

Little Falls Parkway Community Meeting

Below are the transcripts from the Q&A hosted via Zoom on Wednesday, February 15, 2023, from 7 PM to 8:39 PM.

Alex 7:03 PM

Please address the issue of trucks/commercial vehicles using the parkway.

Anonymous Attendee 7:05 PM

Why has the chat been disabled?

Rebecca Hanson, WCA 7:05 PM

When will the recording be available on the website?

Robert Bradtke 7:06 PM

Does the proposal to move forward with the LFP revamp eliminate funding for the upgrading of the Willet Branch and creating a park along it, something that has been on the books since at least 1982?

Betsy 7:07 PM

Please address how the LFP project integrates with the surrounding neighborhoods, and specifically Westbard!

Gretchen Zekiel, CoS, Del. Love, (she/her) 7:08 PM

Gretchen Zekiel, Delegate Love's Chief of Staff, is also in attendance. Please feel free to reach out to us at sara.love@house.state.md.gov

Boyd McHugh 7:08 PM

Volume is really low!

Robert McGarrah 7:11 PM

How did Mike Riley and the Parks staff conclude they could model the closure of Little Falls Parkway, a major highway, on New York City's High Line, an elevated freight line transformed into a public park, maintained by New York City residents?

Elisa Lane 7:11 PM

Why don't you just put a pedestrian tunnel or bridge at the relevant crossing?

Maureen shuler 7:12 PM

The information on pedestrian safety is interesting, but have we had an issue with pedestrian safety on Little Falls? I don't see how this is relevant

Ben Ross 7:12 PM

Parkways were built for what was known as pleasure driving - which is driving for recreation, rather than for the purpose of reaching a destination? Do you have any data on how much of the current traffic on Little Falls Parkway is pleasure driving and how much is to reach a destination?

Elisa Lane 7:14 PM

That count seems unbelievable

Nicole Maddrey 7:15 PM

Does visiting the pool count as using the open space? Two different things.

Lynn Rhomberg 7:15 PM

What percentage of the homes signed the petitions. A count does not mean anything unless you know how many could

Naomi S 7:15 PM

Why do you continue to refer to “users” instead of “incidents”? - your counters do not distinguish individuals

oldermans 7:16 PM

Who are the thousands of users?

Mark 7:16 PM

Are the petition signers residents within a mile of LFP?

Rebecca Hanson, WCA 7:17 PM

When? tonight, tomorrow, by Friday?

Phyllis Edelman 7:17 PM

Have you done traffic counts through Kenwood and also on Goldsboro Road? Two alternatives drivers take because using LFP is such a disaster

Anonymous Attendee 7:17 PM

Does not look like you have accounted for individual crossing the counter twice - once in each direction on their ride/walk.

Oliver H. 7:17 PM

Free the parkway!

That is to say put back as it was.

It's closure was a nightmare to get back and forth to downtown Bethesda during COVID, and I think it is fair that the people who are most impacted by the closures have a disproportionate say in the matter shouldn't they?

Are we really “under parked” in this area when we need to see Friendship Heights come back as an urban core already?

Patricia Johnson 7:17 PM

How can open parkways numbers be relevant now that communities work places and schools have opened as Covid threat has lessened. Photos of the empty parkway was the norm from Oct 2021 -June 2022.

Rebecca Hanson, WCA 7:18 PM

Where can we get a copy of the 1999 signature petition complaining about reopening the parkway?

Elisa Lane 7:19 PM

How many signatures do you need to return LFP to the way it was?

Leanne Tobias 7:20 PM

*What is the estimated impact of the impact of the Westbard sector plan (~659,999 square feet of residential and commercial space to be built) and the downtown Bethesda sector plan (millions of square feet of residential and commercial space to be built) on the vehicle traffic estimates? Has a forecast been completed?

*What are the pre-pandemic vehicle traffic counts and how is the scheduled return to work by federal employees (May 2023) expected to affect LFP traffic counts?

Anonymous Attendee 7:29 PM

When Ridgefield Road reopens, (it is currently closed for construction), cut through traffic will increase. Was this taken into consideration?

Anonymous Attendee 7:29 PM

Where can I join the petition to return the parkway to the way it was?

Robert McGarrah 7:29 PM

Mr. Lukacs need to correct his statements to state that the data he cites comes from surveys that were taken during the complete closure of the Parkway on weekends, not since the complete and 7 days a week elimination of two lanes of the Parkway.

Moreover, Parks Department employees have admitted that since the complete closure of the 2 lanes, "very few" people walk or use the closed down lanes.

Anonymous Attendee 7:21 PM

We really don't have enough green space in Bethesda?

Anonymous Attendee 7:21 PM

How will you guarantee that this will remain a park and not just be handed over to developers?

Anonymous Attendee 7:22 PM

Did you consider using the center median for the cyclists so no lanes need to be closed and both drivers and cyclists can utilize LFP as in the past.

Phyllis Edelman 7:22 PM

This meeting is just trying to "sell" your decision to the public without giving the public what we really want: A two-lane, median divided Parkway. We were very happy with our road before you started these changes.

Tom Eldridge 7:22 PM

True or False?: The communities surrounding Little Falls Parkway are uniformly opposed to Parks' unilateral decision to close half of the Parkway as expressed through their leadership?

Lynn Rhomberg 7:22 PM

Why do bike lanes just end or disappear??? What is a biker to do??

Lynn Rhomberg

Dan Lansdale 7:22 PM

Acre for acre, the Down-County area lacks the open space and parks that the rest of the County has. Parks should extend the linear park all the way to River Road.

Anonymous Attendee 7:22 PM

Agree with other comments - those 3,999 participants per weekend seem totally inflated based on what I've seen. Where was the counting done?

Leanne Tobias 7:22 PM

*Will trees and tree canopy be eliminated in constructing the proposed park? If so, how much?

*Where are park users expected to park? Will dedicated off-street parking be provided?

Oliver H. 7:23 PM

Does not all the traffic rerouting through Kenwood from River and Mass not largely increase the risk to children and pedestrians there?

A good sidewalk in addition to the existing roadways seems like a better decision. From what I can see there is ample excess parkland still there that is otherwise unused.

Mark 7:23 PM

I think it is very disappointing that Parks continues to exploit the single tragic cyclist fatality to justify this. That cyclist did not stop at the stop sign, essentially NO cyclists stop before crossing LFP. And the cyclist killed was on a recumbent bike and was obscured by a stopped vehicle.

Rebecca Hanson, WCA 7:24 PM

Will you post all of these questions when you post the presentation?

Susan Bruser 7:24 PM

1) how will you assure that pedestrians and cyclists obey the stop sign on the trail? At least one accident was likely caused by a cyclist ignoring the stop sign. 2) how will you accommodate the increased traffic from the new housing in what is currently the Giant site on Westbard?

Emily 7:24 PM

Three questions:

-were the user counts across all 3 parkways, or just limited to LF?

-you said there is limited park space in the area for people without a backyard, but what about Norwood Park? It seems pretty underutilized, has large green spaces and like it would be a great space for the activities.

-if speed/auto safety is really the primary concern, why aren't there cameras/other speed enforcement? Seems like that would be an effective and direct method of accomplishing your goal.

Anonymous Attendee 7:24 PM

We use the parkway regularly. When the parkway was closed, we were forced to cut through Kenwood. It is unfair to the residents there.

Anonymous Attendee 7:25 PM

County needs to reduce dependence on cars and encourage biking and walking. Kudos to the County for its pedestrian master plan--but it needs to be implemented more quickly.

Tom Eldridge 7:25 PM

True or False?: The communities surrounding Little Falls Parkway have expressed their views (through their leadership) that they prefer that Parks fully re-open all four lanes of Little Falls Parkway and study the feasibility of building a bridge for the Capital Crescent Trail over Little Falls Parkway?

Susan Bruser 7:26 PM

What decrease in traffic was related to Covid?

Mark 7:26 PM

Do you have traffic data for Kenwood before Parks started closing/choking LFP?

Anonymous Attendee 7:26 PM

How can the pedestrian/cyclist route be connected between Dorset and Mass Ave? Well done on this data-driven approach, our family used the parkway almost every weekend when it was closed to traffic. Our two toddlers learned to ride their bikes because of your effort, so thank you. Since the parkway became open again, we have even taught our toddlers' friends how to ride their bikes at the new nonvehicular lanes. However, our use has gone down since the Parkway reopened to traffic because of safety concerns about walking/riding along the parkway from Mass Ave / River Rd. to Dorset. An extension to the pedestrian/bike path that ends at Mass Ave to connect to the path starting at Dorset would be ideal.

Tom Eldridge 7:27 PM

True or False?: Building a bridge for the Capital Crescent Trail over Little Falls Parkway would be more consistent with Vision Zero than Parks' proposal to close half the lanes of Little Falls Parkway?

DW 7:27 PM

As a mother of two kids and a triathlete who cycles and runs in the neighborhood, we have enough parks and trails in this area and do not need more. It is fiscally irresponsible to continue using funds on this ridiculous project. Put the road back as it was...all you have done is create dangerous situations in the surrounding neighborhoods which drivers use to cut through...now I am worried some driver in a hurry, that would have used Little Falls, is going to be rushing through the neighborhood and hit me, a neighbor or one of our children. Can you do a better job attending to the needs of the residents who actually live in this area and intentionally spend time collecting our thoughts and opinions on this?

Naomi S 7:28 PM

Doesn't it make sense that peak hou traffic on LFP has decreased because drivers are diverting to neighborhood street?

Betsy 7:28 PM

Must address plan for east - west traffic. 1. LFP cut in half, 2. Westbard closed, 3. Goldsboro/Mass. limited capacity, 4. Western - bike lanes.

Anonymous Attendee 7:29 PM

Turning the parkway to two lanes is downright dangerous. When I was driving at night, the headlight from oncoming traffic blinds the vision and the pedestrian crosswalk comes up suddenly.

Anonymous Attendee 7:29 PM

Sounds like the concerns of drivers are overblown. The results are in. The statistics show less cut-through traffic, less volume, and efficient speeds.

Anonymous Attendee 7:29 PM

Great to see that these improvements have reduced the average speed of cars. Reduced speeds have been proven to improve safety of a roadway for all users.

Patricia Johnson 7:29 PM

This is 4/19th of a mile - why spend so much money and focus on a small section of road that goes nowhere. How much will this cost tax payers for this 2999 sq ft park. There is no one on it now and there is no way there were 399999 walkers/bikers on this stretch of road. These counts are inflated. The photos don't lie. Is this a line item in the CIP. Have your studies considered the planned density coming with the expansion of Westbard and Downtown Bethesda?

Vickie Allin 7:39 PM

You refer to changes due to public feedback you received. However, I wasn't aware of any opportunity for public comment until this meeting. How did you expect to receive public feedback when most of the public were unaware of what was happening?

richardhoye 7:39 PM

I support the road diet and linear park plans. As a fire fighter -retried-assigned to the fire station with first due responsibility for the parkway and the trail the parkway is much safer as two lane road and the 4 lanes was never needed.

Anonymous Attendee 7:39 PM

The so-called results are typical Parks BS. No traffic counts done on neighborhood streets where traffic is re-directed.

Tom Eldridge 7:39 PM

True or False?: Little Falls Parkway is considered Capper-Cramton land, in that it was purchased using Federal funds provided pursuant to that Federal law, and is therefore, subject to the oversight of the National Capital Planning Commission for all development and re-development?

Betsy 7:39 PM

Will the report provided include the actual, underlying data along with these simple summaries?

Carly Tu 7:39 PM

Well done! Way to make the corridor safer for all users!

Dennis DuFour 7:31 PM

in this configuration, bicycle traffic, if it occurs, is positioned to the right of vehicular traffic. For turning vehicles this puts the biker at risk. Why did you add risk here in a vision zero environment?

Maureen shuler 7:31 PM

This safety information seems very biased, what about the safety of our neighborhoods where people are cutting through? And we have no sidewalks? What about the safety there?

Anonymous Attendee 7:31 PM

As already stated, this particular area has a wealth of recreational opportunities with CCT, the pool, the park north of Arlington Rd. There are many much more deserving areas in the county that would welcome and deserve such attention for additional recreational opportunities

Anonymous Attendee 7:31 PM

Why is that road being referred to as "cut through traffic?" All roads are built for a reason, which is for cars to get where they are going. LFP is not a cut-through road, but all of the neighborhood streets around it are. Taking this away will force cars into the neighborhoods. Put the road back the way it was and use it the way it was intended.

Patricia Johnson 7:32 PM

Fire/rescue are coming through on Brookside Dr and Dorset

Anonymous Attendee 7:32 PM

So if the improvements have been so successful, why can't we keep them and leave the road at 4 lanes and divided?

richardhoye 7:33 PM

The road diet will allow the planting of more trees- reforestation of the parkway corridor. What are the plans or expected opportunities?

Anonymous Attendee 7:33 PM

Citing Sligo and Beach Drive are false comparisons. Nothing comparable to LFP.

Anonymous Attendee 7:33 PM

Thanks for this project. I support this change and I am glad to see the need for park space and road safety for all users prioritized. The road was very overbuilt before and it was scary to see people often going so fast over the speed limit in cars. This is a good use of land! Well done Montgomery County!

Anonymous Attendee 7:33 PM

Speakers are talking at 199 mph ...

Elizabeth Hurwit 7:33 PM

The issue with traffic trends is that Westbard has not been completed yet, and there is development under way in Bethesda and Friendship Heights. Why can't this pilot and linear park wait until we see the demands on the parkway after all that development is completed?

Tom Eldridge 7:34 PM

True or False?: Parks has not modeled potential increased traffic from proposed or currently ongoing development in Bethesda, such as Westbard and in downtown Bethesda?

Lynn Rhomberg 7:34 PM

Have you talked to bikers and runner concerning the changes??

Lynn Rhomberg

Anonymous Attendee 7:34 PM

Do you have any information on why those flex barriers were selected? They seem to cut off a lot of visibility on the road.

Mark 7:34 PM

Residents see and live traffic everyday. It's backed up.

Bob Chlopak 7:34 PM

traffic volume studies on LFP are largely during the COVID period with many people working from home or flexibly. Given the growth in this area, what is the basis for assuming that traffic volumes will not increase as people return to offices and development continues?

Anonymous Attendee 7:34 PM

Considering the Vision Zero goals, why isn't the speed limit 25 mph for the entire parkway instead of 35 mph between Dorset and River

Alice M 7:35 PM

1. You seem to be comparing traffic and accident data pre pandemic to post pandemic. Traffic patterns have clearly changed as more people work from home. 2. How are you going to handle massive increases in population due to Westbard condo and apartment construction and inclusion of River Road in the master plan as a growth area?

oldermans 7:35 PM

The road has become more dangerous for bikers coming from Bradley to get on the trail.

Anonymous Attendee 7:36 PM

This is a great way to alleviate crowding on the CCT. People who want to do things other than ride fast or run on the CCT will finally have some space to move. That's awesome

Robert Bradtke 7:36 PM

have you considered testing out the food truck idea. by having them do a try out A at teh Neil Potter plaza on River Road and the CCT?

Anonymous Attendee 7:36 PM

On a major parkway going into an urban area Bethesda, citizens want to get to work and buy groceries, not play corn hole

richardhoye 7:36 PM

Mike Riley for PRESIDENT in 2924!

Elizabeth Hurwit 7:37 PM

Many of us taught our kids to ride bikes in our neighborhoods and in Norwood Park. That's not a sufficient reason to make these drastic changes.

Elisa Lane 7:37 PM

Where will people park to take advantage of your park activities?

Carly Tu 7:37 PM

Why not continue the shared use space all the way to Mass. Ave to connect to the path at Little Falls Stream Valley Park?

Lynn Rhomberg 7:37 PM

Where are these parks??? Be nice to see them in action.

Anonymous Attendee 7:37 PM

I live in the area and use the Capital Crescent trail regularly. I don't feel we don't have enough green space. Return the parkway to the way it was.

Anonymous Attendee 7:37 PM

No one uses the exercise equipment on Beach Drive. It just sits and rusts.

Rebecca Hanson, WCA 7:37 PM

The pictures of Beach Drive and Sligo Creek park amenities don't show any people using them!

Anonymous Attendee 7:37 PM

Eldridge: False. Not all the Towns surrounding LFP have weighed in. They want to see the data first--which just came out this evening. Westbard will take years to build out. What's the point in waiting? Re: Capper Crampton: I can't see the Feds overruling this reasonable use of parkland.

Elizabeth Hurwit 7:38 PM

How are you expecting people to get to the linear park? If by car, where will they park? If by foot or bike, won't this further crowd the Crescent Trail? How will any of this relieve congestion on the Trail?

Anonymous Attendee 7:38 PM

You can't teach your kids to ride a bike in your neighborhood any more because they are dangerous with cut through traffic that is rerouted there.

Anonymous Attendee 7:38 PM

I love this project!!

Lynn Rhomberg 7:39 PM

What is the cost of th pilot project? What is the projected cost for

Tom Eldridge 7:39 PM

The Bethesda Pool parking lot is almost always very full in the summer. Isn't it likely given that that people interested in using the park will park in surrounding neighborhoods and increase traffic in those neighborhoods?

Anonymous Attendee 7:39 PM

Hurwit- The users will come from the immediate surroundings. They'll walk or bike--along LFP (where else?)

Anonymous Attendee 7:39 PM

Parking during the summer when the pool is opened will be impossible. People will be parking in the neighborhoods where roads are narrow and sidewalks aren't always available, making this dangerous for the community members.

Alex 7:39 PM

Does the community get any say?

Elisa Lane 7:49 PM

Montgomery County owns space along Bradley Blvd that could be used for parks?

Anonymous Attendee 7:49 PM

If Kenwood is concerned about pedestrian safety, they should build sidewalks. They have enough money.

Anonymous Attendee 7:49 PM

It is hard to justify additional park space in an area where many of us have backyards and there are two private country clubs nearby.

Anonymous Attendee 7:49 PM

HOW DID MoCo Parks get control of a Parkway???

Alice M 7:41 PM

You have not mentioned the negative feedback you have received over the past two years re: the closure of the lanes, only the so called "positive" feedback. I know that many people have written emails objecting to the closures and diet, but you never mention those.

Alex 7:41 PM

The community needs a vote in these plans.

Tom Eldridge 7:41 PM

Why hasn't Parks shared with the public the amount they have spent to date on their Little Falls Parkway project, and will Parks commit to making all spending on this project, past and proposed, public?

Anonymous Attendee 7:41 PM

Re: Country clubs: sorry I don't have the \$59,999 initiation fee.

Anonymous Attendee 7:41 PM

Would love to see someone vet the supporters for this project. Do they actually live in the area and are the same group of people not repeat submitters?

Anonymous Attendee 7:41 PM

Food trucks.. where are the trash receptacles and porta potties. Will u close the parkway to have events? How will people get to the park. Existing parking is not enough. How much will this cost? How about sound ordinances near residential areas. How about lighting. The requests for additional parks are not in this area.

Anonymous Attendee 7:42 PM

By this logic, all roadways should be limited to 25 mph, including the Beltway?

Anonymous Attendee 7:42 PM

Real data?

Ben Ross 7:42 PM

Will the trail be straightened out at the crossing? The bend in the trail makes it hard to see southbound traffic on Little Falls Pkwy when you approach the crossing from the north.

Anonymous Attendee 7:42 PM

We have a very large park in Norwood Park, there is a nice little park and playground at Dorset and Kennedy Drive. Farther north in Chevy Chase and Bethesda we have Elm St Urban Park and Caroline

Freedland Park. There must be other parts of the county that need additional park space much more than our Bethesda neighborhoods.

Alison Gillespie 7:42 PM

I am really glad to see DOT and Parks working so closely on a project that improves safety and provides more park space. I really like this project and I support it.

Alex 7:42 PM

The traffic counts were done during the pandemic. NONSENSE

Alice M 7:43 PM

The crescent trail crossing as is is a frustrating bottleneck, especially in the summer. Move the crossing to the light about 59 feet away, and everyone will be safer and traffic will move better. Cheap, too.

Bob Chlopak 7:43 PM

There are already 2 parks (Kenwood and Norwood parks) that provide safer areas for recreation and children to play... Why is another park needed in this area given the two parks and at the expense of more traffic? Where will people park for this "park"?

Anonymous Attendee 7:44 PM

19 to 29 million for a bridge? Seriously. Again not anywhere realistic or accurate.

Anonymous Attendee 7:44 PM

How can you build a park adjacent to moving traffic with all its air pollution? What will the affect be on the lungs of park users, particularly children?

richardhoye 7:44 PM

A bridge is the wrong infrastructure solution for a crossing of LFP for the trail. It has access and energy costs for users that are prohibitive and should only be considered for crossing valleys given a level grade for trail users

Anonymous Attendee 7:44 PM

I never heard anyone in this privileged community advocate for more parks for some other area of the County. Spare me.

Phyllis Edelman 7:44 PM

How does your decision to put a park in this area comply with county priorities for racial justice and social equity?

Anonymous Attendee 7:44 PM

It is clear the safety improvements at the CCT crossing worked great. Please accept these as a given and stop using them to justify these other changes. A bridge or tunnel on the CCT makes as much sense as this park does...

Rick Parker 7:45 PM

When you say that 2.5K people per day are counted at the Bethesda Pool at Little Falls. What does that mean? Are you trying to tell us that 2.5K people per day are actually walking along Little Falls Parkway? I drive Little Falls parkway 4-5 times per day - 2.5K people per day feels very ridiculous to me.

Naomi S 7:46 PM

The tentative hearing on 3/23 is yes/no for the road diet. Will there be another hearing for the Planning Board to vote on the linear park? And why not wait until the full Planning Board is in place, rather than a board with temporary members?

Jon Miller 7:46 PM

Did you study re-alignment of the Capital Crescent Trail crossing with the vehicular signal at Arlington Rd? That would address safety issues, and still entitle 4 total travel lanes.

Reid Detchon 7:46 PM

I support reducing LFP to two lanes, but the current configuration seems crazy to me, with the lanes switching sides for no apparent reason. Why not simply retain the inner lanes for cars and leave the outer lanes for bikes, walkers, etc.?

Mark 7:46 PM

Parks should disclose the # of submissions objecting to the plan and not only cite supporters (and apparent unvetted indications of support).

Anonymous Attendee 7:46 PM

I suspect the 1.9K signatures that you received are mostly from residents in Somerset. Cut through traffic was significantly reduced with the closure of Little Falls. I would be extremely surprised if anyone else signed that petition.

Alexandra Acosta 7:46 PM

I'm not opposed to a road diet if it enhances safety for bicyclists and pedestrians, but I don't see how this plan will do that. The bike/pedestrian trail will be a very short stretch, basically an on-ramp to the CCT. Can you explain how this will enhance safety?

Susan Spock 7:47 PM

I don't trust the traffic studies, because in my experience, the heavier volumes of traffic begin well after 5:00 p.m. How was the 4:45 to 5:45 p.m. hour determined as the best time to make traffic studies?

Betsy 7:47 PM

Westbard will triple density, most with cars

Anonymous Attendee 7:48 PM

Citing the parking at Bethesda Pool is ridiculous. Have you ever been to that pool when the pool is open? Cars are illegally parked all over the grass all day long.

Bob Chlopak 7:48 PM

those projections in the LFP area reflect pre covid vs covid periods. They are not reliable given the substantial growth in this area.

Anonymous Attendee 7:48 PM

obviously the presenters don't drive on these roads.

John Oliver 7:48 PM

Have you studied the speed impact on cut through traffic? I can attest to a significant increase in speed for non-residents cutting through Kenwood on Kennedy drive. Would welcome data on that.

donajones 7:48 PM

Re decrease in traffic, have you considered that it is due to work-from-home workers? Over time, more people will return to work in person. Dona Jones

Michael Steiner 7:48 PM

It appears that the community's input on this project is superfluous, as planning and implementation are set to proceed per decisions already made by the parks department, regardless of any feedback that you may receive from members of the community.

Elisa Lane 7:49 PM

How many people have been hit by cars on LFP?

Anonymous Attendee 7:49 PM

Clearly no one who is presenting here lives or drives anywhere near here - or they live in Somerset.

Alice M 7:49 PM

Mr Tsai, on what data do you "believe" the two lanes of the reduced parkway will be able to handle Westbard development, especially as work from home patterns change and more people drive to work?

John Oliver 7:49 PM

Why can't Capital Crescent Trail be expanded to serve more bike lanes as well as park-type areas.

Anonymous Attendee 7:49 PM

Did anyone provide a cost-benefit analysis of the pilot or project?

Anonymous Attendee 7:59 PM

How many citations have been issued to cyclists?

Alex 7:59 PM

The trucks are here every single day and night. Trucks all day every day. Police here once or twice. They only talked to the truck drivers, no consequences. Tickets were given to cars turning left

Anonymous Attendee 7:59 PM

I thought there was a proposal to move the trail to the light at Arlington and Little Falls?

John Stewart 7:51 PM

Why has no mention been made nor consideration given to Little Falls Park? It's a parallel route that has adjacent wooded areas that could be used for the cornhole and chess and picnic areas you propose, and is connected to Norwood Park as well as the CCT. It's in serious need of repaving, but you haven't mentioned any plan to improve it. Why not?

Anonymous Attendee 7:52 PM

Here is what is needed:

- (1) a pedestrian path alongside LFP from River Road to Massachusetts Avenue.
- (2) a return to LFP from River Road to Fairfax, as it was.

David Forman 7:52 PM

What will be discussed on March 23 and decided on March 30 by the Planning Board? Whether to begin the pilot park test to see whether there should be such a linear park, or finalize current road configuration and the park plan so that the only thing to discuss in the future are the details of the park?

Jon Shartar 7:53 PM

How much will all this cost?

Alex 7:53 PM

I am on the trail every day - it is not that busy.

Anonymous Attendee 7:53 PM

Why isn't there a light on the trail to stop bikes/walkers/strollers to allow car traffic to flow smoothly with lights. That would ensure safety. And, the light at Arlington and the light at Hillendale should be integrated to allow maximum car flow and then maximum trail flow.

Anonymous Attendee 7:54 PM

Need their Cost-Benefit Analysis or don't do the project!!!!

janicelilja 7:54 PM

What are the criteria that will be used to determine whether the pilot park is successful or not? Who will be conducting the evaluation?

Anonymous Attendee 7:54 PM

I completely agree with DW....I've lived within a mile of this proposed park for over 39 years and raised 2 children here. We're already blessed with several great parks, especially Norwood and Little Falls has trails on both sides. This proposal is a TERRIBLE idea that adds nothing to the neighborhood but adds significant traffic jam pollution, auto wear and tear and traffic jam wasted time.

Anonymous Attendee 7:54 PM

How much of this master plan is part of larger scale political positioning instead of addressing local needs/wants?

Anonymous Attendee 7:55 PM

I drive Little Falls parkway every day. I also run during the week. The only time there are people actually on Little Falls parkway outside of a car is when it is between 79 and 89 degrees.

Anonymous Attendee 7:55 PM

Mr. Flusche - why are you picking out positive questions from the Q & A and not responding to any Questions from those who are not in favor of this project?

donajones 7:55 PM

Why not use Norwood park or Westmoreland Park for the games and food trucks instead of making such drastic and expensive changes to LFP? Dona Jones

Anonymous Attendee 7:55 PM

Need their Cost-Benefit Analysis or don't do the project!!!!

Rohit Khanna 7:55 PM

I'm concerned that the barrier between traffic and the linear park is quite flimsy. Flex posts don't provide sufficient protection for recreational users from vehicular traffic. Didn't see data on recreational users since Phase II. Is there any data to show that linear parks along busy parkways actually attract users?

John Stewart 7:55 PM

My own suspicion is that Parks starts from your stated assumption that everyone always wants more park space, and a desire to create a "unique" linear park without any demand for it whatsoever. Seriously, cornhole and skateboarding? My expectation is that you have already begun preparing your submission for national association awards for having crammed down a park that you think will be unique but the residents in this are really DO NOT WANT.

Anonymous Attendee 7:55 PM

So who is listening to this???"??

Carly Tu 7:55 PM

Follow-up comment: many of the neighborhoods around LFP were developed without sidewalks and appreciate giving citizens space to walk, run, and ride away from the threat of vehicle traffic. Thank you.

jmb 7:55 PM

The access to LFP from Dorset from the CCT is poor with just a narrow sidewalk. Any way to improve that access?

Phyllis Edelman 7:57 PM

You need to do counts on Goldsboro as well. Traffic on that road has increased and except for maybe by one house, there are no sidewalks and the shoulder is extremely limited, so hard for pedestrians and bicyclists to drive on this very curvy road.

Anonymous Attendee 7:57 PM

Cut Richard off - we have other real questions to get to!

Anonymous Attendee 7:58 PM

Every question flatters the speakers and LFP Project, and then gives a softball question.

Mike Johnson 7:58 PM

Why have surveys of traffic on Goldsborough not been done as part of this? This has been a major cut through while LFP was closed during the pandemic

Anonymous Attendee 7:58 PM

A smallish park right next to moving vehicles? Who will want to be there? It is a foolish project. Return the parkway to four lanes.

Anonymous Attendee 7:59 PM

WHY ONLY ANSWER QUESTIONS THAT SUPPORT THIS ZANY WASTEFUL IDEA?

rsamis 8:99 PM

This presentation appears to present a sound plan with due consideration and analysis of traffic flows, safety, and recreation facilities.

Anonymous Attendee 8:01 PM

Food trucks are not going to come here if there are no park goers--and the COVID shutdowns showed few, if any, will use the space so stop promoting food trucks since after about a week none will return.

Holly Goyert 8:02 PM

I completely agree with all of Carly Tu's comments. I live a block away and am raising 2 toddlers who have learned how to ride their bikes because of your program. This is a commendable effort, particularly in the absence of sufficient sidewalks in our neighborhood and capital crescent at or above its carrying capacity. I look forward to hearing about next phases to connect pedestrian/cyclist access from Dorset to River and Mass Ave.

Elizabeth Hurwit 8:02 PM

The Westbard site-approved plan forecasts 1,387 new peak-hour trips per day. That's just a forecast. How has that been taken into account?

Anonymous Attendee 8:02 PM

For people who live here, it's pretty evident that the planning regarding impact of the Westbard development on traffic has grossly underestimated the loads and this is only during the construction phase.

Anonymous Attendee 8:02 PM

Traffic study should have included all east - west traffic: Goldsboro, Westbard, LFP, Western, then all the cut-through traffic.

Anonymous Attendee 8:02 PM

How many of the representatives from Montgomery Parks live and work in this area? Same for the County Planning Board.

Anonymous Attendee 8:02 PM

I'm still trying to figure out who made up the study about 2.5K people per day walking/biking/jogging on the closed Little Falls parkway - this is complete BS. There is NEVER anyone on this stretch...

donajones 8:03 PM

Usage figures by pedestrians/bikers must be inflated. I virutually never saw anyone use LFP between River and Arlington.

Anonymous Attendee 8:04 PM

I guess all the walkers, joggers, cyclists are using invisibility cloaks.

Dan Langenkamp 8:04 PM

These changes are great. Thank you! Driver education is so important. Can you outline your public education program to explain the social benefits of the changes? These are not huge sacrifices for drivers.

John Stewart 8:06 PM

I rode in the back of an ambulance with my wife, who was bleeding from a head wound after a fall, up Little Falls from Massachusetts to Arlington at about 4:99 PM on a weekday during Phase 1. The ambulance was able to drive between lanes from Mass to River because of the shoulder space, but came to a complete stop several times between Dorset and Arlington because the line of cars had nowhere to go. If this pilot is somehow made permanent, a serious change needs to be made to the road design.

Bob Yetvin 8:06 PM

Great presentation. We live at The Kenwood House multifamily building at the corner of Dorset and Little Falls. To our pleasant surprise, even with the road diet one lane each way, it's not crowded at all. Love the plan.

jgera 8:07 PM

So Bob, what's the cost-benefit to us?

Patricia Johnson 8:07 PM

How much is this going to cost.. all of this study, all the changes. How much is the hard scape and every part of the design going to cost..??.?

Jack Cochrane 8:07 PM

What will be done to support bicyclists on Little Falls Parkway who currently use the two closed lanes, which function as protected bike lanes now? These quicker cyclists dpm to use and don't belong on a path through a park -- so can some of the excess pavement be used for bike lanes to separate them from park users?

richardhoye 8:07 PM

What impact on traffic flow would accrue from the use of mini round-a- bouts in place of traffic lights at Dorset, Hillandale and Arlington?

CA 8:08 PM

Was the January 2923 study done when police officers were pulling

David Forman 8:08 PM

You said you have constantly coordinated with the Planning Board. There was no opportunity for public input. What were they told?

Anonymous Attendee 8:08 PM

If you want to do something constructive, find a way to extend the Little Falls Trail to River Road.

donajones 8:09 PM

Why not use the much larger Norwood Park or Westmoreland Hills Park for games and recreation instead of expensive alterations to LFP?

jgera 8:09 PM

Where is the cost-benefit analyses???

Mark 8:09 PM

If safety is foundational, why are there no street lights on LFP?

Anonymous Attendee 8:09 PM

Whats the rush? Your traffic data is clearly in question...why not wait until westbard is finished and downtown Bethesda reaches its next phase of development....?

Anonymous Attendee 8:09 PM

Sligo and Beach don't connect to cities like Bethesda

Anonymous Attendee 8:09 PM

I love the current plan. If anything, it should be extended all the way from Arlington to River Road. I applaud the Parks staff for implementing the plan. Concerns of drivers and Kenwood residents are exaggerated. Their lawsuit is an abuse of the court system.

Anonymous Attendee 8:09 PM

Where is that beam located?

Holly Goyert 8:09 PM

I'd like to suggest extended bollards in the shoulder from Dorset to Massachusetts Ave until the next phase is initiated, to protect pedestrians and cyclists from confused drivers.

Anonymous Attendee 8:11 PM

So you counted users on the trail as they crossed LFP and did not count people on the actual LFP area that you closed off to cars. Totally irrelevant data.

John Stewart 8:11 PM

Vision Zero should have no relevance to anything but the crossings at Dorset, CCT, and Arlington. These crossings have been addressed, though the CCT crossing should be better lighted like the Dorset crossing is. Cyclists and pedestrians who cross against the light or blow through stop signs should not drive decisions on removing the public resource of the existing roadway.

Anonymous Attendee 8:11 PM

Ha! I bet the walker/biker counters on LFP are picking up cars....

Nicole Maddrey 8:11 PM

When Ridgefield Road reopens, (it is currently closed for construction), cut through traffic on Brookside through Kenwood will increase. Was this taken into consideration? The impact the new development in the immediate area will have on cut through traffic in Kenwood, and the area in general, should be considered. Cars will try to avoid LFP and the traffic lights by driving through Kenwood.

Rebecca Hanson, WCA 8:12 PM

Please confirm tht the LFP user counts at Bethesda Pool are NOT picking up CCT users, and that they are on the closed part of LFP.

Robert Bradtke 8:12 PM

You have repeatedly referred to 1999 folks signing a petition in December 2020, during pandemic, objecting to suspension of Open Parkways. Now days many folks in my neighborhood note that they see possibly one, two or no one using the closed area. I observed a heavy use on Christmas Day—nine people!

The idea that several hundred people per day are using this is very hard to believe

Lucy Freeman 8:12 PM

Since Phase II has begun what is the count of bikes and pedestrians on the closed section?

Alex 8:13 PM

There's a counter at Bethesda Ave/ CCT showing total pedestrians and total cyclists. The count consistently shows 4-5 times as many pedestrians as cyclists. The trail is never too full.

Anonymous Attendee 8:13 PM

1.9K people who signed that petition are all from Somerset. Has NOTHING to do with additional park area. Has everything to do with a significant reduction in their cut through traffic.

Elizabeth Hurwit 8:15 PM

Hi, Anonymous who wrote this:

Elizabeth Hurwit 8:15 PM

1.9K people who signed that petition are all from Somerset. Has NOTHING to do with additional park area. Has everything to do with a significant reduction in their cut through traffic.

Elizabeth Hurwit 8:15 PM

Can you explain what you mean?

Edward Tabor 8:16 PM

The Little Falls Parkway was always a relaxing drive from one part of Bethesda to another; the posts that you've installed to re-direct traffic creates enormous danger, especially at night, and I find I have to drive with great tension (in addition to driving slowly). This creates a great risk of an accident. Why are we destroying a beautiful park-lined roadway, which has been an asset for more than fifty years?

Also, the idea of turning the removed lanes into what amounts to a kind of carnival, seems foolish. With all the studies you have done to measure traffic, have you done any studies to see whether very many people would use the new games and other carnival-like additions? Aren't families more likely to go to a real park?

Robert Bradtke 8:17 PM

At present, MoCo Parks has difficulty maintaining existing parks. Wouldn't it be better to deal with what Parks has already? Aren't you going to get additional park land in Bethesda behind the Farm Women's Market in the near future?

Anonymous Attendee 8:17 PM

Property taxes going up 39%, ~19% / year for 3 years, to pay for potholes.

Anonymous Attendee 8:18 PM

So our interim planning board gets to make the final decision on the pilot park?

Anonymous Attendee 8:18 PM

I know the person who started a signature drive. I'm assuming that is the one they are referencing as he had a ton of signatures last time I spoke with him. He lives on Dorset and told me that there was a significant reduction in traffic when LFP was closed. That was why he started the signature drive.

Teresa S 8:18 PM

Thank you so much for providing this presentation. As someone who lives in the Kenwood Condos, and doesn't have a "backyard" or money to spend for country clubs, having more parks in the area is a bonus! All parks have their own charm and vibe and some people are looking for different types of environments. I think "splitting the difference" and giving open roads AND park space is good for everyone! As someone who looks onto Little Falls and sees the speeds of cars, anything we can do to reduce them is a step in the right direction.

Thanks again for bringing green space to an increasingly built up area!!!

donajones 8:18 PM

Norwood Park is large enough to accommodate the recreational activities you outline.

Anonymous Attendee 8:18 PM

Not the Planning Board, it is the INTERIM Planning Board

Dennis DuFour 8:18 PM

Since the county residents don't have a voice in these decisions, who pays the bills for this project?

Mark 8:18 PM

So Norwood residents say no dog park and Parks decides to try nothing else there--cornhole, food trucks, giant chess pieces, etc? And instead choke a significant roadway.

pat garvey 8:18 PM

Your User counts goes to June, 2022 the diet was implemented in July, where is the count for the summer/fall/winter? I would suspect that the 2 voided lanes are NOT used nearly as much as the weekend counts on the slide!

Emily 8:19 PM

Open space is at a premium. In large cities. Not here.

On another note, will there be bathrooms?

Phyllis Edelman 8:21 PM

Do your costs include the traffic signal changes and other road changes that have been made? Or does that come under DOT?

Anonymous Attendee 8:21 PM

You can't get groceries or get your kid to soccer or get to work, but if you park on River Road you can go play ping pong?

Elizabeth Hurwit 8:21 PM

To Anonymous, re Somerset survey: I live on Dorset and did not experience reduction in cut-through traffic when LFP was closed, and also I didn't hear anything about this survey with 1999 signatures.

Katie 8:21 PM

Will you maintain the park? The surrounding greenery? Pick up trash? The current grass/grounds are not currently kept up. How can we trust the parks department will maintain the cleanliness?

Mikel Moore 8:22 PM

If the plan goes forward, please add more trash cans for pedestrians to use.

Anonymous Attendee 8:22 PM

Does anyone rollerblade in 2023?

Anonymous Attendee 8:22 PM

IT feels kinda racist that you are placing this beautiful new linear park right in the middle of existing parks (CCT and Norwood) in the most affluent part of Montgomery County...Why here? Why not place a super park close to downtown silver spring, or glenmont? Wouldn't that be more equitable?

Anonymous Attendee 8:23 PM

Won't people just steal things like ping pong tables or chess pieces left unattended in the proposed park?

Buckley, Thomas 8:23 PM

Can you speak to the extent to which the Westbard development - which will increase the area population density - is being factored into the capacity of the Little Falls Parkway?

Anonymous Attendee 8:23 PM

How many people rollerblade these days? Darren, where have you been?

Anonymous Attendee 8:23 PM

Wheaton needs parks

pat garvey 8:23 PM

Your gaming and pingpong are pretty far away from the parking facilities. Do you really think folks will walk a quarter of a mile to play street chess or pingpong, or cornhole?

Anonymous Attendee 8:24 PM

Any consideration as to why traffic lights are being considered at intersections along LF parkway rather than roundabouts given traffic light switching delays and the dramatic reduction of accidents and fatal accidents in roundabouts? For example at Dorset, perhaps a roundabout could help improve traffic flow?

Mark 8:25 PM

These activities would be largely used on weekends, in nice weather, school holidays, daylight hours. (Currently parks are largely closed after dusk.) Traffic will be impacted 27/7, 12 months a year.

Anonymous Attendee 8:25 PM

Based on what will the Planning Board make these decisions. On the basis of these misleading numbers?

Mike Larkin 8:25 PM

I walk on the CCT almost every weekend, and I use the trail to access destinations such as Whole Foods on River Road. I think this plan finds a good balance at this time between bikers, walkers, and drivers. I look forward to the linear park.

Betsy 8:26 PM

Please explain how this works with the massive Westbard development that is at one end.

Anonymous Attendee 8:26 PM

People are going to bring their ping pong paddles and balls to the park. okay. Got it - thanks. You have to be joking, right? ping pong tables?

Anonymous Attendee 8:27 PM

Seems like you are trying to solve a problem that doesn't exist. Why.

Anonymous Attendee 8:28 PM

Picking softball questions.

Anonymous Attendee 8:28 PM

If we want to stop this project and return the road to having all lanes open for cars, who do we contact and what is the best way of going about that? Do we need a petition?

Naomi S 8:28 PM

Please make this Q&A transcript available along with the presentation.

Anonymous Attendee 8:29 PM

How much of this is about making MoCo a showcase for higher level politicians as was said at the beginning?

Rebecca Hanson, WCA 8:29 PM

As I understand it, Parks has never set up ping pong tables, corn hole games, giant checkers/chess, etc. That is why they can't point to successes of amenities like this in the past. We are the guinea pigs, and based on the Q and A, there is skepticism as to who will care for all these games.

Anonymous Attendee 8:29 PM

Is this the same organization who closed two lanes on the Old Georgetown Parkway for the bikelane that hardly ever used?

Anonymous Attendee 8:29 PM

Thank you Parks and Planning. Please keep thinking innovatively and seeking ways to improve parks and expand opportunities for bikers and pedestrians.

Anonymous Attendee 8:29 PM

Excellent questions!!!

Jack Cochrane 8:39 PM

CORRECTED QUESTION (I hit send too soon): What will be done to support bicyclists on Little Falls Parkway who currently use the two closed lanes, which function as protected bike lanes now? These quicker cyclists do not want to use, and don't belong on, a path through a park -- so can some of the excess pavement be used for bike lanes to separate them from park users?

John Nicholson 8:39 PM

Would Parks consider taking this linear park budget and instead using it to improve existing MoCo parks? We have not seen improvements to our local MoCo parks (Woodacres, Glen Mar, Sangamore) in years -- so it's frustrating to hear such energy going to building something new. Our kids prefer to drive to DC parks where there are newer playgrounds, playable tennis courts, turf fields, etc. rather than walk to our local MoCo parks.

Anonymous Attendee 8:33 PM

andrew -you didnt answer the question....please try again....

Anonymous Attendee 8:33 PM

"Why here? Why not place a super park close to downtown silver spring, or glenmont? Wouldn't that be more equitable?"

Even better: ALL THREE!

Mike Johnson 8:33 PM

I think Parking is going to be a big problem - there is always a huge mess parking at LFP at Mass - cars going in and out of the pool parking lot is a big mess also

Rohit Khanna 8:34 PM

If additional development in Westbard and Friendship Heights leads to more traffic on LFP, is there a way to help Kenwood and Somerset adopt traffic calming measures for overflow/cut-through?

Anonymous Attendee 8:35 PM

How could the data and analysis NOT include an estimate of near term traffic levels with tripling density at Westbard and a significant increase in density in Bethesda, one on either end?

John Oliver 8:37 PM

Isn't the drop due to the closure of Ridgfield?

Anonymous Attendee 8:37 PM

Hi, Elizabeth - it seems that the park dept has no BASIS for this linear park based on a notional "balance" of parks usage vs traffic flow. The reduced lanes mean more car time for commuters due to a park no one seems to want.

Anonymous Attendee 8:37 PM

Back to the 2,599 count. Are we expected to believe that 2,599 people walk the closed section of Little Falls Parkway every day? For someone that drives LFP several times a day, this is very difficult to believe.

donajones 8:37 PM

The two side-by-side traffic lights on the road diet are intended for one lane but they in fact give the mistaken impression that you can use two lanes, thus putting you in the lane with oncoming traffic.

Elizabeth Hurwit 8:37 PM

The question has to do with FUTURE load on LFP. After Westbard and Bethesda and Friendship Heights development. Your previous studies aren't relevant

Steve Shapiro 8:38 PM

At the last meeting, a senior Parks official stated that the facility is a park first and road second. I appreciate that you have to work within that context. But I disagree with that premise.

Anonymous Attendee 8:38 PM

Just tuning in...Did anyone ask them why they're plowing ahead with this project even though the mass majority of the local residents are against it?

Elizabeth Hurwit 8:38 PM

Or moving the crossing to the light at Arlington? Which was all set to occur after the last round of studies and public input.

John Oliver 8:38 PM

Please address the impact of the closure of Ridgefield on the Kenwood traffic study

Anonymous Attendee 8:39 PM

no complaints about using the parking lot for the parkway because NO ONE WAS USING IT

Mike Johnson 8:49 PM

Americans don't know how to use roundabouts...

Anonymous Attendee 8:41 PM

Kenwood already has turn restrictions at River and Brookside so shopping center patrons don't drive through Kenwood during certain hours. Will those remain in place after Ridgefield is reopened?

janicelilja 8:41 PM

If you have spare money, please direct some of it to maintain/improve the tennis courts at WoodAcres park. Really in bad shape.

Betsy 8:41 PM

Why is there no one involved in this study with any expertise in transportation? Everyone is from Parks.

Anonymous Attendee 8:42 PM

If as was just stated by Kyle, Parks assumes that most of the people using the proposed new park are from th local communities, thn why doesn't Parks care what the leaders of those communities have to say about this proposed park? Leaders of these communities have been very clear that they oppose closing half Little Falls Parkwy, and want bridge for thr CCT instead.

Anonymous Attendee 8:42 PM

More hand picked positive comments. Amazing how they keep getting selected.

Anonymous Attendee 8:42 PM

close LFP - it will get rid of road rage...good idea.

CA 8:42 PM

That's because they are now driving fast in the nearby neighborhoods

Betsy 8:43 PM

Traffic study done by Parks, so really Parks study should be done by traffic engineers.

Mark 8:43 PM

Will Parks commit to answering all the questions posed in the Q&A, after this session in writing?

Alexandra Acosta 8:44 PM

Just to add to the comments others have made about the poor condition of public tennis courts in the area -- the courts at Pyle MS are also in terrible condition. Even if this isn't a Parks facility, it's a public recreational facility that sees significant use on weekends.

Anonymous Attendee 8:44 PM

Claims that the 2-lane road are "unsafe," coming from people who think they have a god-given right to drive 49 MPH are rich. People--slow down, take your eyes off your phones, and pay attention. Please stop putting the rest of us at risk.

Steve Shapiro 8:45 PM

At the last meeting, a senior Parks official stated that the facility is a park first and road second. I appreciate that you have to work within that context. But I disagree with that premise. Little Falls is not comparable to Sligo or Rock Creek. Little Falls is a park south of Mass. Ave. but not north of there. The parkway was designed to be a 35 mph conduit between Mass. Ave, River Road, and downtown Bethesda. Sligo and Rock Creek are clearly 25 mph facilities. Little Falls is relatively short compared to Sligo and Rock Creek and serves a critical transportation purpose to the residents of this area. I doubt most residents favor development of park attributes to the detriment of the road. Downtown Bethesda and Westbard are undergoing significant expansion. Since the impacts of diminishing the current road have ramifications beyond the typical issues within Parks' purview, there should be significant input from if not deference to the County Council.

Rohit Khanna 8:45 PM

I'm surprised that officials who talk about Vision Zero downplay round-abouts, which are demonstrably safer than traffic lights intersections. Wherever round-abouts have been introduced, they have reduced serious traffic accidents.

Alex 8:45 PM

What are the names of the people on the Planning Board?

David Kathan 8:46 PM

Access to the open parkway portion is a little confusing for pedestrians. Is there a chance of putting a crosswalk at the light at Hillandale to the open parkway, or better signage directing people to the area? I have found that some people don't know it is open for pedestrians.

Anonymous Attendee 8:46 PM

Westland MS rec area is in disrepair, a MoCo embarrassment. I bet those middle school students would enjoy ping pong and corn hole. How about a decent walkway to go home.

Anonymous Attendee 8:46 PM

Cars are avoiding LFP due to current changes. Particularly on nice days when you expect significant trail volumes. When driving it I rarely see anyone using the pedestrian path. I prefer a light crossing for the trail and the parkway with full 4 lanes.

John Stewart 8:46 PM

Park Police SHOULD have a concern. There are no shoulders!

Elisa Lane 8:47 PM

My question about why you don't take advantage of Norwood Park instead, and why you don't just put a stop light at the CCT crossing?

Anonymous Attendee 8:48 PM

What is the cost or projected cost of this project versus widening the CCT??

Patricia Johnson 8:48 PM

If you have acoustic events what about sound ordinance near residential neighborhoods?

Alex 8:48 PM

How many people on the Planning Board live here in the neighborhood?

Anonymous Attendee 8:48 PM

Have you ever been to the pool parking lot in the summer? You guys really need to get out of the office and come spend some time around LFP.

Elisa Lane 8:48 PM

How does one get on the planning board?

Anonymous Attendee 8:59 PM

I invite all the people who think there are already enough parks in Bethesda & Chevy Chase to contact the Planning Board and urge them to use the land behind the Women's Farm Market for affordable housing instead of a new park.

cynthia 8:59 PM

Little Falls Parkway is one road in a SYSTEM of roads. Do you have data on numbers of cars, speeds, increased or decreased usage for the other roads in this system for comparison? River? Goldsboro? Bradley? Why is LFP treated as a stand alone when the impact is system-wide?

Anonymous Attendee 8:51 PM

What does the \$399K cover?

Anonymous Attendee 8:51 PM

Permanent LINEAR PARK cost? I missed it?

richardhoye 8:52 PM

The response to a question about the utility of round-a-bouts was inadequate and formulaic. Can you provide an independent review of the costs/benefits for the Dorset, Hillandale and Arlington intersections?

Betsy 8:52 PM

Does this project have anyone with finance experience to run the numbers? Or, are parks folks winging it?

Anonymous Attendee 8:53 PM

Anonymous — There will be affordable housing next to the Women's Farm market - along with EYA condos and another difficult underground garage instead of the easy to use surface parking lots.

Mike Johnson 8:53 PM

Thanks for this process - I think it was very useful - appreciate everyone's time.

Elisa Lane 8:53 PM

Sligo Creek and Beach Drive are not valid comparisons!

Anonymous Attendee 8:53 PM

How about spending the \$ on maintenance and expansion of EXISTING park facilities.

Anonymous Attendee 8:54 PM

Beach Drive is miles longer than LFP, and in terrible shape BTW

Elisa Lane 8:54 PM

I don't know where Andy is getting his data, but it's suspect/

Anonymous Attendee 8:55 PM

Andrew - your statistics feel suspect.

Anonymous Attendee 8:55 PM

To sum it up - we were told to have this Zoom call, we did it, blew off all the expressed concerns and now we will move on to the rubber stamp acting Planning Board.

Marnie Shaul 8:55 PM

When I walk on LFP, I seldom see more than 1-2 other walkers and 1-2 bicyclists. So, I wonder what time of day you are doing your counts.

Marnie Shaul 8:55 PM

When I walk on LFP, I seldom see more than 1-2 other walkers and 1-2 bicyclists. So, I wonder what time of day you are doing your counts.

Anonymous Attendee 8:56 PM

Who specifically from DOT is part of this traffic analysis and project?

Anonymous Attendee 8:56 PM

are roundabouts ever a good idea where there are pedestrian crossings?

Anonymous Attendee 8:56 PM

Yup! To sum it up - we were told to have this Zoom call, we did it, blew off all the expressed concerns and now we will move on to the rubber stamp acting Planning Board.

Anonymous Attendee 8:57 PM

Hopefully Kenwood's lawyers will be able to shut this down.

Carly Tu 8:57 PM

Hoping that other areas of our community can be made safer for all users, like this development. Thank you.

Anonymous Attendee 8:58 PM

Two lanes is not functional.

Mike Johnson 8:58 PM

Who is this speaking please?

David Kathan 8:59 PM

With the addition of a right turn lane at Arlington, what will happen to the sidewalk that is used by pool users who park in the overflow parking lot? What will happen to the existing stormwater facility?

Ruth 8:59 PM

why not consider a park where there is green park land on Arlington?

Elisa Lane 8:59 PM

You're not answering Lynn's question!

Anonymous Attendee 8:59 P

"temporary" = tamp down complaints for a permanent decision

Anonymous Attendee 9:00 PM

what forecasting method did you use in your model to conclude that capacity is "fine" with just 1 lane.....what waiting model was used - what stochastic models were referenced? Did you measure wait time differentials to detect NO SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE? Were Weibull distributions used to forecast wait times? Please share the raw data with the community affected by this proposed change. Your traffic analysis is suspect.

Kerry Moore 9:00 PM

I don't believe neighborhood interest in this park and the changes in LFP is accurately represented. After the pilot is instituted can you distribute a survey to all households in the local area to get an honest picture of what all residents want?

Mike Johnson 9:00 PM

Please name the gentleman who was just speaking.

Steve Shapiro 9:00 PM

Anonymous Attendee 9:00 PM

If we change the speed limit on 495 to 25 miles per hour, I'm pretty sure we can significantly reduce major car wrecks. So - this sounds like a great idea.

I know this sounds like a crazy idea - but so does putting ping pong tables on one side of Little Falls Parkway - when there is already a trail that runs parallel.

Holly Goyert 9:01 PM

Apologies for the audio issues, the app had a secondary unmute. I wanted to remind folks that increasing pedestrian and cyclist access in an efficient manner reduces traffic crowding and improves traffic flow. My two toddlers also wanted to say that they wanted to bike to the pool.

Anonymous Attendee 9:01 PM

A Referendum vote on this contentious issue might be best? Please dont be frightened. We are all friends and admire your work.

Anonymous Attendee 9:01 PM
a 'park' that is parallel