

Brighton Dam Project

Kathryn Painter <[REDACTED]>

Sun 12/11/2022 9:21 AM

To: Hwang, Gwo-Ruey (Greg) <Gwo-RueyGreg.Hwang@montgomerycountymd.gov>

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Mr Hwang,

I didnt even know about the hearing last week, but I am deeply concerned about the proposed lighting on this project and would love it to be addressed directly to the community at large. LED lighting is in fact efficient and effective however, shielding it to direct its light must be done! How can we allow this light pollution in this beautiful area of our counties!? Wildlife, our way of life, does not need to be degraded like this.

The natural environment at the reservoir is something that should be consider first and foremost ! What has been done to investigate the mitigation of the light pollution caused by the new street lights being proposed?

The meeting notices didn't reach far into the people that use this space daily.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Kathryn Painter

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Brighton Dam Bridge Refurbishment Project

Rebecca Bleecker <[REDACTED]>

Tue 12/6/2022 3:14 PM

To: Hwang, Gwo-Ruey (Greg) <Gwo-RueyGreg.Hwang@montgomerycountymd.gov>

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

I was unable to make the hearing last week, but I remain deeply concerned about the proposed lighting on this project. I brought this issue up at the previous meeting and got no satisfaction and I raise the issue again here:

I know the lighting on the bridge needs to be replaced, and I realize that LED lighting is much more efficient, however, the effect of unshielded LED lighting on the wildlife and adjacent residents has NOT been considered in the least. It is not difficult to make sure that the lighting is directed only at the road surface and not polluting the surrounding skies, waters and woods. It seems criminal to just install the easiest lighting without considering the effect on the environment AT A RESERVOIR! This is not a high crime area where high intensity lighting is justified. The new ranger station was built with no consideration about the lighting and now sports something like FIFTEEN unshielded parking lot lights that are on ALL NIGHT for no apparent reason. I can see them clearly from my house in all seasons despite living quite a way down the river from the station.

When I asked about this at the last meeting, you told me specifically that no consideration had been made to mitigate the light pollution caused by the new street lights being proposed. I was hoping to hear some improvements at this meeting, but upon review of the recording, no such changes were reported. What is the point of attending meetings and raising concerns if they are just ignored? I cannot imagine that what I am requesting would be a significantly expensive change in a project this size. Furthermore, I am sure that the public (if they actually knew about this) would be in support of wildlife friendly lighting. Unfortunately, the project and the meeting notices, while meeting legal requirements, do not actually reach the general public. The almost complete lack of citizenry at either meeting is proof of that. Changing this aspect of the project at this stage is simple. Dealing with outrage after all the new lights are installed is another matter. I implore you to take note of my concerns and make some changes now or I will have to do my best to drum up public understanding and interest in this matter.

Thank you,
Rebecca Bleecker

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