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To: "GreaterFarmlandCivicAssociation@yahoogroups.com"
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Sent: Wednesday, July 10, 2019, 10:07:14 AM EDT
Subject: [GreaterFarmlandCivicAssociation] Update on Public Comment Period: Sidewalk Proposal For Old Gate Road and Hitching Post Lane

Everyone,

I wanted to provide you with an update on the County's proposal for the installation of sidewalks on portions of Farmland Drive, Old Gate Road and Hitching Post Lane. As you know, the only part of the proposal that is supported by the GFCA is the segment proposed for Farmland Drive.

I have been in direct contact with the Sidewalk Program Manager for the Department of Transportation concerning the proposal. Upon my request, the Program has agreed to extend the public comment period until August 9th. According to the Program, the purpose of this initial comment period is for the Program "to get a general idea of resident sentiment and to discuss next steps. Thereafter, there will be a public hearing scheduled at which residents and the association can testify to supplement or change their recorded "initial" comments. A full transcript of the public hearing will be placed on the record along with the initial comments for the Director's ultimate review. Additionally, there will be a final comment period following the hearing for residents to digest testimony provided and submit their final viewpoint on the proposal, which final comments, again, will be placed on the record for the Director's review." The program anticipates that the public hearing will take place in the early part of 2020.

Again, the GFCA will make our position known to the Department prior to August 9th. Many of you have already posted your comments on the listserv or submitted comments directly to me. Many of the comments have suggested creative alternatives to sidewalks on Old Gate and Hitching Post, such as posting traffic signs restricting through access on Hitching Post during certain times of the day, speed humps or other traffic calming measures, restricting truck traffic on Hitching Post and re-routing of school busses off of Hitching Post. Please send any comments directly to me, as well as to Lori Jean Main, the assistant to Frank Kingsley, Manager, Sidewalk Program at 240-777-7271 or by e-mail at lori.main@montgomerycountymd.gov.

Ed Rich
President
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