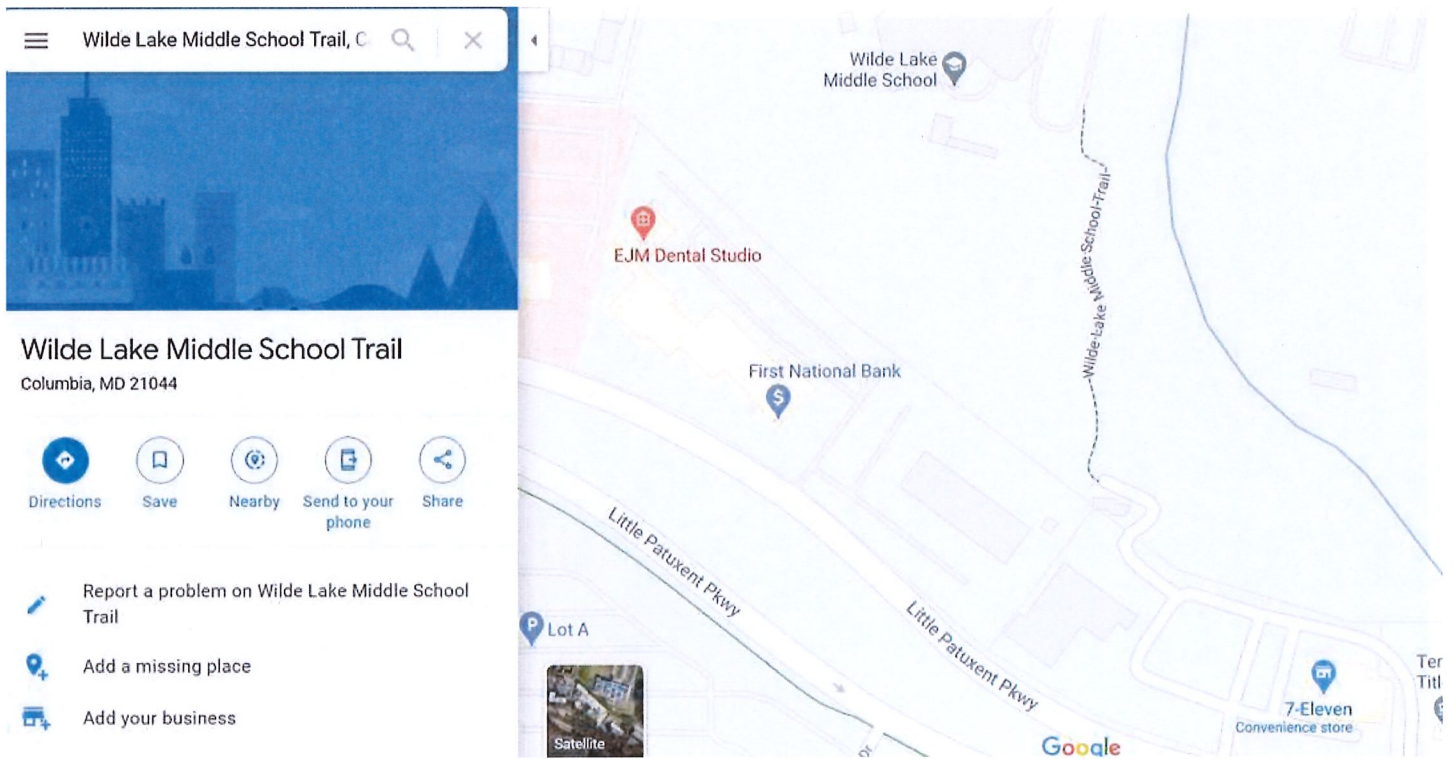
(This Amendment would set terms and conditions on the final sale of the Flier Building.)

On page 2, at line 13, insert:

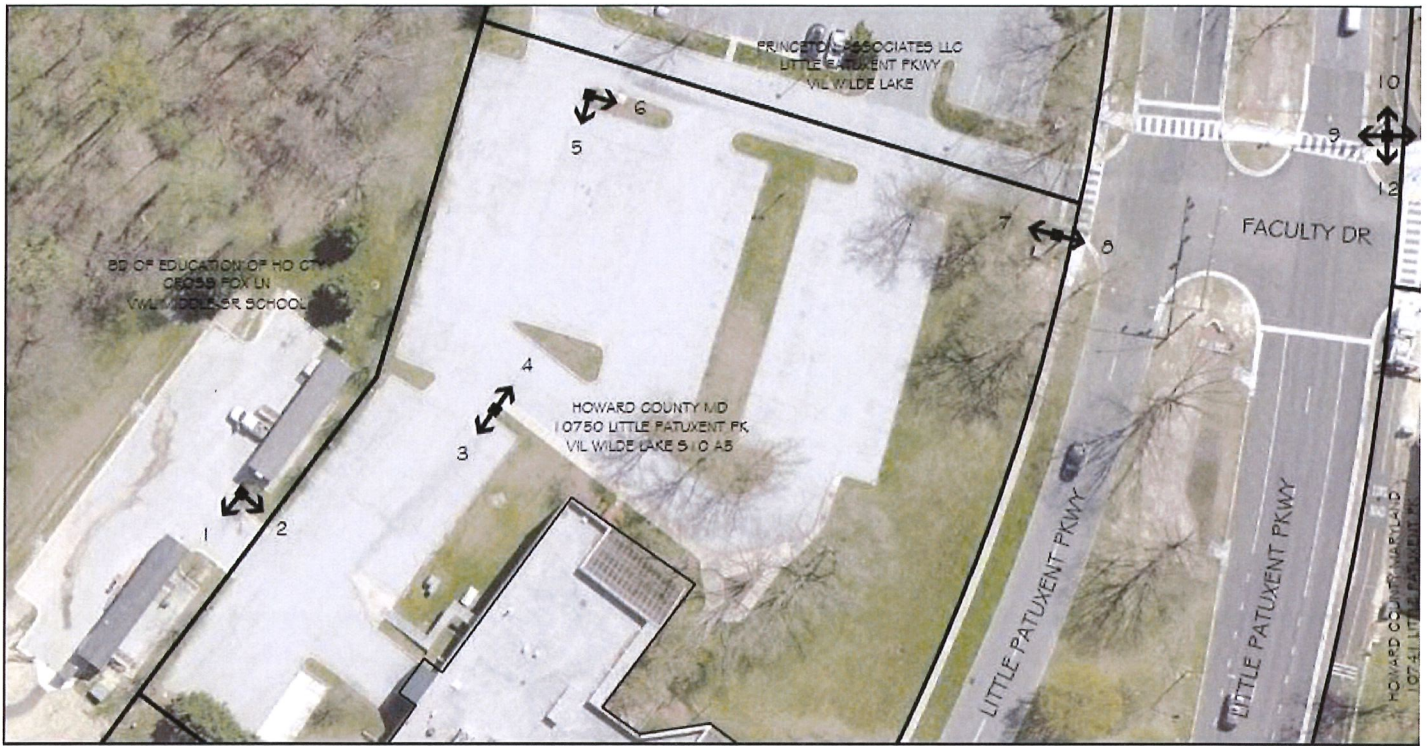
"AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Executive shall not convey the Property unless the purchaser agrees to establish and mark for the public an easement for a trail that connects through the Property to Wilde Lake Middle School.



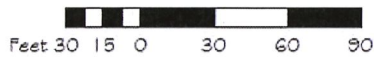
Image of the official Wilde Lake Middle School Trail



Google Maps WLMS Trail



Connection Between the
Downtown Columbia Trail
and Wilde Lake
Village Center



Sign Number	Sign Text
1	Wilde Lake Village Ctr
2	Downtown Columbia Trail
3	Wilde Lake Village Ctr
4	Downtown Columbia Trail
5	Wilde Lake Village Ctr
6	Downtown Columbia Trail
7	Wilde Lake Village Ctr
8	Downtown Columbia Trail
9	Wilde Lake Village Ctr 0.5
10	Symphony Woods 0.9; County Library 1.1; Blandair Park ;
11	Howard Community College; Comm. College Station
12	Howard Community College 0.2; County Gen Hospital 0.5

Signage suggested by County for Wilde Lake Connectivity via pathway through Flier property.

Sayers, Margery

From: no-reply@howardcountymd.gov
Sent: Monday, December 7, 2020 2:29 PM
To: jbrandt@umd.edu
Subject: Council - Easement on Columbia Flyer Property

First Name: John
Last Name: Brandt
Email: jbrandt@umd.edu
Street Address: 2453 Sophia Chase Drive
City: Marriottsville
Subject: Easement on Columbia Flyer Property

Message: Dear County Executive Ball and the Howard County Council, I'm writing to offer my support for making sure that the Columbia Flier property includes an easement to ensure the continued use of the shared use pathway that connects Little Patuxent Parkway and Downtown Columbia from Wilde Lake Village Center and the schools through the building's parking lot. Please amend the resolution for passage and insert the following: "AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Executive shall not convey the Property unless the purchaser agrees to establish and mark for the public an easement for a trail that connects through the Property to Wilde Lake Middle School." Thank you! These easements and multi-use pathway connections are great ways to ensure safe ways to move around the county, and losing access to this connection would be unfortunate. If anything, we should be continually looking for where easements like this can exist to create low-stress, low-traffic alternatives to main thoroughfares. Best, John Brandt