



MONTGOMERY COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT
THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

December 22, 2015

Mr. Bruce E. Johnston, P.E.
MCDOT – Division of Transportation Engineering
100 Edison Park Dr. Fourth Floor
Gaithersburg, MD 20878

Re: MacArthur Boulevard Bikeway Improvements – Segment 3
Forest Conservation Exemption Request and Simplified NRI/FSD Plan No. 42014043E
Action Taken: Confirmed and Approved on 12/22/2015

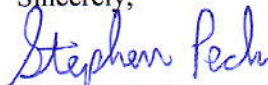
Dear Mr. Bruce Johnston:

On December 15, 2015 the Development Applications and Regulatory Coordination staff of the Montgomery County Planning Department, received a revised Simplified NRI/FSD Plan for Segment 3 of the MacArthur Boulevard Bikeway Improvements. The plan is required as part of a forest conservation exemption request for the improvements to MacArthur Boulevard and bikeway. This Chapter 22A-5(e) exemption request is subject to Chapter 22A-9 for County Highway Projects.

The review of the exemption request is complete. The project is part of the approved Capital Improvement Program and is CIP No. 509337. The revised Simplified NRI/FSD Plan describes the tree and forest protection measures necessary to minimize environmental disturbance. Approximately, 16,120 square feet of forest is to be impacted as part of this project. Forest mitigation requirements are triggered only if forest removal equals or exceeds 20,000 square feet. Two significant size trees are to be cleared and removed. The plan includes tree protection fencing to contain and limit the disturbance. The revised plan includes adjustments in the disturbed area to protect populations of *Phacelia covillei*. The required forest conservation law inspections to be requested by the Applicant are listed on the plan. The revised plan for the project meets the requirements of the Montgomery County Code, Chapter 22A (Forest Conservation Law) including Section 22A-5(e) and Section 22A-9 for County Highway Projects.

Forest Conservation Exemption Request No. 42014043E for MacArthur Boulevard Bikeway Improvements Segment 3 is confirmed. The revised Simplified NRI/FSD Plan submitted for the project is approved.

If, in the future, changes are planned to the confirmed Exemption Request, another forest conservation law compliance review may be required. This project requires forest conservation law inspections, including a preconstruction meeting with the forest conservation inspector. When you are ready to schedule the inspections for this project, please contact the inspector at 301-495-4564.

Sincerely,

Stephen Peck
Senior Planner
Development Applications and Regulatory Coordination
M-NCPPC - Montgomery County Planning Department

CC: Romaine Kesecker, RLA, ASLA