FW: Concerns about T7107

Sigaty, Mary Kay Sent: Monday, April 18, 2016 10:33 AM To: Sayers, Margery; CouncilRecords Attachments: FB_IMG_1457954814643.jpg (146 KB)

From: Branson Williams [mailto:branson.williams@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 14, 2016 7:38 AM
To: Sigaty, Mary Kay
Subject: Concerns about T7107

Dear Ms. Sigaty:

I am a Columbia, MD resident and reside in the Allview Estates community. I am writing to express my concerns about the Patuxent Branch Trail Extension, T7107 slated to connect Downtown Columbia to xx. The second phase of the project goes through Allview Estates along the river. This area is subject to frequent flooding and, I believe, sediment deposition during minor flood events and high, damaging water flow during major events, make the area a poor choice for a multi-use path.

As a resident whose house backs to the river, I have witnessed many flood events since my wife and I moved into our home in summer 2012. The Little Patuxent River floods frequently, sometimes with as little as 2-3" of rain. These small flood events deposit large amounts of sand and debris alongside the river, on the flood plain. On several occasions, the deposition was enough that I cleared sand and logs/debris from the sewer line cover. Major flood events seem to occur one to two times per year. These floods have cost me several hundred dollars in the past (e.g. over \$250 in damages to fencing, over \$250 in firewood). I've taken to removing portions of my fence prior to large events, as well as moving lawn equipment and other items to the front of my property. I sand bag my door to prevent flooding in the basement, but my neighbors often have ten or more inches of water in their basement during these events.

Flooding of the Little Patuxent River makes this trail extension a poor choice. Please, carefully consider the potential effects of this flooding before funding this project. Attached you will find a picture that shows the sort of flooding were experience. It was taken as the river was receding. During this flood, my four foot tall fence was completely under water.

Sincerely, Branson D. Williams Howard County district 3



FW: Item for Monday;s work session

Sigaty, Mary Kay Sent: Monday, April 18, 2016 10:31 AM To: CouncilRecords; Sayers, Margery Attachments: 2016MarLtrToSigaty.doc (33 KB); DSC_0414a.JPG (6 MB); DSC0418Swingset17Mar2016.JPG (8 MB); DSC_0426swingsetfmBridge.JPG (8 MB)

From: Bill&Sally Ryder [mailto:onebyke2ryders@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 27, 2016 9:16 PM
To: Sigaty, Mary Kay
Subject: Item for Monday;s work session

Dear Council Member Sigatyl,

Attached please find a letter expressing my opposition to the amendment. I also attach recent photos taken of the area near the bridge on Stevens Forest Road that crosses the Little Patuxent River. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns on this matter.

.Thank you, Sally Ryder

6735 Allview Drive Columbia, MD 21046 March 27, 2015

Dear Council Member Sigaty,

I write concerning the proposed amendment to remove Phase II of T7107 from the Master Bicycle Plan. At the public hearing on March 21, I testified on behalf of Allview residents who would like to see this pathway built. At that time I had not fully grasped the fact that there was a threat to this path (first revealed to me in a March 18 forward of an email sent to Larry Schoen on March 17). I have not heard of any recent community outreach specifically related to this path and question whether there has been any attempt in the past year to assess views from the community. Since learning of the proposed amendment, I and a handful of neighbors have started gathering indications of support for the path. We are trying to reach out to as many as possible of the 540+ households in the Allview Area Community with a petition. Given the short time window before the vote, it will be difficult to gather many signatures, but we firmly believe there is enough support here to overrule a decision to remove this path from the Bicycle Master Plan at this time.

Never having seen the petition Mr. Markle frequently mentions on which he claims to have signatures of 160 Allview residents opposed to the path, and not being aware of any more recent survey I assume this petition is the same one brandished at a community meeting in March 2013. While I am sympathetic to the objections of some neighbors that having a route near their property could intrude upon their view and privacy, I do not share their fears of more litter, noise, parking problems and crime intruding into the neighborhood. Having ridden most of Columbia pathways for many years, I have seen very little evidence of these problems. Other pathway abutters have expressed hope that they could share this land with others who love the great outdoors.

Mr. Markle and Mr Compson also mention their concern that cyclists and walkers will be swept away by flash floods if this path is built. Since March 2013, they have continued to submit undated photos of a flooded swing set . The fact that the trees in the photos are in full leaf strongly suggest that they must have been taken during or before 2012. I am not aware of any such serious floods in recent years. Most of the property in those photos is owned by Mr. Markle and his neighbor and can be clearly viewed from the bridge that crosses the river on Stevens Forest Rd. A current view from the bridge shows that this carefully manicured property has certainly sustained no serious flooding recently. Data from a river monitor along the route of the path shows that, although the river has gone into the adjacent flood plain an average of 2-3 times a year for the past five years, the flow on these occasions tends to be shallow and of low velocity (https://bikehoward.files.wordpress.com/2014/12/section-2-existing-conditions-patuxent-branch-trail-extensionfeasibility-study-final.pdf) I and others are more concerned with the daily risks associated with riding and walking on our often steep, winding, roads, while dodging parked cars and traffic. Although I am happy to see increasing numbers of families walking or cycling in the community, Allview is a tough neighborhood in which to learn and practice riding a bicycle. The lack of sidewalks and connection to Columbia pathways leaves little choice other than to put bikes in cars and drive to a safer area. Experienced cyclists and commuters, walkers, runners, dog owners and bird watchers would also find a path by the river to be safer and more pleasant than negotiating our roads. For these reasons I expect that the number of residents in favor of the path may now well outnumber the number opposed.

In summary, I strongly feel that a decision to remove Phase II of T7107 from the Bicycle Master Plan is premature at best and urge you to work to defeat this unfortunate amendment.

Very respectfully, Sally Ryder







FW: Amendment 1 - Allview residents in support of Phase II of T7107

 Sigaty, Mary Kay

 Sent:
 Monday, April 18, 2016 10:29 AM

 To:
 Sayers, Margery

 Cc:
 CouncilRecords

 Attachments:
 MapAllviewoutparcel+Result~1.pdf (1 MB)

CR35-2016

From: onebyke2ryders@gmail.com [mailto:onebyke2ryders@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, April 04, 2016 8:20 AM
To: Sigaty, Mary Kay
Subject: Fwd: Amendment 1 - Allview residents in support of Phase II of T7107

Subject: RE: Amendment 1 - Allview residents in support of Phase II of T7107

RE: Amendment 1 - Allview residents in support of Phase II of T7107

Dear Council member Sigaty,

Since hearing of the amendment to remove the section of the Patuxent Trail Extension that would run behind Allview Estates from the Bicycle a master Plan, I and a handful of others have begun a survey to to determine the current position of Allview outparcel residents regarding this path. In an attempt to collect unbiased opinions without dividing our community, my procedure has been to go door to door, bearing petitions both for and against the path.

During this limited time, (much of which included Spring Break and conflicted with other commitments), we have been able to contact residents in approximately 60 of the 500+ homes in the outparcel. Of these, 51 households, representing 99 residents, have indicated their support of the path. Many of those folks were enthusiastic and expressed hope that construction could be expedited.

Preliminary results (available to me as of Friday, March 31) are shown in the attached map of the Allview outparcel with a color code showing where we have data indicating whether or not residents support the pathway. Red is used to indicate supporters whom we have been able to reach. Blue indicates where we found (or know to be) residents who oppose the path. Addresses shaded in gray indicate where folks were reached but preferred not to commit themselves to either position. (Scans of the actual survey forms have been sent to Council Member Terrasa.)

I believe that information below will demonstrate that it is not true that Allview residents are united in opposition to the path and is sufficient to prevent removing this portion of the pathway from the Bicycle Master Plan at this time and urge you to vote NO on Amendment 1!.

Very respectfully,

Sally Ryder



Bridge Columbia Funding

JCandJC [jillnjerry1@verizon.net] Sent: Friday, April 15, 2016 12:33 PM To: CouncilMail

Dear Council,

I'm writing to ask that you please retain the Bridge Columbia funding in the County Executive Kittleman's Capital Budget. Bridge Columbia, project B3863: \$350,000 in FY2017 and \$500,000 in FY2018. As a homeowner and resident of Oakland Mills, I support this project as a critical factor for revitalizing OM and strengthening ties with Town Center.

Thank you for your attention,

Gillian Crane

Evelyn Mogren [calibercarvings@verizon.net] Sent: Friday, April 15, 2016 12:34 PM To: CouncilMail

I am soo excited that this project is so close to becoming a reality! Please do not delay the bridge: keep the money in the budget so we can move forward.

Did you know that studies show bicycle and pedestrian traffic improves businesses? I am a living example of this because, I have shopped at Whole Food several times when biking across the bridge but, I pass it right by when in my car.

So let other people have this opportunity and make the bridge a budget priority.

Sincerely, Evelyn Mogren

Proposed budget - support for Bridge Columbia capital project B3863

alex hekimian [alexhekimian@hotmail.com] Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2016 4:25 PM To: CouncilMail

Dear Members of the Howard County Council,

I join many other residents in supporting capital project funding for Bridge Columbia, in the amounts shown in the County Executive's proposed FY2017 and FY2018 budgets. This is a project that has had a long history of widespread support in Columbia. The time is right to finally move forward with Council approval of this very worthy project.

Sincerely,

Alex Hekimian 9572 Basket Ring Rd. Columbia, MD 21045

suzanne rosenzweig [suzrosenzweig@gmail.com] Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2016 9:17 AM To: CouncilMail

Please retain the Bridge Columbia funding in the County Executive Kittleman's Capital Budget. this is an important initiative for the health of our communities and the growth of Columbia.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Rosenzweig

KEEP \$ IN PROJECT B386 Bridge Columbia project

James Schatz [jrschat@gmail.com] Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2016 8:00 AM To: CouncilMail Cc: KATHRYN [jrschat@gmail.com]; Eleanor [emfoschetti@yahoo.com]; Geoff Johnson [gjohnson158@comcast.net]

I am imploring you all as a 35 year resident of Oakland Mills and H.C. to <u>keep and please retain the</u> <u>Bridge Columbia funding in the County Executive Kittleman's Capitol Budget Bridge Columbia</u> <u>project B3863.</u>

<u>Thank you!</u>

Chelle [chellerg@verizon.net] Sent: Tuesday, April 12, 2016 9:25 AM To: CouncilMail

I'm writing in support of Bridge Columbia. With all the development in the Town Center, I envision a traffic gridlock. It is therefore critical to enable access to Town Center by means other than by car. Also, just as important, the Village of Oakland Mills needs the boost that this bridge would provide to attract those buyers and renters to the Village who would value this access.

Please retain the funding for this project in the County Executive's Capital Budget.

Thank you,

Rochelle Ginsburg Oakland Mills

Sent from my iPad

Please support the Bridge Project 3863

Pat Hersey [trishhersey@hotmail.com] Sent: Monday, April 11, 2016 7:07 PM To: CouncilMail

Dear Council Members,

I support the recommendation in the proposed Fiscal Year 2017 capital budget to fund the Downtown Columbia-Oakland Mills Connection Improvements (Bridge Project 3863). Please continue to support Bridge Columbia.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Pat Hersey, Oakland Mill resident since 1990

Sent from my iPad

bridge of Columbia

Liz Smull [lizsmull@gmail.com] Sent: Friday, April 08, 2016 4:34 PM To: CouncilMail

To Whom It May Concern,

Please keep the funding for the "Bridge Of Columbia" which will link the Oakland Mills neighborhood to downtown. I work at the Haven and live in Oakland Mills and it would be nice to be able to walk there on nice weather days from our community. I also, teach at HCC and there is never any parking there either. So, this bridge would be a major impact on those of us who live in Oakland Mills and work downtown.

Thank you,

Liz Smull, MS LMT

Testimony re FY17 Budget

 Sandy Cederbaum [manager@oaklandmills.org]

 Sent:
 Friday, April 08, 2016 12:49 PM

 To:
 CouncilMail

 Attachments:
 signed testimony bcFY17_Co~1.pdf (52 KB)

The attached has been sent by mail. Thank you all for your continued support of the Bridge Columbia project!

Have a great weekend.

Sandy Cederbaum, Village Manager

Oakland Mills Community Association The Other Barn ~ 5851 Robert Oliver Place Columbia, MD 21045 Office: 410-730-4610 fax: 410-730-4620 <u>http://oaklandmills.org</u> **NEW EMAIL: manager@oaklandmills.org** <u>https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Other-Barn/120935497922232</u> <u>https://www.facebook.com/omvillage</u>



Oakland Mills Community Association The Other Barn • 5851 Robert Oliver Place Columbia, MD 21045

410-730-4610 • oaklandmills.org

April 7, 2016

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Howard County Council 3430 Court House Drive Ellicott City, MD 21045

Dear County Council Members:

The Oakland Mills Community Association is asking you to support the inclusion of funding for Bridge Columbia in the FY 17 Capital Budget. Such funding will continue to move the bridge project forward. The County Council's recent support of the amendment to include Bridge Columbia in the Bike Master Plan demonstrates a strong commitment to the project and acknowledges the positive impact Bridge Columbia will have on the community.

The funds in the FY 17 Budget will move the project forward to the next and very important level. It includes funds for a NEPA Study to evaluate the full range of environmental impacts of a new bridge and its alternatives. As explained in the Cover Letter to the FY17 Budget, funding for Bridge Columbia "is the first step to put the project on the path to being able to receive state and federal funding."

Bridge Columbia will provide an attractive public transit, pedestrian, and bicycle connection between Downtown Columbia and Oakland Mills and other communities east of Route 29. Currently the only means of crossing Route 29 by foot or bike is an aging wire-enclosed structure. A new Bridge crossing would demonstrate the County's commitment to providing a healthy, environmentally friendly, and sustainable alternative to vehicular traffic.

When the Council voted to approve funding for a Feasibility Study to identify a new focal point for our Village Center, the County Council, clearly recognized the critical need for redevelopment in Oakland Mills. As stated in our Village Center Community Plan, Bridge Columbia is an equally important aspect of redevelopment because it capitalizes on our potential as a Gateway to Downtown Columbia.

For many years the Oakland Mills Village Board and the Bridge Columbia Committee have moved this project along at a steady pace through dedication, persistence, and partnership with the County Council, County Executive, and county staff. Continued funding is imperative to maintain the momentum. While we realize the Council receives many requests for funds, we urge you to retain funding for Bridge Columbia, along with designation as a top transportation priority.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Thomas inginia M

Virginia M. Thomas, Co-Chair Oakland Mills Board of Directors

cc: County Executive Allan Kittleman

1 clorma

William R. McCormack Jr., Co-Chair Oakland Mills Board of Directors

Bridge Columbia project B3863

Frank Russell [frankwrussell@gmail.com] Sent: Friday, April 08, 2016 12:18 PM To: CouncilMail

Please do not remove the dollars in the budget for the Bridge Columbia Project B3863. The bridge will provide safe travel for our community allowing folks to be able to walk and bicycle to downtown without walking Brokenland Parkway which has no sidewalks. Plus is will revitalize the village and help Oakland Mills properties to hold value. A lot of effort has been put into this project and lots of hope to revitalize our village. Please do not postpone this project.

Thank you,

Frank frankwrussell@gmail.com 410-978-5753

fund the bridge

thepuzzler74@verizon.net Sent: Thursday, April 07, 2016 6:21 PM To: CouncilMail

Maintain the bridge funding.

Bridge Columbia funding

 Pam Vanghel [pvanghel@gmail.com]

 Sent: Thursday, April 07, 2016 6:03 PM

 To: CouncilMail

 Cc: Kittleman, Allan; Ginny Thomas [cgthomas65@verizon.net]; William.R.McCormack@verizon.net

Dear Howard County Council Members,

I urge you to retain the Bridge Columbia funding in the County Executive's Capital Budget Bridge Columbia (Project B3863). This project is necessary to develop an effective non-auto crossing over US29, linking Blandair Park to downtown Columbia, Howard County Community College, and Howard County General Hospital. Funding includes a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) study to evaluate the full range of environmental impacts of a new bridge and its alternatives. The study is the first step to put the bridge project on the path to receive state and federal funding. The yearly allocation is \$350,000 allocated in FY2017 for the NEPA study and \$500,000 in FY2018 to begin planning implementation of the NEPA study outcome.

I cannot stress to you the urgent need for more non-auto connections from east Columbia to downtown. As I drive on Broken Land Parkway from my home in Oakland Mills to downtown Columbia, I frequently see cyclists and even occasional walkers in the traffic lanes of Broken Land at all hours of the day and night. For those of you you not familiar with Broken Land Parkway, it is a four-lane connector from east Columbia to downtown. Its posted speed limit is 45 MPH, but traffic probably moves at 60 MPH. Thankfully, most walkers stay in the median, but even that is not safe - at some point, they must cross traffic lanes where drivers are not expecting them. There is no really no provision for walkers for walkers along Broken Land. Anything that will provide an alternative to Broken Land for cyclists and walkers should be a high priority for the Council. Please give Bridge Columbia your strongest support.

Thank you,

Pam Vanghel 9490 Battler Court Columbia, MD 21045

Bridge

mbedolla@verizon.net Sent: Thursday, April 07, 2016 3:15 PM To: CouncilMail

Please keep funding in the budget for the study on a bridge over rt 29, B3863

Marcelino Bedolla

Support Funding for Bridge Columbia Project B3863

Joan Aron [joanaron@ymail.com] Sent: Thursday, April 07, 2016 2:27 PM To: CouncilMail

To: Howard County Council From: Joan L. Aron, 5457 Marsh Hawk Way, Columbia, Maryland 21045 Date: April 7, 2016

Please support the funding for Bridge Columbia Project B386 in the County Executive's Capital Budget. The amount in the budget is \$350,000 in FY 2017 and \$500,000 in FY 2018.

Thank you.

Funding for Bridge

Gwen Martinsen [gmartins19@verizon.net] Sent: Thursday, April 07, 2016 1:06 PM To: CouncilMail

I am a resident of Oakland Mills and am not in favor of continuing funding for Bridge Columbia Columbia project B3863, \$350,000 in FY2017 and \$500,000 in FY2018. I believe the funds for the bridge could be used in other ways that would be more beneficial to our community. Gwen L. Martinsen, Ph.D.

retain the Bridge Columbia funding

Dot Keczmerski [dkeczmerski16@verizon.net] Sent: Thursday, April 07, 2016 12:19 PM To: CouncilMail

I am writing to request that the council retain the Bridge Columbia funding in the County Executive's Capital Budget. Bridge Columbia, project B3863, has \$350,000 in FY2017 and \$500,000 in FY2018.

It is a project to provide a feasibility study, design and construction of enhancements to existing and potential future connections over US29. This study is necessary especially given the redevelopment plans for Downtown Columbia and planned multimodal path linking Howard County General Hospital and Howard Community College

through Downtown over US29 to Blandair Park. I feel strongly that this project is necessary to develop an effective crossing over US29.

Sincerely,

Dorothy Keczmerski

Joe Phaneuf [joe@hpcareer.net] Sent: Thursday, April 07, 2016 12:04 PM To: CouncilMail

Please retain the allotted funding in the County budget for the bridge project. This is vital to the vitality and longevity of Oakland Mills Village and residents.

Thank you,

Joe Phaneuf Holly Court Board of Directors President

Joseph T Phaneuf, MS, CFO HPCareer.Net, llc Partner Network

Phone: 410 715-2268 Web: http://www.HPCareer.Net

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B3863

CeCe McCullough [cecemccullough@comcast.net] Sent: Thursday, April 07, 2016 11:35 AM To: CouncilMail

Attention : Howard County Council members I strongly urge you to pass the above bill number referenced-Bridge Columbia. The bridge will keep the city connected making for easy access to all facilities on both sides of Columbia. In addition , the south end entrance leading to Town Center needs to be attractive and inviting.

Thank you

CeCe McCullough, Realtor Weichert Realtors, New Colony 6925 Oakland Mills Rd. Ste.A Columbia , MD 21045 cecemccullough@gmail.com "I Love Referrals" and am happy to assist sellers, buyers and renters with all real estate needs. (410)294-1582

Please retain funding for Bridge Columbia Project

My Gmail [stephaniemichellereid@gmail.com] Sent: Thursday, April 07, 2016 11:22 AM To: CouncilMail

Greetings!!!

I am just writing to document my support for the Bridge Columbia Project. I am a resident of Oakland Mills and feel that the redevelopment of the bridge connecting Oakland Mills with Downtown Columbia is vital to the welfare of our village and surrounding villages. Please make sure to retain full funding for this project in the County Executive's Capital Budget for FY2017 and FY2018.

Thank you for your service to our county !!!

Sincerely, Stephanie Reid 9540 Wandering Way

Sent from my iPhone

Bridge Columbia project

Sheila Robinson [sheila_robinson@verizon.net] Sent: Thursday, April 07, 2016 11:12 AM To: CouncilMail

Dear all Council members,

I urge you to please retain the Bridge Columbia funding in the County Executive's Capital Budget. Bridge Columbia, project B3863, has \$350,000 in FY2017 and \$500,000 in FY2018.

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I hope to see, in my lifetime, construction of enhancements to existing and potential future connections over US29 from the Oakland Mills/Stevens Forest area.

Yours truly, Sheila Robinson 9430 Wandering Way Columbia, MD 21045

Page 1 of 1

Bridge Columbia

H. Susie Coddington [susiecoddington@verizon.net] Sent: Thursday, April 07, 2016 10:56 AM To: CouncilMail

Would you please retain the funding for the Bridge Columbia. Thank you

H. Susie Coddington, Ph.D. Coddington Learning Co. Coaching, Consulting, Training, & Facilitation 443-812-2441

learning never ends....

Charlie Bailey [cbailey9598@gmail.com] Sent: Thursday, April 07, 2016 10:46 AM To: CouncilMail

Dear County Council Members,

I am writing relative to the Bridge Columbia project included in next years County budget. I am a resident of Oakland Mills (OM) and am all for maximizing connections between OM and Town Center. However, I do not fundamentally understand the rationale behind the Bridge Columbia initiative. The master plan for Town Center (TC) indicates a potential new interchange on US 29 between Little Patuxent Parkway and Broken Land Parkway providing additional access to TC and potentially OM. It would seem to me to be prudent to incorporate any new pedestrian and/or transit access between OM and TC with that improvement. I don't understand why we would spend the kind of money that will be required for a stand-alone Bridge Columbia project and then come back and build a grade separated vehicular interchange in basically the same location. They should be incorporated into one project and designed as one.

Sincerely,

Charlie Bailey Oakland Mills resident

Bridge Study and Construction

DOHERTY, DENNIS L. [DDOHERTY@hanover.com] Sent: Thursday, April 07, 2016 10:43 AM To: CouncilMail

Greetings:

This email is my support to immediately proceed with the funding of the necessary studies and the ultimate construction of the bridge in Oak Mills. If not, it would be par for the coarse that our community is over-looked compared to other areas in the county.

Thanks

Dennis. L. Doherty 5970 Camelback Lane Columbia

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