



The Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations, Inc.

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

<http://www.mvcca.org>

Supervisor Dan Storck
2511 Parkers Lane
Alexandria, VA 22306

July 31, 2016

Dear Supervisor Storck

Ref: MVCCA Resolution Transportation – Requesting Crossing Guards and a Stop Sign at the Mount Vernon Estate Circle

On behalf of the MVCCA I am transmitting the attached resolution to you for your action. MVCCA General Council approved this resolution unanimously at our July 28th 2016 meeting.

Inaction between pedestrians and automobiles and automobiles with other automobiles is complicated at the circle located at the Mount Vernon Estate at the George Washington Memorial Parkway and Mount Vernon Highway. These two resolutions seek simple solutions to these problems.

Your support and action will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Katherine Ward
Co-Chair
MVCCA

Enclosed: MVCCA Resolution Transportation 2016-3 and 2016-4

Mount Vernon Council of Citizen's Associations' (MVCCA) Resolution (Transportation)
2016-3

Yield Sign on the George Washington Memorial Parkway Traffic Circle

Whereas: It is normal practice for vehicles in a traffic circle to have the right of way over vehicles entering the circle;

Whereas: An unusual situation exists at the traffic circle, at the southern end of the George Washington Memorial Parkway, that warrants providing priority to traffic entering the circle, since only a trickle of traffic is ever on the circle while the preponderance of traffic is the continuous flow of northbound traffic approaching the circle from the Mount Vernon Memorial Highway and Route #235 headed towards Washington, DC;

Whereas: The placement of a control sign to provide priority to northbound traffic over traffic on the circle is deemed appropriate;

Whereas: The existing 'Yield' sign is frequently violated, causing close-call accidents as heard from commuters and a serious accident can easily occur under these circumstances, where each driver believes he has priority;

Whereas: A 'Stop' sign is deemed to carry more respect for obedience and will certainly catch the attention of drivers on the circle, more so than a 'Yield' sign.

Therefore, Be It Resolved: That the Mount Vernon Council of Citizen's Associations' requests the Mount Vernon District Supervisor to contact the Superintendent of the George Washington Memorial Parkway to propose that a study be instituted to determine if a 'Stop' sign might be more appropriate to replace the existing 'Yield' sign on the traffic circle at the southern end of the Mount Vernon Memorial Parkway.

APPROVED AND PASSED BY THE MVCCA'S GENERAL COUNCIL JULY 28,
2016

Mount Vernon Council of Citizen's Associations' Resolution (Transportation) 2016-4
Request for Crossing Guards:

Pedestrians at the George Washington Memorial Parkway Traffic Circle

Whereas: The Mount Vernon estate has thousands of visitors throughout the year, with many of them arriving by car and parking in the Estate Parking Lot on the west side of the George Washington Memorial Parkway;

Whereas: The visitors, now pedestrians walk leisurely from the parking lot to cross the highway, where the George Washington Memorial Parkway merges with the Mount Vernon Memorial Highway at the southern end of the traffic circle, in order to reach the entrance to the Estate;

Whereas: Pedestrians have the right-of-way as they cross the highway at that location;

Whereas: During rush hours and when the Estate has special events, the continuous trickle of visitors stop the traffic which has entered the traffic circle from the north as well as the southbound traffic at the 'Stop' sign on the Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, the build-up of those cars waiting at the intersection to proceed can amount to close to 100 cars;

Whereas: The time it takes for cars to cross the intersection under those circumstances can amount to over 5 minutes of waiting, to the frustration of the commuting drivers;

Whereas: If the visitors could be stopped by a Crossing Guard until a small cluster of pedestrians forms during critical commuting hours and the traffic is only stopped to permit this cluster of pedestrians to cross the highway, the build-up of cars waiting to proceed to negotiate the intersection will be much reduced and the stress of the affected drivers will thereby be alleviated;

Whereas: The stationing of a Crossing Guard will preserve the good will of the Estate's supporting neighbors as well as the frequent commuters who attempt to head towards Alexandria and the District to go to work or to shop.

Therefore Be it Resolved: That the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations requests the Mount Vernon District Supervisor to contact the Administrator of the Mount Vernon Estate and urge him to institute a study to determine the precise times when pedestrian visitors cause major traffic back-ups at the Mount Vernon Traffic Circle for either or both northbound and southbound traffic, in order to place trained Crossing Guards at that location at the established critical times to control pedestrian visitor traffic across the respective intersection.

APPROVED AND PASSED BY THE MVCCA'S GENERAL COUNCIL JULY 28, 2016

