

# Washington Grove Connector Trail from Crabbs Branch Way to Brown Street

Public Meeting  
35% Design

March 2025

# Hybrid Virtual Public Meeting Logistics

- ZOOM Instructions

- Please remain muted
- Please keep camera “off” to conserve bandwidth
- To ask a question on ZOOM: Click the “**React**” button at the bottom of your screen and then the “**Raise Hand**” button or use the chat feature. **Please send all chat messages to our Host this evening, Lori Main.**
- To ask a question on the phone: Press **\*9 to raise your hand** and **\*6 to unmute**



- **\*\*Please note that this meeting is being recorded\*\***

- Recording allows the meeting to be posted on the project website to allow those who could not attend to access the information presented and discussed
- If you wish not to be recorded, please submit your questions via the chat

# Project Team Introductions

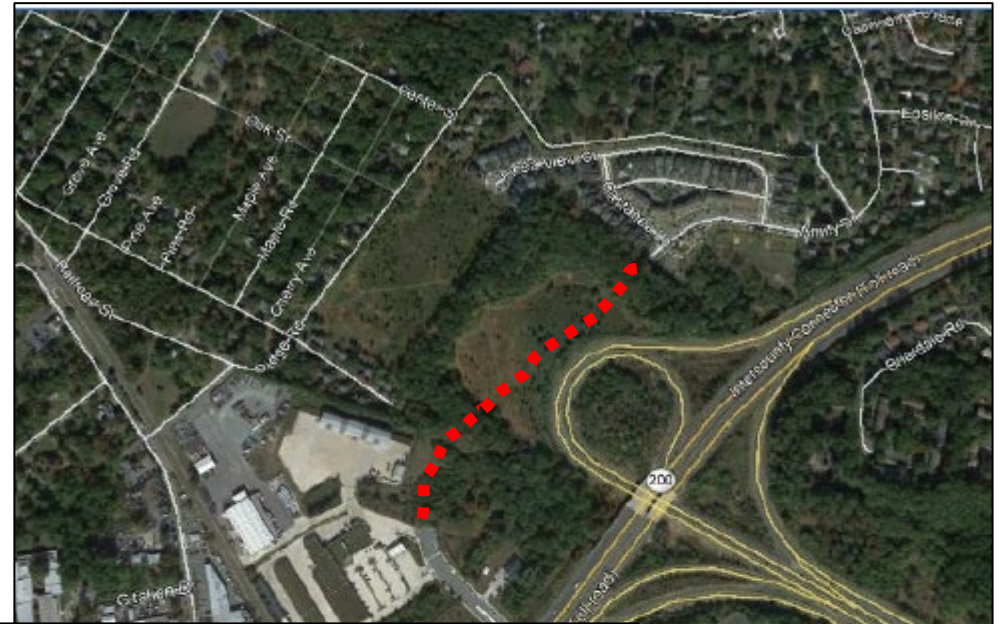
- Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT)
  - Jean Kapusnick, PE, Capital Projects Manager
  - Michael Mitchell, PE, Design Unit Manager
  - Dan Sheridan, PE, Manager, Planning and Design Section
- SHELADIA Associates, Inc.
  - Moyassar Mohammed, PE, Engineer of Record, Project Manager
- Special Guest: City of Gaithersburg
  - Mark Kile, PE, Project Engineer, Old Towne Shared Use Path

# Meeting Agenda

- Project Origin, Background and History
- Washington Grove Connector Trail
  - Current Project Status (35% Design)
  - Schedule
  - Budget/Funding
  - Next Steps
- Discussion
- Special Guest: City of Gaithersburg
  - Old Towne Shared Use Path Project Update

# Project Origin

- Shady Grove Sector Plan, 2006
  - Connection from Crabbs Branch Way to Amity Drive
    - Primary Residential Street
    - Bike Path
    - Sidewalk



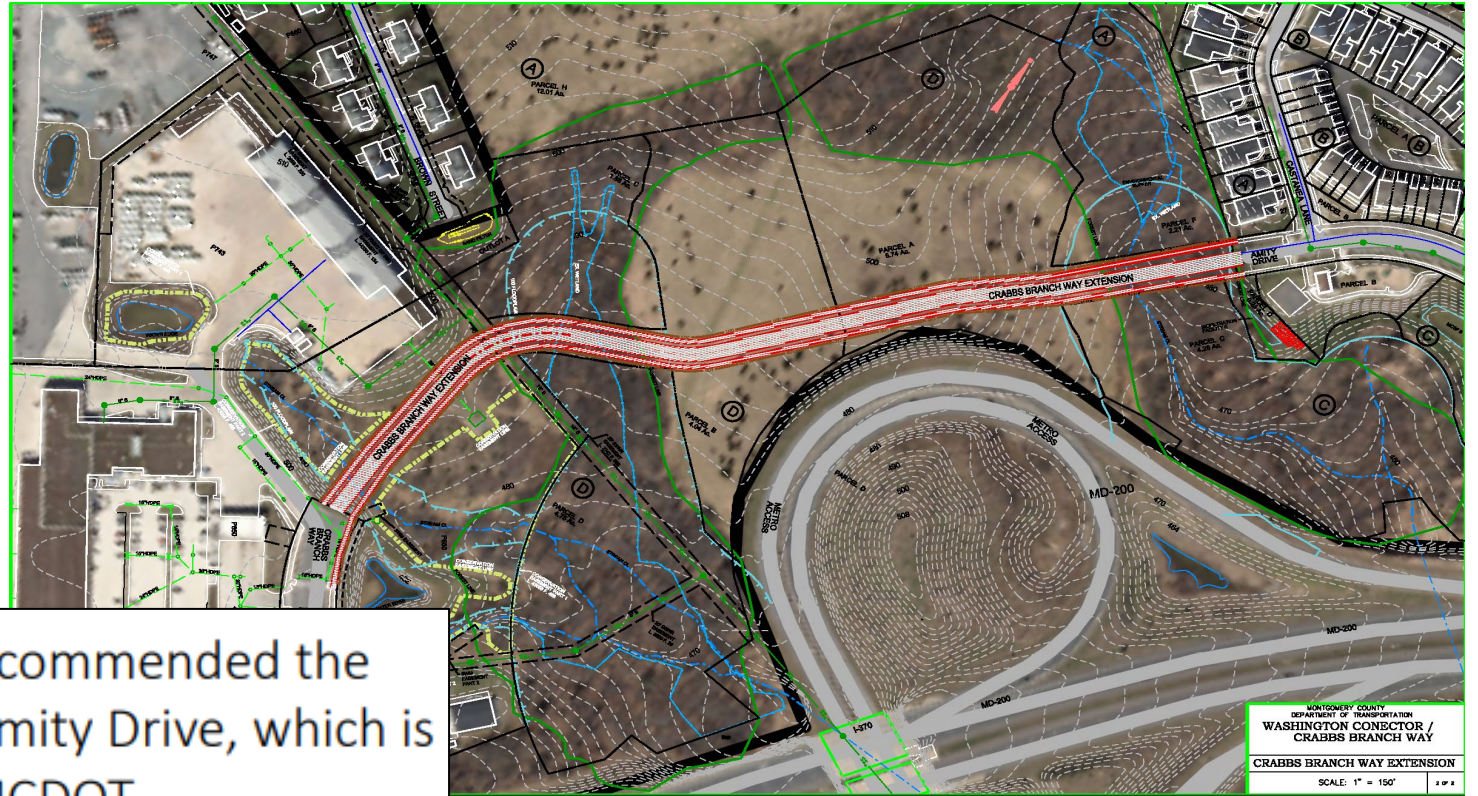
**Crabbs Branch Way**  
Crabbs Branch Way is a significant travel route through the planning area from Gude Drive to Shady Grove Road. It provides access to residential areas, the Metro station and the County Service Park. The road does not extend north of I-370 although a bridge under I-370 was built in anticipation of such an extension. This Plan recommends:

- Extending Crabbs Branch Way with an 80-foot right-of-way, under I-370 to Amity Drive, to improve local connections. To discourage cut-through traffic, a traffic circle should be considered at the intersection of Crabbs Branch Way and Amity Drive. Additional traffic calming measures along Amity Drive should also be considered.



# Project Reconfirmation

- Shady Grove Sector Plan  
Minor Master Plan  
Amendment, Spring 2021



“ The 2006 Shady Grove Sector Plan recommended the extension of Crabbs Branch Way to Amity Drive, which is currently under facility planning by MCDOT. ”

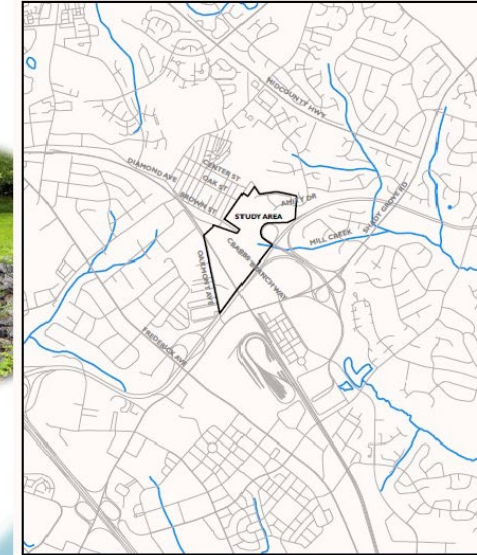


# MCDOT Phase 1 Feasibility Study

- Phase I Facility Planning Study completed October 2022
- Public Input
  - Public Outreach
    - Public Workshop held February 13, 2020
    - Public Virtual Meeting held February 17, 2021
    - Hybrid Public Meeting held April 13, 2023
  - Planning Board Briefing presentations occurred on April 29, 2021, and July 20, 2023
  - Coordination with the Town of Washington Grove throughout planning process

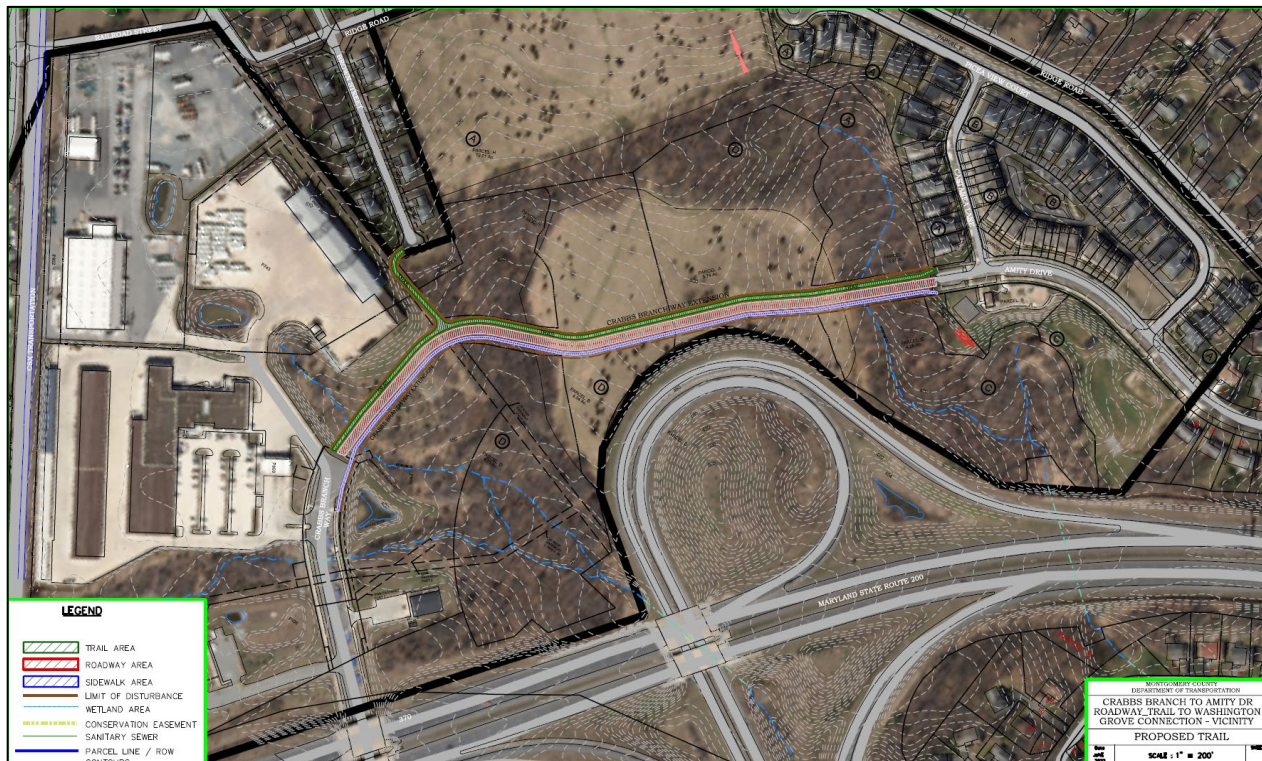
WASHINGTON GROVE CONNECTOR  
AND  
CRABBS BRANCH WAY EXTENSION  
PHASE I FACILITY PLANNING REPORT  
MCDOT – DIVISION OF TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERING

October 2022

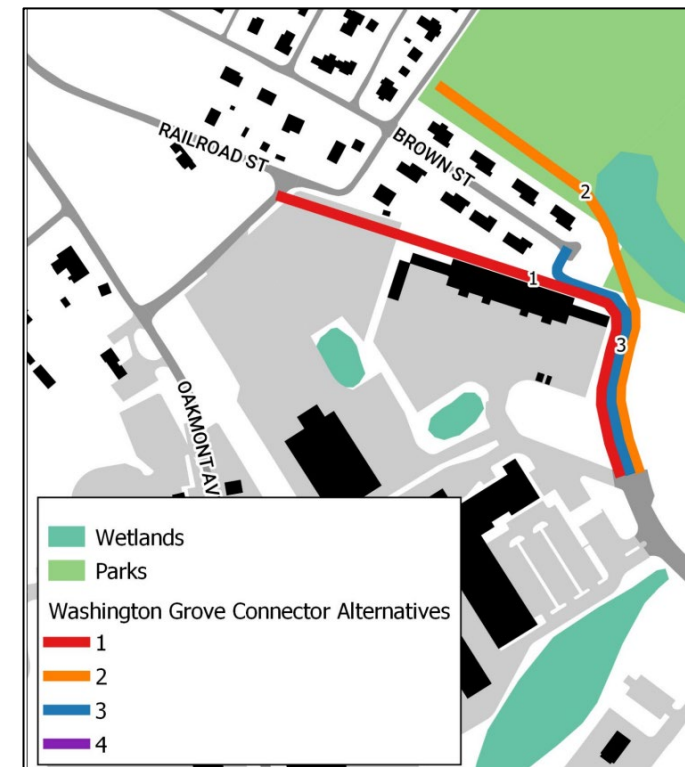


# Phase 1 Study Alternatives – Parallel Efforts

- Crabbs Branch Way Extension with trail to Brown Street



- Washington Grove Trail Connection Options



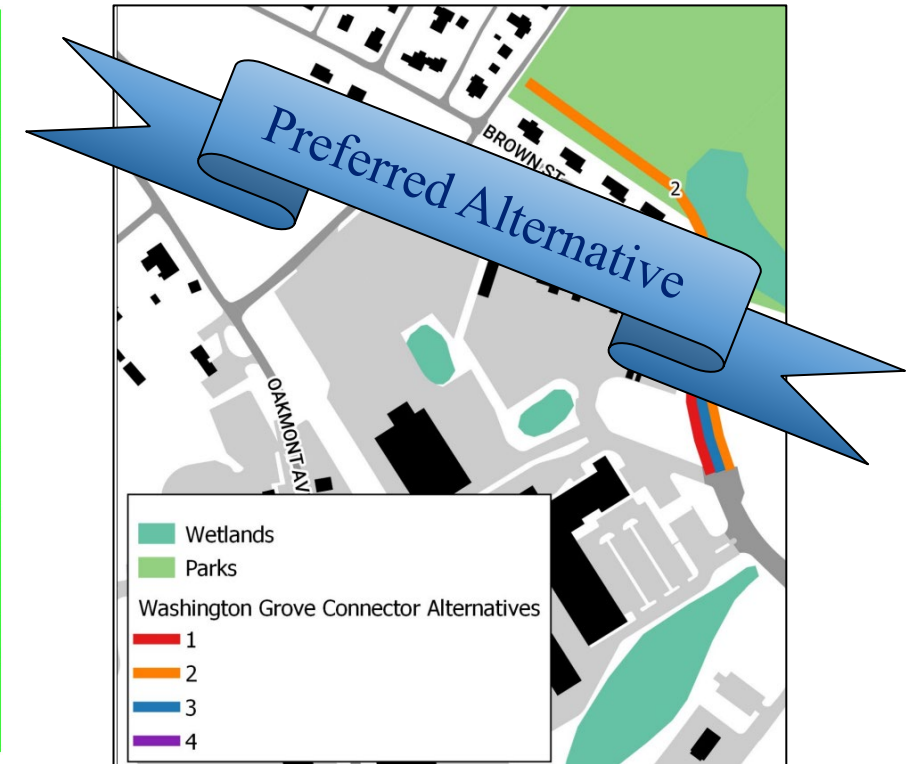


# Phase 1 Study Alternatives – Public Consensus

- Crabbs Branch Way Extension with trail to Brown Street



- Washington Grove Trail Connection Options



# Planning Board Briefing – April 2021 Recommendations



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

May 13, 2021

Mr. Christopher Conklin, PE, Director  
Montgomery County Department of Transportation  
Executive Office Building  
101 Monroe Street, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Rockville, Maryland 20850

SUBJECT: Project Briefing: Washington Grove Connector and Crabbs Branch Way Extension: Facility planning study and trail connection extension, Shady Grove Master Plan, and Shady Grove Minor Master Plan

Dear Mr. Conklin:

At its regularly scheduled meeting on April 29, 2021, the Montgomery County Planning Board received a briefing from Montgomery County Department of Transportation regarding the Washington Grove Connector and Crabbs Branch Way Extension projects. The Planning Board has the following comments:

1. Washington Grove Connector Alternative #3 (Brown Street) should be advanced as the preferred trail alignment. This trail should be designed to county typical standards, including a trail width of ten feet with 2-foot wide unpaved, graded shoulders, and with no obstructions within two feet of the trail edge. We concur with Alternative #3 as the most cost-effective and therefore practicable and desirable alignment in the near term, and we support connectivity through the Meadow. We also concur with the planned inclusion of the Picea Court Connector as an additional bicycle/pedestrian improvement, either as part of this project or as a separate project.
2. A paved trail connection between Amity Drive and Crabbs Branch Way should be built in the interim (until the Crabbs Branch Way Extension project is constructed) along the planned Crabbs Branch way Extension alignment.
3. The cross section used to design the Crabbs Branch Way Extension project should be a Neighborhood Connector street type presented as a Complete Street.
4. MCDOT should come back for a second briefing for the Crabbs Branch Way Extension project once significant study and conclusions are reached for this facility planning study.

1. Washington Grove Connector Alternative #3 (Brown Street) should be advanced as the preferred trail alignment. This trail should be designed to county typical standards, including a trail width of ten feet with 2-foot wide unpaved, graded shoulders, and with no obstructions within two feet of the trail edge. We concur with Alternative #3 as the most cost-effective and therefore practicable and desirable alignment in the near term, and we support connectivity through the Meadow. We also concur with the planned inclusion of the Picea Court Connector as an additional bicycle/pedestrian improvement, either as part of this project or as a separate project.

2. A paved trail connection between Amity Drive and Crabbs Branch Way should be built in the interim (until the Crabbs Branch Way Extension project is constructed) along the planned Crabbs Branch way Extension alignment.

4. MCDOT should come back for a second briefing for the Crabbs Branch Way Extension project once significant study and conclusions are reached for this facility planning study.

2425 Reedie Drive, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor, Wheaton, Maryland 20902 Phone: 301.495.4605  
www.montgomeryplanningboard.org E-Mail: mcp-chair@mncppc-mc.org



# Planning Board Briefing – July 2023 Recommendations

**Montgomery County Planning Board**  
THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

2425 Reedie Drive  
Floor 14  
Wheaton, MD 20902

MontgomeryPlanningBoard.org

July 31, 2023

Mr. Christopher Conklin, PE, Director  
Montgomery County Department of Transportation  
Executive Office Building  
101 Monroe Street, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Rockville, Maryland 20850

SUBJECT: **Project Briefing – Crabbs Branch Way and Washington Grove Connector Trail Study Update**

Dear Director Conklin:

At its regularly scheduled meeting on July 20, 2023, the Montgomery County Planning Board received a briefing from Planning staff and the Montgomery County Department of Transportation regarding the Crabbs Branch Way Extension and Washington Grove Connector Trail. The Planning Board provided the following recommendations on the study update:

1. The traffic analysis conducted for the Crabbs Branch Way Extension master planned road extension.
2. MCDOT should prioritize construction of the Brown Street Connector and Washington Grove Connector project, as this segment of the overall project has substantial public support, including from the Town of Washington Grove, is far along in the design process, and has a relatively low cost.
3. MCDOT should continue to advance development of a trail through Piedmont Crossing Local Park to Amity Drive. If the Council decides to fund construction of the Crabbs Branch Road Extension, this trail should be constructed adjacent to the roadway. Any trail alignments pursued are required to proceed through Montgomery Parks Concept Review process and receive Park Construction Permit Review and Approval prior to any construction.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have questions, please contact Stephen Aldrich at 301-495-4528 or [Stephen.Aldrich@montgomeryplanning.org](mailto:Stephen.Aldrich@montgomeryplanning.org).

Sincerely,

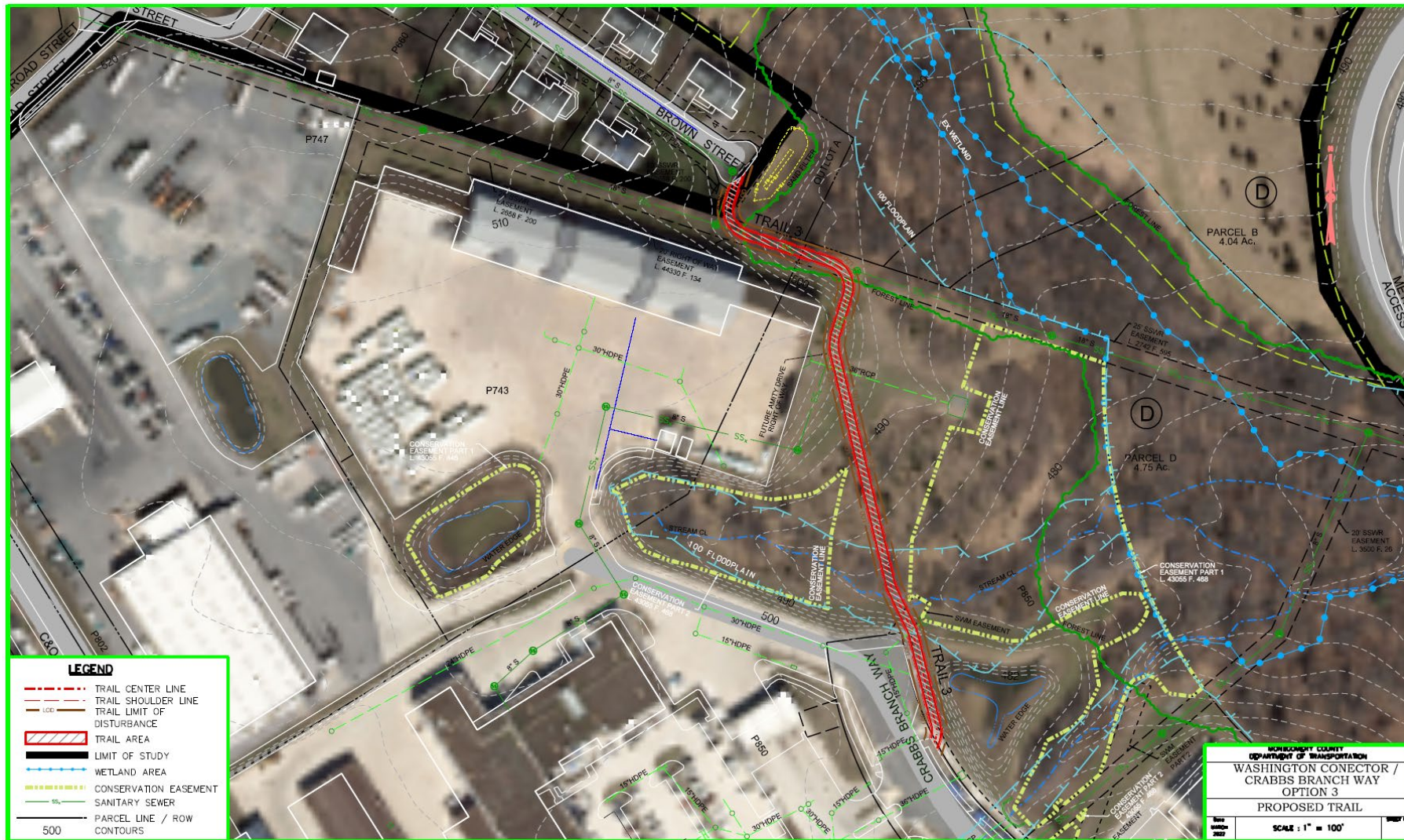


Artie L. Harris  
Chair

Attachment:  
Staff report to the Planning Board, July 20, 2023

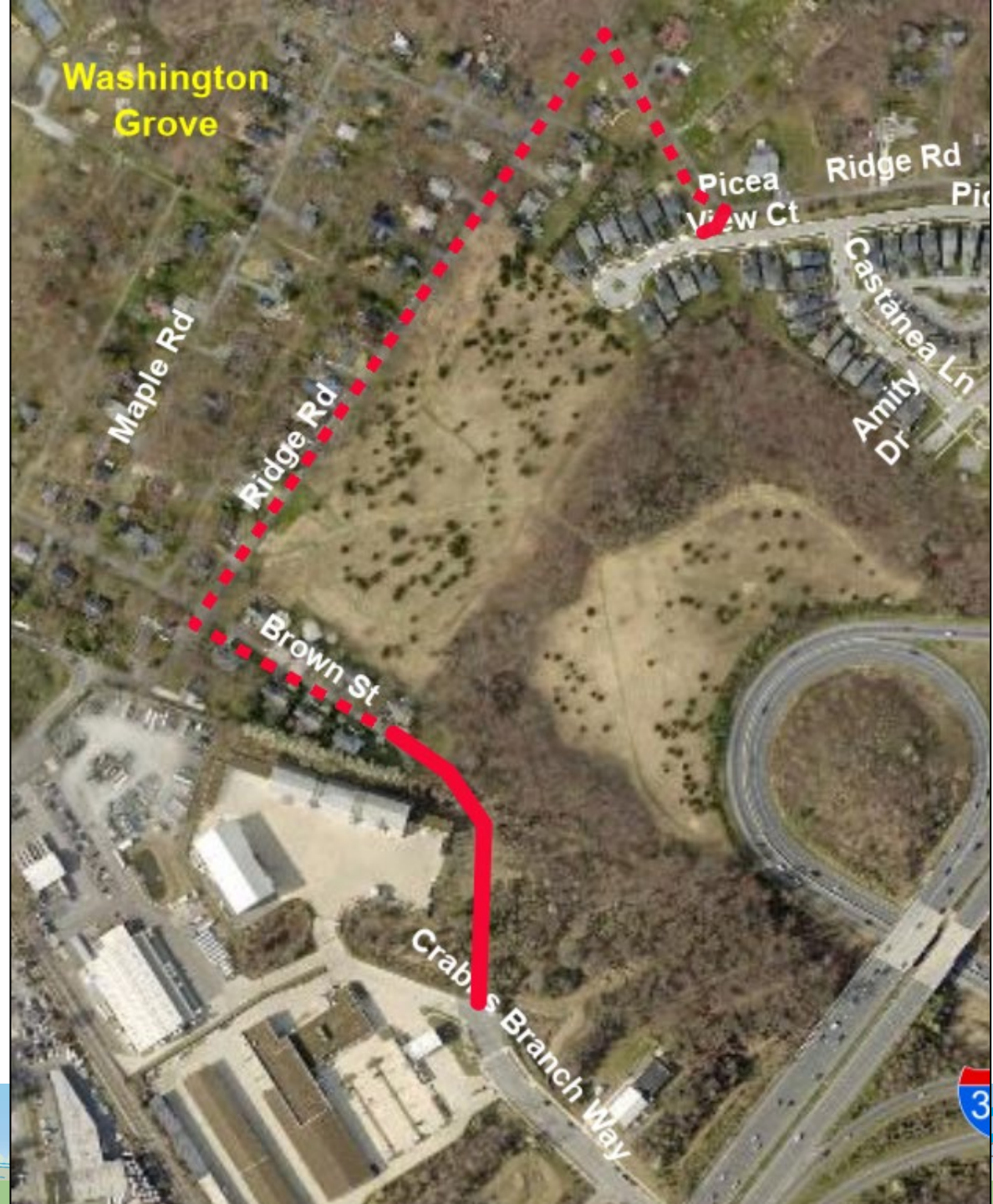
1. The traffic analysis conducted for the Crabbs Branch Way Extension project supports the master planned road extension.
2. MCDOT should prioritize construction of the Brown Street Connector portion of the Washington Grove Connector project, as this segment of the overall project has substantial public support, including from the Town of Washington Grove, is far along in the design process, and has a relatively low cost.
3. MCDOT should continue to advance development of a trail through Piedmont Crossing Local Park to Amity Drive. If the Council decides to fund construction of the Crabbs Branch Road Extension, this trail should be constructed adjacent to the roadway. Any trail alignments pursued are required to proceed through Montgomery Parks Concept Review process and receive Park Construction Permit Review and Approval prior to any construction.

# Washington Grove Connector - Trail to Brown Street

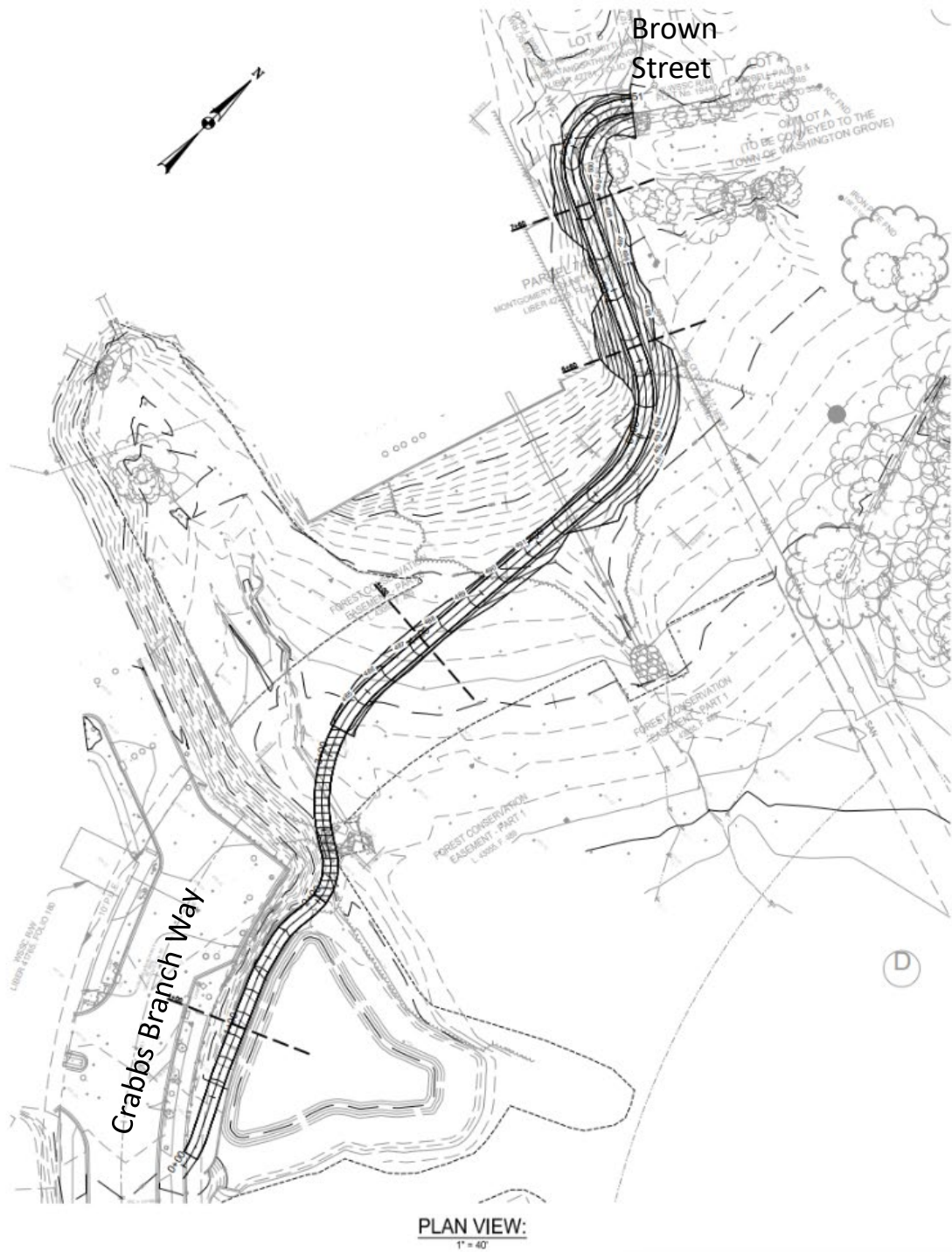


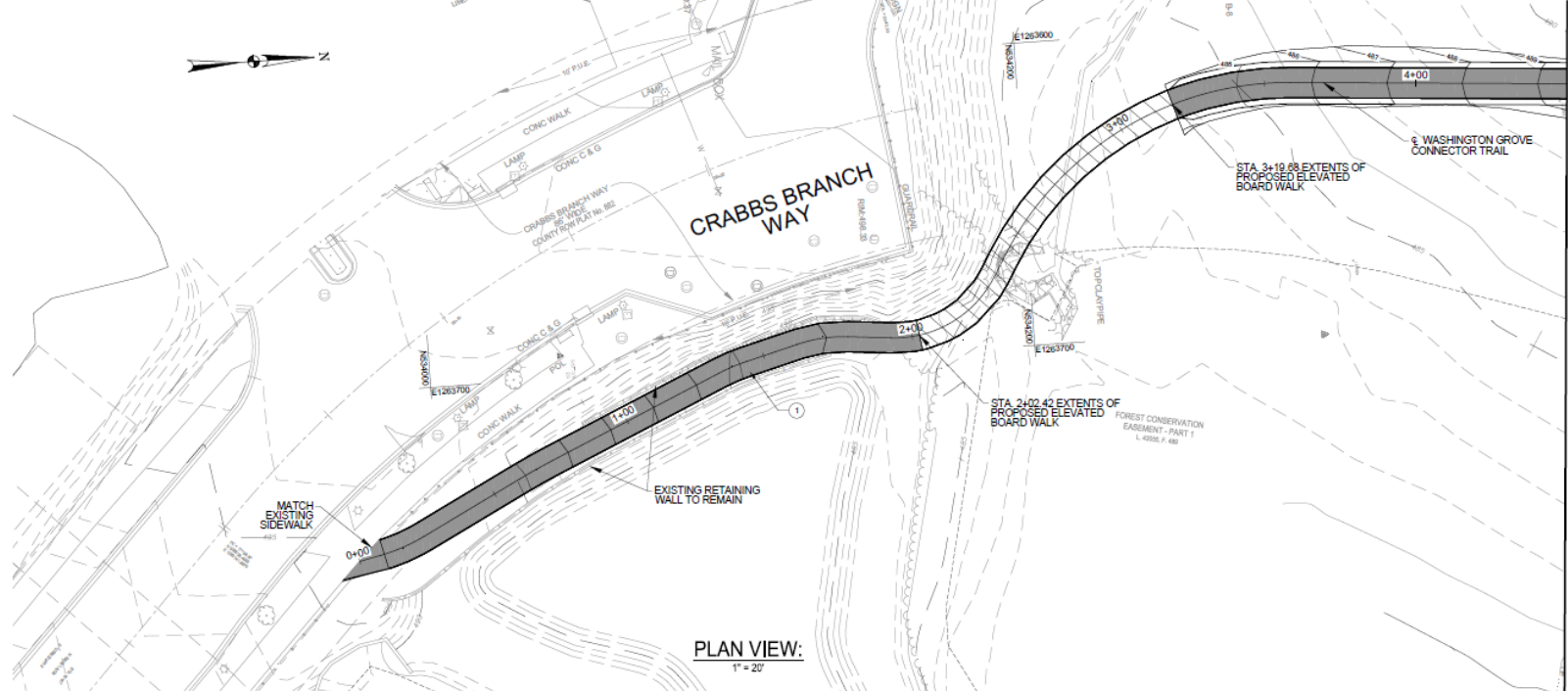
# Picea View Court Connection

- Provides pedestrian and bike connection from Picea View Court to Ridge Road
- Provides same connection as a trail across the park without the impacts to the park
- Paves an existing foot path in this location



# Washington Grove Connector Trail - Plan View

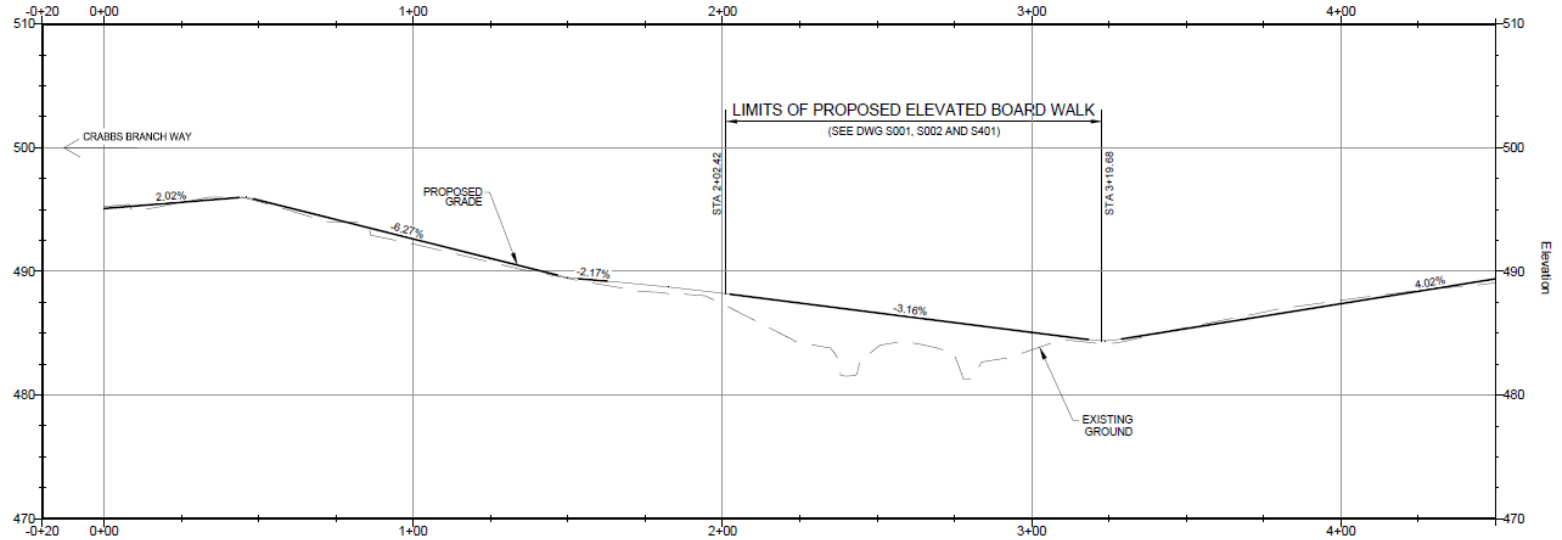




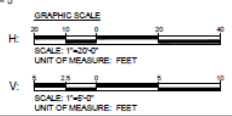
TRAIL SITE PLAN LEGEND		
DESCRIPTION	NOTES	
HOT MIX ASPHALT	①	

- NOTES:**
- THE EXISTING RETAINING WALL IS TIE-IN DOWN TO THE PATH EXISTING GRADE BETWEEN STATION 1+57 TO STATION 1+83. THE DESIGN ENGINEER WILL PROVIDE A FILL ON TOP OF THAT SECTION OF THE RETAINING WALL FOR THE TRAIL PATH ALIGNMENT.

MATCH LINE B-B STA. 4+50 - SEE DWG. C202



**PROFILE VIEW:**  
H: 1" = 20'  
V: 1" = 5'



**Engineers, Architects  
Development Consultants**  
10200 WOODBURY ROAD, SUITE 100, ROCKVILLE, MD 20850  
PHONE: 301-983-3838 FAX: 301-944-7174  
WWW.DMBC.COM

15% BRIDGING DOCUMENTS	11/3/2023		
35% BRIDGING DOCUMENTS	7/24/2024		
NO.	REVISION	DATE	BY

MONTGOMERY COUNTY  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Chief Design Section APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Chief, Division of Transportation Engineering: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_


Designed by: \_\_\_\_\_ Drawn by: \_\_\_\_\_ Checked by: \_\_\_\_\_

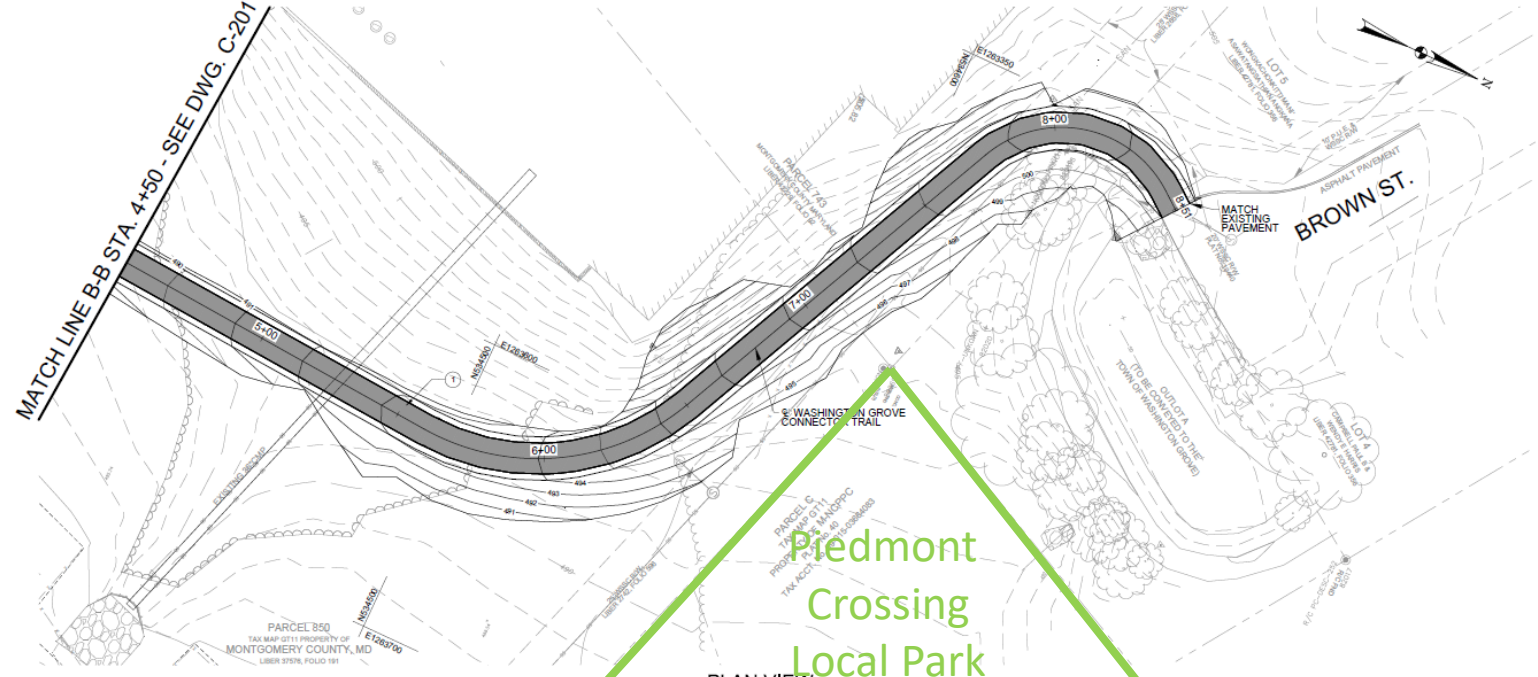
**WASHINGTON GROVE  
CONNECTOR TRAIL  
AND PICEA VIEW COURT  
CONNECTOR SIDEWALK  
TRAIL SITE LAYOUT AND PROFILE**  
1 OF 2

SCALE: AS SHOWN C201

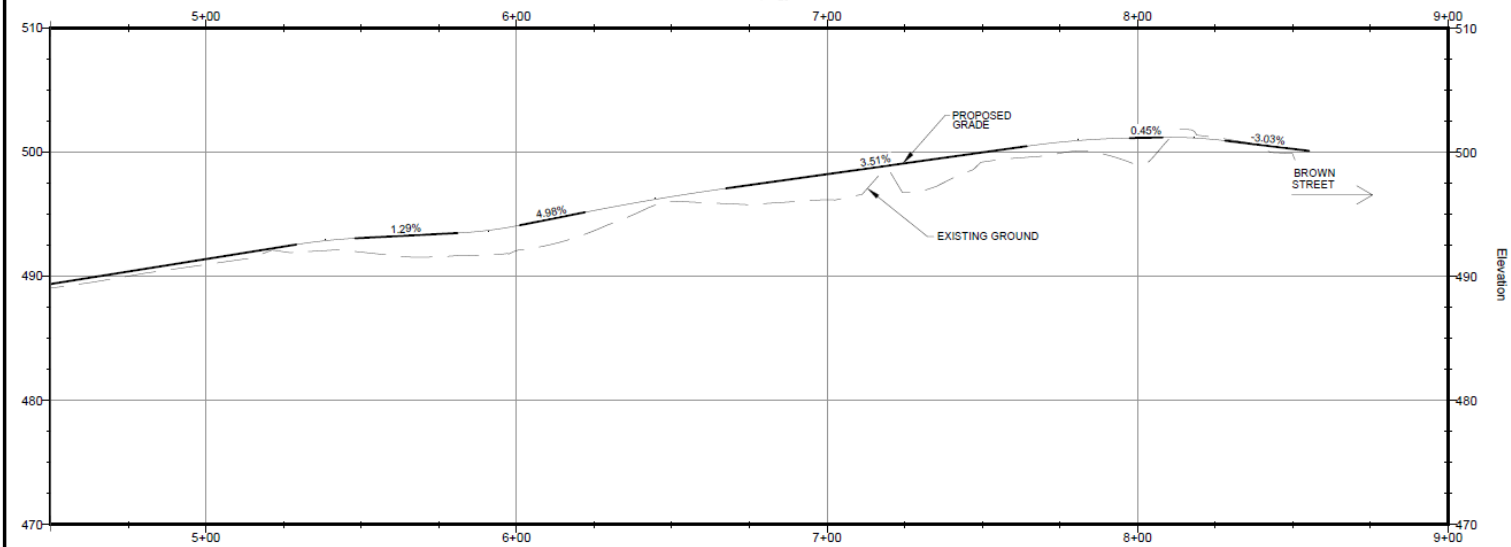
Project No.: 23002 29 of 29



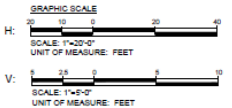
TRAIL SITE PLAN LEGEND		
	DESCRIPTION	NOTES
	HOT MIX ASPHALT	①



PLAN VIEW:  
1" = 20'



PROFILE VIEW:  
H: 1" = 20'  
V: 1" = 5'



15% BRIDGING DOCUMENTS	11/3/2023	
35% BRIDGING DOCUMENTS	7/24/2024	
NO.	REVISION	DATE

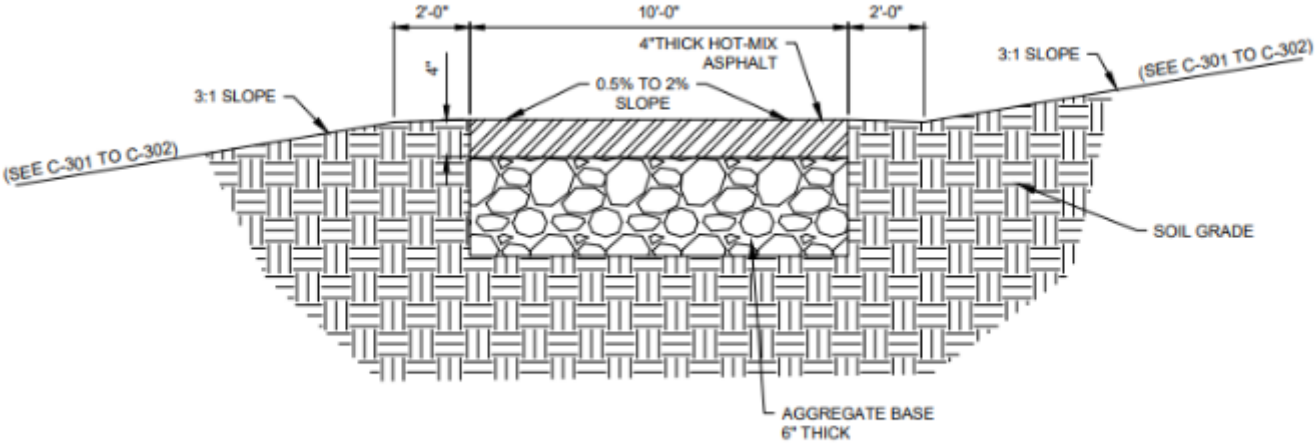
MONTGOMERY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND	
RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL	Date
Chief Design Section	
APPROVED	Date
Chief Division of Transportation Engineering	
Designed by	Drawn by
Checked by	

**WASHINGTON GROVE CONNECTOR TRAIL AND PICEA VIEW COURT CONNECTOR SIDEWALK**  
**TRAIL SITE LAYOUT AND PROFILE**  
 SCALE: AS SHOWN  
 2 OF 2  
 C202





# Trail Cross Section



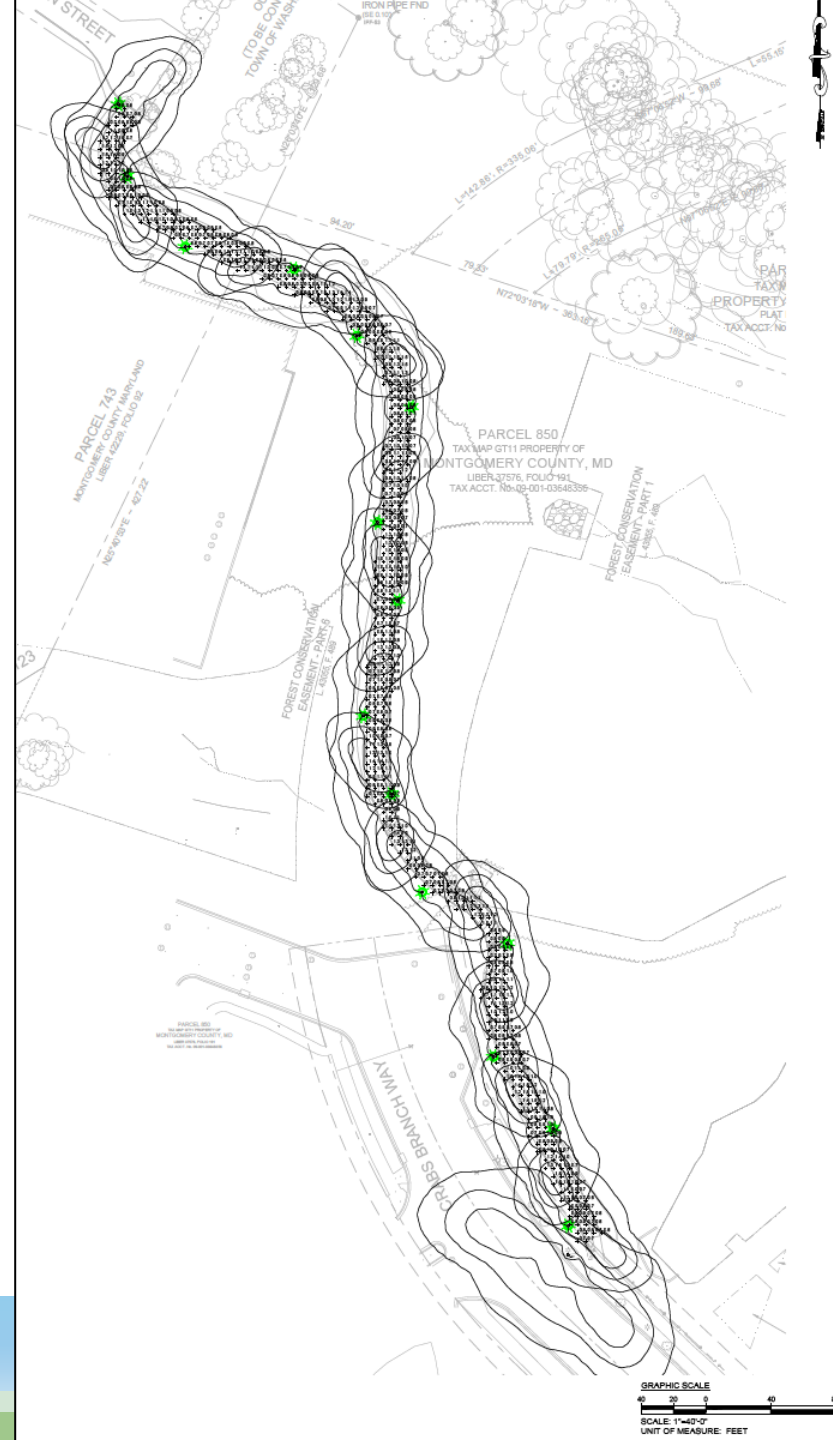
1 TYPICAL TRAIL CROSS SECTION  
NOT TO SCALE



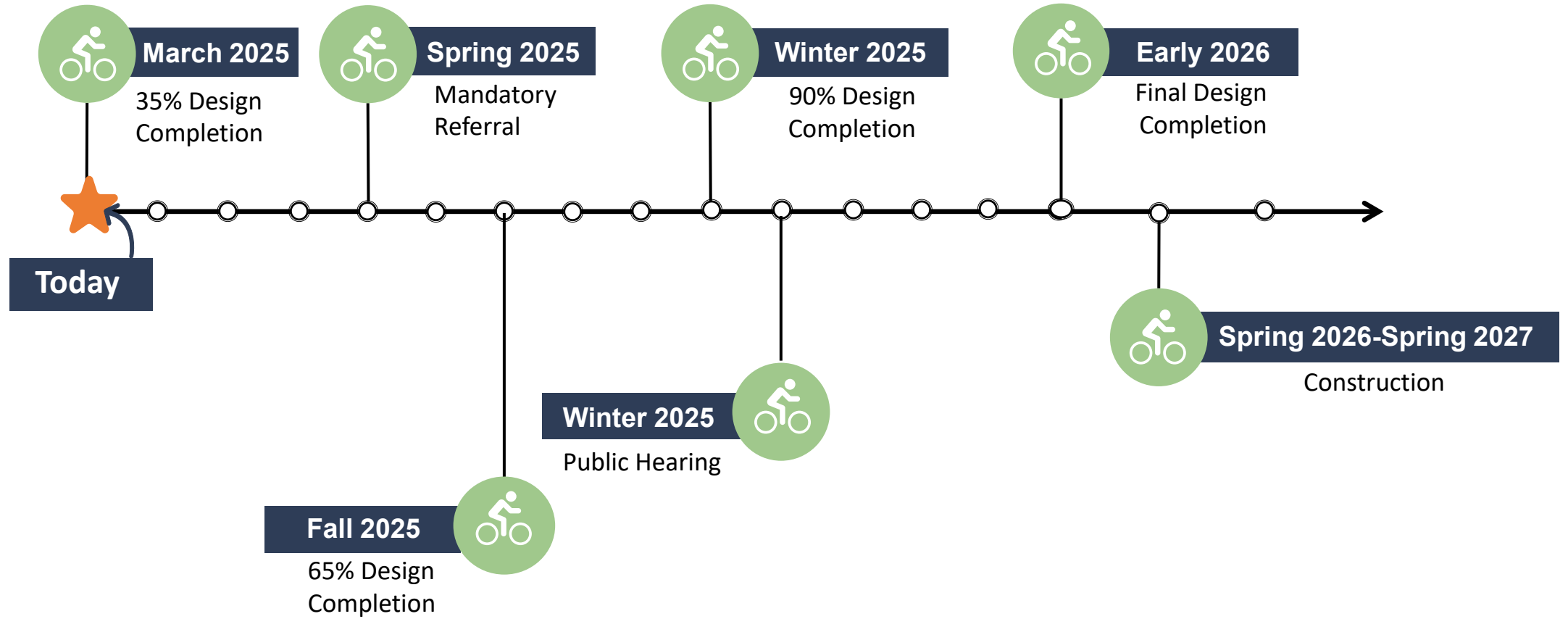


# Trail Lighting

- MCDOT-approved fixtures carry the International Dark-Sky Association Seal of Approval
- Considered Dark Sky “Friendly”
  - Lenses on lighting precludes full Dark Sky Compliancy
- No Timers or Motion Sensors

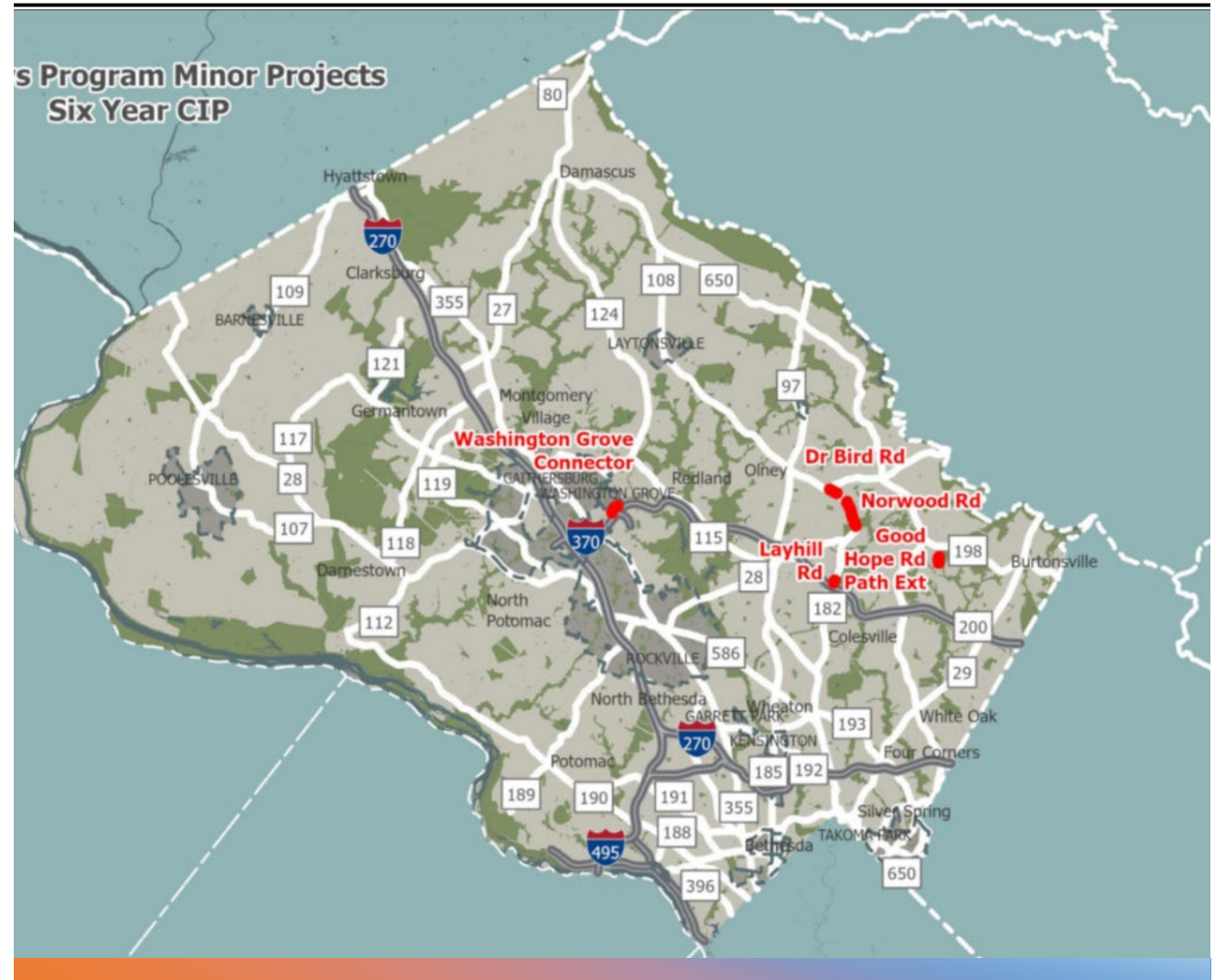


# Schedule



# Project Funding

- P507596 - Bikeway Program Minor Projects
- Funded for Construction in FY 2026



# Q & A



# Contact



Jean Kapusnick  
*Project Manager*



240-777-7240



Jean.kapusnick@montgomerycountymd.gov



<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dot-dte/projects/washgroveconnector/index.html>  
*Project Website*