

## July 26 *White Flint Traffic Mitigation Study* informational meeting

Attendees from LCA: Della Stolsworth, Renee Howell

### Summary

Attendees were from MoCoDOT, Parks and Planning, local neighborhood organizations, and Berliner's office. Fred Lees of DOT reviewed the plan for monitoring traffic in the White Flint area (see attached map). Intersections marked with a blue dot would be monitored over the next few years by DOT and those in green by Parks and Planning. The monitoring is to look for increase in cut through traffic as development increases. Most of these intersections have historical baseline data from previous monitoring. The DOT is considering monitoring for a two year period. Once data are collected and analyzed the data is brought to the community with possible mitigations and the community must vote on these. There was significant discussion about the method of monitoring such as what days it is conducted, how frequently, etc. Fred Lees stated that they use state of the art monitoring procedures, but when we asked for references to this and comments on the statistical error in these methods we where did not get a clear or in some cases any response. There was also concern over whether the DOT would consider traffic mitigation that consist of measures other than signage since signage requires enforcement which in many cases is not feasible. Though the DOT's only suggestion were those standard signage measures, they did concede that they would consider other measures. The DOT was open to getting input from the community on how the study is conducted including suggestions for other intersections if the community was concerned about traffic. Also attached is the budget for the mitigation and reference materials – all passed out by MoCoDOT. It should be noted that while Green Acres had a representative, no MoCo Public Schools were represented even though they have 3 schools that would be impacted by possible mitigation measures. (Attachments will be posted to the website)

### Actions for us:

1. It is critical for us to understand the methods used for monitoring and to make sure the county understands the inherent weaknesses in the models and we have a plan to address those gaps. It will be important for us to drive getting this information front and center, but it will take a lot of "hound dogging" the county. The LCA Traffic Committee has requested clarification for some of the process and we will post the reply on the website.
2. The LCA should offer input on the monitoring areas, frequency, and days of the week. Please send input on the attached plan to Renee Howell at [reenehowell@comcast.net](mailto:reenehowell@comcast.net) and the traffic Committee will compile the community input and forward to the county.
3. We have learned there is another organization at the table calling themselves "North Bethesda Neighbors" that have former (and current!)LCA members who were not interested in being represented by the LCA Traffic Committee and so seek to influence the process even if it is in conflict with the LCA. They have been lobbying for restriction measures on turning onto Tilden from Old Georgetown and Old Stage Rds. We need to keep attending these meetings to let the county know the LCA views on this.

## *July 27 LCA meeting with Parks and Planning*

Attendees from LCA: Della Stolsworth, Renee Howell, Sandra Friedman, Ellen Paul, Bruce Dincin

### Summary

LCA Traffic Committee members met with planners at Parks and Planning who had reviewed the input we had collected from the community. Their main advice was:

- 1) We need to be very specific in our requests to a contract firm so we focus them on the issues important to us that have already been identified and
- 2) We need to use historical data available from DOT and Parks and Planning that have already been collected at some of these areas in question. We have requested this.

They said that crafting a clear focused statement of work that includes a prioritization is critical. They offered to help review and edit any statement of work document that we produced. They also cautioned us about the difficulty in getting consensus within a community for mitigation methods.

Ellen had a discussion on the specifics of the funding of the upcoming study for traffic on Tuckerman.

### Actions for us:

1. The Traffic Committee will draft a SOW for traffic mitigation based on the input we collected. We will present this at the fall LCA meeting.

### Other Items:

- Street lighting has been installed at Marcliff and Rosemont as requested.
- We have contacted the Adopt-a-Road sign group at DOT (this took a bit of effort on Della's part) to request removal of the signs from Tilden Lane. We plan to first contact the "sponsor" - The NCI Office of Planning and Assessment to let them know thanks, but no thanks, and then work with DOT to have them removed. We noticed that Marcliff Rd is also on the "Adopt-a-Road" List and we will likely request that they remove this street from their list.
- We have contacted Berliner's Office to request a response on the current status of safety on Tilden Lane. This letter will be posted on the website and we will post a response or summary of our meeting with the county in response to this communication as soon as either occurs.