



From: Kit Gage <kgage@verizon.net>
Date: Tuesday, January 28, 2020 at 1:16 PM
To: <matt.johnson@montgomerycountyMD.gov>
Subject: comments on Fenton Village Bike and Pedestrian Projects

Mr. Matt Johnson
Project Manager
Fenton Village Bike and Pedestrian Projects

I was unable to attend the public meeting last Tuesday (only received notice a week later by mail) so instead will submit written remarks.

I am speaking for Friends of Sligo Creek, as Advocacy Director. Friends of Sligo Creek is a nonprofit community organization dedicated to protecting improving and appreciating the ecological health of Sligo Creek, the Park and its watershed.

Naturally, we support facilitating pedestrian and bike use in and around Sligo Creek Park. The proposed plan to made pedestrian traffic safer in downtown Silver Spring, particularly on Fenton Street and Grove Street, a block away, makes sense. The plan to assess Fenton Street for dedicated bike lanes also would be important in downtown area that has undergone massive residential and office development over the last 5 years. Grove Street is still a neighborhood street though bounding the downtown area. It is precisely the time to work to maintain the neighborhood's residential and kid-friendly character by slowing cars and facilitating walking and biking.

On the biking issue specifically, we would ask that the bike lane on Fenton easily connect to the bike lane at Montgomery College that connects to downtown DC and the Anacostia waterfront. Further, it would be important to connect it perhaps via Wayne Avenue, or if that's impossible with the Purple Line, thru Thayer Avenue and Dale, connecting at the new playground. Either way, having bike lanes connect to other bike routes is critical.

Thanks for your consideration.

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