



MID-COUNTY CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

Isiah Leggett
County Executive

Ana L. van Balen
Director

January 3, 2012

Mr. Isiah Leggett
County Executive
Rockville, MD 20850

Dear Mr. Leggett:

The Sandy Spring Civic Association requested that the Mid-County Citizens Advisory Board (“MCCAB”) supports its CIP request for “shared use” paths on Route 108 between Dr. Bird and Norwood roads, as well as along Dr. Bird and Norwood respectively (which would ultimately connect in a large triangle). The request is an attempt to fulfill the vision of the Sandy Spring Ashton master Plan (adopted in 1998) to create a more pedestrian / bike accessible community. In September 2010, the Sandy Spring Civic Association filed an application for shared paths.

Potential issues regarding this project include: responsibility for funding (as some of the right-of-ways exist along state roads), some of the land may have to be “taken” from certain landowners along the road, and the project hasn’t been fully evaluated in its entirety because it has not been approved.

While there are some key questions that have to be answered, the *MCCAB supports this project in principle as the Board supports a pedestrian-friendly environment, but it reserves support in fact for the project until receiving specific information about costs and benefits* (including land acquisitions) and the potential effect(s) upon property owners along the proposed route.

At that point, then, the MCCAB would prefer to further address this request based upon a complete evaluation and then provide its ultimate recommendation regarding this project.

Respectfully submitted,

Gamunu Wijetunge, Chair

CC: Council President Roger Berliner