



The Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations, Inc.

P.O. Box 203, Mount Vernon, VA 22121-9998

<http://www.mvcca.org>

Superintendent Charles Cuvelier
George Washington Memorial Parkway Headquarters
700 George Washington Memorial Parkway McLean, VA 22101

December 15, 2022

SUBJ: Belle Haven Road and Belle View Boulevard Intersections with the George Washington Memorial Parkway (GWMP), Safety Improvements

Dear Superintendent Cuvelier:

On behalf of the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Association (MVCCA), I thank you for working with both the MVCCA and the New Alexandria Citizens Association (NACA) to find ways to make the Belle Haven Road and the GWMP intersection safer. The MVCCA has supported NACA's previous efforts and now supports their latest letter dated December 02 which advocates needed safety improvements at that intersection. In addition, MVCCA supports a hybrid design that includes the North Bound (NB) road diets, and which provides for a safe haven for vehicles at points of conflict. Regrettably even the latest designs under consideration still have the potential of being very confusing and therefore, dangerous to drivers.

Regrettably, the Belle View Boulevard (Blvd) intersection is not getting the same attention as Belle Haven Road. We emphasize that MVCCA as well as numerous citizens who have attended the public meetings have constantly emphasized needed safety changes at both intersections. We strongly support and request applying any and all possible safety improvements to Belle Haven Road be applied to Belle View Boulevard as well. This includes a North Bound Road Diet as well as yet unseen and unstudied intersection designs that may provide a safe haven for vehicles in order to make right-of-way determination less confusing.

We echo the NACA letter supporting the notion that "Your plan to restrict northbound Parkway traffic (which is continuing on the Parkway in the area of the Belle Haven intersection) to the right lane only will result in huge safety improvements for both vehicles and pedestrians. With this change, vehicles coming from Belle Haven Road will have a dedicated lane into which to safely merge onto the northbound Parkway. This is exactly what was recommended in the Safety Study.

It is our understanding that the traffic engineers still have to determine how far south this restricted lane can be implemented. If it could start south of Belle View Blvd, traffic at that intersection would have a merge lane similar to that at Belle Haven Road with all of the same included safety benefits. At a minimum, it is requested that the single-lane configuration start south of the Marina Road as that location is one of the most used crossover points for pedestrians and bikers from our neighborhood going to Belle Haven Park, the Marina and the Recreation Trail. This configuration will be dramatically safer as there will be one fewer northbound lane to cross assuming vehicles would be traveling slower than they are now."

Thank you, in advance, for considering the input contained in this letter. We look forward to continuing our collective collaboration.

Approved by the MVCCA Membership Dec 14, 2022

Sincerely,

Katherine Ward

Katherine Ward
Cochair
MVCCA

Copy to:

Representative Don Beyer
Noah Simon, District Chief of Staff for U.S. Representative Don Beyer
Senator Scott A. Surovell
Delegate Paul Krizek
Mount Vernon District Supervisor, Dan Storck
CAPT Joan E. Darrah, USN (Ret) New Alexandria Citizens Association, President
Ellen Young, Belle View Condominium Unit Owners'