

The Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations, Inc.

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

http://www.mvcca.org

March 4, 2018

Congressman Don Beyer

Ref: George Washington Memorial Parkway- Traffic Safety Study

The Mount Vernon Council of Citizen's Associations' (MVCCA) wishes to thank you for your support in getting the National Park Service (NPS) to conduct a traffic safety study on the George Washington Parkway from Old Town Alexandria to mount Vernon Estate.

As you know we have tried over the years to get this accomplished to no satisfaction. The traffic increases on this historical road have become a nightmare for those of us who live along it. This beautiful historical parkway has sadly turned into a race way major commuter route.

We thank you in advance or your support and hope you will encourage the NPS to consider our concerns identified in the attached resolution. Specifically, the installation of speed cameras. This was requested a number of years ago but it is our understanding that Congress turned it down and called it "big brother watching". We believe that it is time for "big brother to watch" speeders along this road way for safety reason---furthermore, the revenue collected from speeders can do a lot to help pay for the repairs to this historic parkway.

Katherine Ward Co-Chair MVCCA

Attached: MVCCA Resolution – GW Parkway Traffic Safety Stud

MOUNT VERNON COUNCIL OF CITIZENS ASSOCIATIONS (MVCCA) RESOLUTION NATIONAL PARK SERVICE (NPS) GEORGE WASHINGTON MEMORIAL PARKWAY (GWMP) TRAFFIC SAFETY STUDY (TRANSPORTATION) 2018-02

- 1. Whereas: A majority of Mount Vernon District residents live along the George Washington Parkway and are deeply concerned with traffic challenges along this historic parkway now turned into a major commuting route that threaten the safety of drivers, pedestrians, tourists and bicyclists. We have long advocated for a better understanding of traffic volume, accident statistics, and implementation of safety improvements with the potential to make this historical road way safer or all users and;
- **2. Whereas:** Congressman Beyer has secured a NPS commitment to conduct a traffic Safety Study on the GWMP and;
- 3. Whereas: The NPS states that they will conduct this study during 2018 and;
- **4. Whereas:** The MVCCA, has over the years, repeatedly and without success, encouraged the NPS to conduct such study in the interest of enhancing safe operations along the GW Parkway and;
- **5.** Whereas: Citizen concern for improved safety signage at the north entrance to East Boulevard Drive and the entrance to Morningside Lane demonstrate the need for improved safety signage at the intersections along the GWMP and;
- **6. Whereas:** Traffic has been increasing along the Parkway especially with the increased workforce at Ft Belvoir which is projected to have another major workforce increase by 2025 time frame.

Therefore, Be It Resolved: That the MVCCA supports the George Washington Memorial Parkway Traffic Safety Study and recommends the following as priorities in the Traffic Safety Study:

- Documenting Excessive Speed along the Parkway, using speed cameras to deter speeding, determining appropriate speed limits, and documenting Accident History in detail.
- 2. Determining appropriate actions for remediation including but not limited to: methods needed to protect bicyclists and pedestrians; wider median at Belle View Blvd; improve safety at the major intersections, including creating open sight lines; reflective safety signage at exits; and improved signage and lane markings, and installing a stop sign to replace the yield sign, at the Mount Vernon Traffic Circle.