

Fenton Village Bike and Pedestrian Projects

Project Newsletter Number 10, November 2022.

NOTE: This newsletter is formatted to be optimized for screen readers.

Thank you for your interest in the Fenton Village bike and pedestrian projects! The Montgomery County Department of Transportation (M-C-D-O-T) is continuing planning efforts for the three related bike and pedestrian improvement projects in Fenton Village. We will provide regular updates through newsletters like this one.

Fenton Street Cycletrack – Update Available.

A Fenton Street Cycletrack video update and revised maps and graphics are now available on the project webpage. Check it out for the most up-to-date information about the project. We expect the next community meeting will be held in Spring 2023.

Updates At A Glance.

This section provides a quick update of the status of each project.

Fenton Street Bikeway Study:

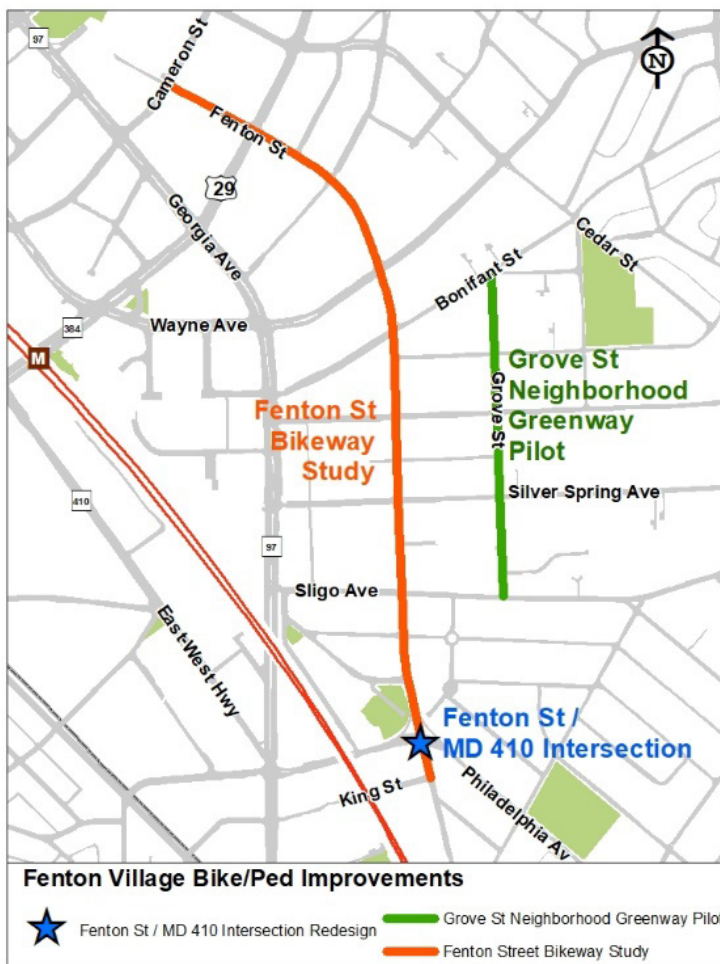
- Phase: 90 percent Design underway.
- Phase completion: Early-2023.
- Next phase: 100 percent Design.

Fenton Street/Maryland 410 Intersection:

- Now included with the Fenton Street Cycletrack Project.

Grove Street Neighborhood Greenway:

- Phase: Stage 1 in place.
- Next phase: Design of permanent treatments.



(End of updates at a glance section).

Grove Street Neighborhood Greenway – Important Project Update.

The Grove Street Neighborhood Greenway Pilot Stage 1 treatments were installed in the summer/fall of 2021 and have been in place for over a year now. In May of 2022, we held a community meeting to discuss the implementation of Stage 2, which would have added diversionary treatments. These treatments were not supported by the community, but the Stage 1 traffic calming and pedestrian safety elements were well-received.

As a result, we have decided not to proceed with Stage 2 of the Pilot.

Instead, we are now preparing to start a design effort to make portions of the

Stage 1 treatments permanent, including the walking lane.

Additionally, the County's capital budget adopted in May added funding for the design of East Silver Spring Neighborhood Greenway, which includes Grove Street, but also extends north to Wayne Avenue and south to Philadelphia Avenue. Houston Street will also be included in this task. A map is provided in this newsletter. In this design effort, we will look at treatments to slow drivers, reduce the amount of traffic, and improve bicyclist and pedestrian safety on these streets.

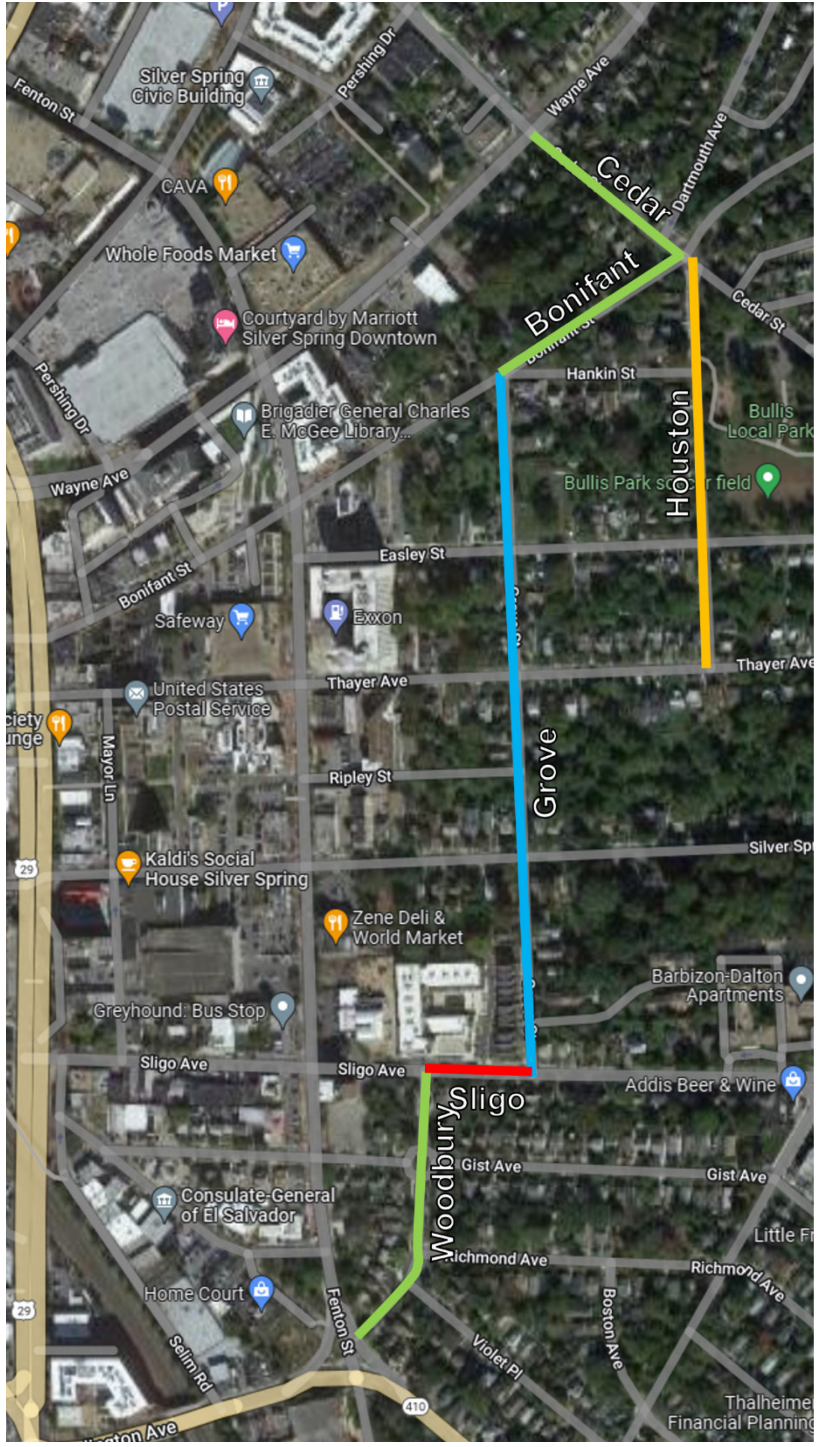
We are in the process of bringing a contractor on board, and will have a community meeting in early 2023 to get feedback on how best to design this project. Design work has not yet started.

The East Silver Spring Neighborhood Greenway was designated by the Bicycle Master Plan, adopted in 2018. It starts at Cedar Street and Wayne Avenue and follows Cedar Street to Bonifant Street, then Bonifant Street to Grove Street, follows Grove Street to Sligo Avenue, then jogs along Sligo Avenue to Woodbury Drive, then runs down Woodbury Drive to Philadelphia Avenue. Based on concerns that the changes to Grove have pushed some traffic onto Houston Street, we are also including Houston Street in the scope of the project.

We will determine potential treatments in consultation with the community. One area of special concern will be creating a safe and comfortable crossing for cyclists and pedestrians of Sligo Avenue and a comfortable bicycle and pedestrian facility running along Sligo between Grove Street and Woodbury Drive. Because of the traffic volume and speed on Sligo Avenue, this will be some form of separated facility, not a shared space between bicyclists and drivers.

The map at right shows the scope of the East Silver Spring Neighborhood Greenway. Grove Street, which will get upgrades is shown in blue. The other streets proposed for neighborhood greenway treatments are shown in green. The stretch of Sligo Avenue that will get a low-stress bike and pedestrian connection is shown in red. Houston Street is shown in yellow.

We have not started design work. We expect to have the contractor on board by the end of 2022 and we look forward to meeting with the community in 2023 to get your ideas about how to improve pedestrian and bicyclist safety and comfort in this area.



Above image: Map of the streets included in the East Silver Spring Neighborhood Greenway.

Fenton Street / Maryland 410 Intersection Project Update.

M-C-D-O-T originally anticipated that the Fenton Street / Maryland 410 Intersection Project could be constructed on a faster timeline than the rest of Fenton Street and made it a separate project for that reason. However, permitting delays have pushed the timeline back, and it now makes sense to construct this at the same time as the Fenton Street Cycletrack. From now on, the intersection project will be considered part of the larger Fenton Street Cycletrack project.

Fenton Street Cycletrack Project Update.

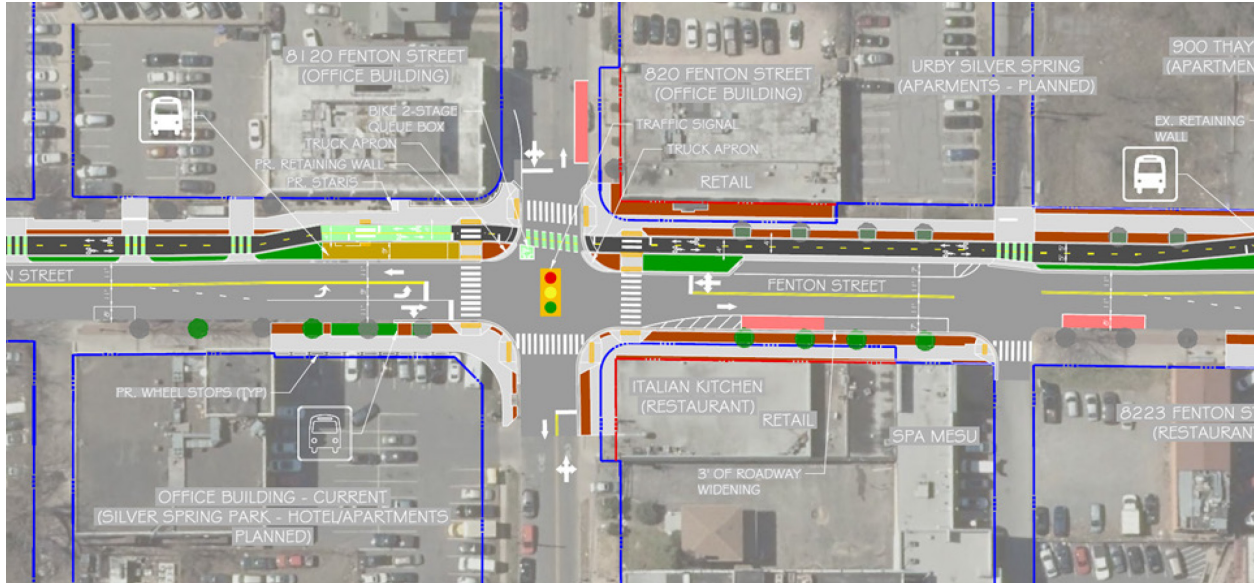
The Fenton Street Cycletrack Project is now past 65% design and we are working on the 90% design. We are working with the relevant permitting agencies on permits. We expect final design will be complete in Spring 2023 and permits will be in hand by then.

Once design and permitting is complete, we will begin the procurement process to get a contractor on board. At this point, we now expect the earliest construction can begin is Fall 2023, and we are working aggressively to meet that timeframe. We expect the entire project (including the MD 410 intersection) from King Street to Cameron Street will be constructed together.

However, the uncertainty about when we will receive our permits is the main reason we cannot be more precise about a start date. We hope to know more early next year.

We expect to have a community meeting in Spring 2023 to go over the 90% design.

A project update video and new graphics are now available on the project webpage.



Above image: Excerpt from the 65% Fenton Street Cycletrack Plans showing the intersection of Fenton Street and Silver Spring Avenue.

(Contact Information Section.)

The project websites are located at: <https://tinyurl.com/FentonVillage> and <https://tinyurl.com/Grove-Street>.

The Project Manager is Matt Johnson. His phone number is 240-777-7237. His email is Matt.Johnson@MontgomeryCountyMD.gov.

To sign up for the project update mailing list, please send an email to Matt.Johnson@MontgomeryCountyMD.gov and indicate you're interested in the Fenton Village projects mailing list.

The Division of Transportation Engineering (D-T-E) can be reached by phone at 240-777-7270. You can follow them on Twitter at @MCDOTnow. The D-T-E website is <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dot-dte/index.html>.

For alternative formats of this newsletter, please contact us at 240-777-7623 (Voice). T-T-Y users call Maryland Relay.

(end contact information section).