

July 12, 2021

VIA EMAIL

County Executive Marc Elrich 101 Monroe St Rockville, MD 20850

Re: I-495/I-270 Managed Lane Project

Dear County Executive Elrich,

We are reaching out to you on behalf of Carderock Springs and South Carderock residents as well as the more than 400 children attending classes at the Carderock Springs Elementary School (CSES) to seek your leadership and support in protecting our community from harmful exposure to traffic noise and air pollutants caused by Interstate 495. Last year, you joined our community meeting and expressed your concerns about negative impact of the Beltway expansion, especially on children in CSES, and shared with us your experiences with living close to a major road.

As you are aware, we have raised repeatedly our community concerns in comment letters to the State. These concerns include:

- Increased noise and air pollution; loss of trees along the right of way;
- Potential loss of property as LOD and noise wall construction will be adjacent to private properties in our communities;
- Direct impacts on Carderock Springs Elementary School; and
- Traffic congestion on connecting roads, River Rd, Seven Locks, MacArthur Blvd., Persimmon Tree Rd
- Visual and noise impacts of proposed fly-over ramps to managed lanes from River Rd and connecting to Clara Barton Pkwy.

We are very concerned by recent statements that reversible lanes should be built only on Rte I-270 – our position is that such lanes need to be consistent from the American Legion Bridge throughout the entire length of the project in order to maintain traffic safety and mitigate impacts on our community. We believe that reversible lanes in our area:

- Would eliminate the need for the flyover ramps which in addition to being incompatible with a residential area, would greatly reduce the cost of the project;
- Would likely reduce the need for two lanes in each direction, again reducing impacts and costs;
- Would enhance ability to add transit options either now or at a later date; and
- Would maintain a consistent approach for drivers traveling on Maryland highways.



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The SHA has yet to address the many comments we and others have provided on the DEIS and given the new alternative Phase One South, a supplemental EIS needs to be produced. We urge a pause in the approval process until the State has addressed the environmental impacts of this project.

Given the current negotiations between Montgomery County and SHA, we would appreciate an opportunity to meet with you to discuss our alternative approach that would spare our community major harm.

Sincerely

Jack Orrick, President

Carderock Springs Citizens Association Email: jack.orrick@offitkurman.com

Cc:

Councilmembers Andrew Friedson and Tom Hucker Delegates Ariana Kelly, Marc Korman, and Sara Love Senator Susan Lee

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