

**Shelley J. Winkler**  
**Washington Grove, MD 20880**  
**February 21,2021**

County Executive Marc Elrich  
Members of the Montgomery County Council  
Stella Werner Council Office Building  
100 Maryland Avenue  
Rockville, MD 20850

Re: Comments about the Planning Department's Public Hearing Draft of the Shady Grove Sector Plan Minor Master Plan Amendment ("Plan Amendment")

Dear County Executive Elrich and Members of the County Council:

**I am writing to endorse the comments submitted today by Christine Dibble of Washington Grove, MD,** with respect to this draft of the Plan Amendment. Rather than rewrite them, know that I, and many others in our area, support her comments. Please add my name to her comments.

I hope you read them carefully. A Sector Plan is created to set forth a better vision for planning for the next 25 years. This draft abdicates the County's responsibility to put in safe bicycle passage along Oakmont Avenue.

My understanding is that a Sector Plan is meant to improve an area, and also benefit adjoining areas. The changes proposed for Oakmont Avenue do the opposite, as explained in Ms. Dibble's letter. And worse, they contradict a process already underway for establishing an appropriate bike link to Washington Grove.

Page 131, Table 4 of the draft, Amendments to the 2018 Bicycle Master Plan, should be revised as follows: Remove the row entitled "Oakmont Avenue". Right now it completely removes the County's responsibility to provide safe bicycle access on Oakmont, where a lot of people work and travel through, and tries to place that entire burden on a few narrow residential streets. Oakmont is the clear connection that will be needed to the Deer Park/Old Town Gaithersburg area in the future. Sending cyclists across railroad tracks is not a safe option, and inconsistent with Vision Zero.

Page 131, Table 3: Existing and Proposed Bikeway Network, should read in the "Piedmont Crossing Local Park Trail row: "Piedmont Crossing Local Park Trail / At or near Washington Grove boundaries / Crabbs Branch Road / Off-Street Trail // Proposed"

Sincerely,

Shelley Winkler