

Renew Howard and Bridge Columbia

Pat Gilreath [patgilreath@verizon.net]

Sent: Sunday, May 01, 2016 6:54 PM

To: CouncilMail

Please retain the funds for these two programs in the budget.

Thank you!

Pat Gilreath

Sent from my inner soul

Bridge Columbia

wilda newman [wildanewman@yahoo.com]

Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2016 9:00 PM

To: CouncilMail

Dear Council Members,

Please retain the Bridge Columbia funding in County Executive Kittleman's Capital Budget.

The Bridge Columbia, project B3863, has \$350,000 in FY2017 and \$500,000 in FY2018.

Please ensure that this amount is retained in the Capital Budget process. It is vital that Columbia and Howard County retain its leadership as a model community and part of that vitality is recognizing what is needed and preparing a plan to manage and then funding in order to move forward. Talk is commonplace, but talk with action is rare and required for the success of citizens and businesses alike.

Thank you,

Wilda B Newman

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Please fund the Bridge Columbia study and project

harringtonpr@netscape.net

Sent: Thursday, May 05, 2016 9:24 PM

To: CouncilMail

Dear Howard County Council Members:

I am writing to ask that you support and fund the proposed Bridge Columbia study and related projects that arise from the study recommendations.

The current bridge is an eyesore and uninviting, and serves as a rift in the middle of an otherwise wonderful pathway that is almost complete from the hospital to Blandair Park.

A signature pedestrian bridge across Rt 29 will not only help connect the older and struggling villages of Oakland Mills and Long Reach to the expanding Town Center, but it would also provide an interesting landmark and gateway for visitors driving up the Rt 29 corridor into Columbia.

Furthermore, given the expansion of Town Center and the expected traffic as a result, a pleasant and practical pathway connecting East and West Columbia will help encourage people to bike, jog or walk to work, shopping, entertainment and restaurants.

My family with two young kids would love to feel comfortable walking in the afternoon/evening from Oakland Mills to the Lakefront for dinner and some live music on the lawn on a nice summer night. How awesome would that be? No doubt there are many other families who feel the same. Instead we have to get in our car to drive 2-3 times the distance it would take us to walk, all because we are uncomfortable walking across a path and bridge that is essentially in our back yard.

I'm not a city planner, but I have to imagine that the right kind of bridge and path network could help bring traffic to the area and invite people to use it at any time of the day, and get people out of their cars!

Please help move this project forward. There has been enough talk about it...it's time to take action!

Thank you for your support,
Pat Harrington
Stevens Forest/Oakland Mills Resident