



McLean Citizens Association Resolution

Improvement of the Intersection of Balls Hill Road and Old Dominion Drive

August 14, 2018

Whereas, the intersection of Balls Hill Road and Old Dominion Drive experiences extensive delays in all directions, and both average annual daily traffic and intersection delays are projected to continue to increase; and

Whereas, the unique geometry and limited sight distances of the historic intersection present safety challenges; and

Whereas, on account of these considerations the 2014 Transportation Priorities Plan assembled by Fairfax County identified the intersection as in need of improvement and provided funding in the amount of \$200,000 for a study which began in 2016; and

Whereas, in May 2018, the Board of Supervisors dedicated \$20 million of implementation funding to the intersection improvement, and the Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) held a public meeting on June 28, 2018 to present options to the community; and

Whereas, FCDOT has identified four viable options for improving the safety and capacity of the intersection; and

Whereas, Alternative A would maintain the current Old Dominion Drive roadbed and create two T - intersections, one at the present juncture with Balls Hill Road to the north and one roughly 500 feet to the southeast of the present intersection; and

Whereas, Alternative A.1 would generally mirror Alternative A, but with an improved radius for northbound (NB) Balls Hill Road and better-defined stormwater management improvements; and

Whereas, Alternative B would create a roundabout centered on the present intersection, with dedicated right turn lanes in the approaches for both southbound (SB) and northbound (NB) Balls Hill Road; and

Whereas, Alternative C would extend the existing right-turn lanes for NB and SB Balls Hill Road, and add dedicated left-turn lanes for all four approaches; and

Whereas, each of the presented alternatives would provide significant additional pedestrian facilities; and

Whereas, for practical purposes, the McLean Citizens Association Transportation Committee understands that FCDOT has supplanted Alternative A with Alternative A.1; and

Whereas, Alternative A.1 would achieve significant reductions in projected future peak-hour delays, while the regulation of traffic by traffic lights would be helpful in enabling local householders to exit their driveways and may help deter cut-through traffic; and

Whereas, Alternative B provides the most reductions in projected future peak-hour delays, is estimated to have the shortest construction timeline, and offers the opportunity for the provision of landscaped areas at and around the road juncture; and

Whereas, Alternative B also imposes a learning curve on drivers and necessitates the greatest taking of private land among the presented alternatives; and

Whereas, Alternative C provides the fewest reductions in projected future peak-hour delays, while also precluding access to the incipient Mehr Farms subdivision adjacent to the east side of the intersection; and

Whereas, FCDOT at this juncture wants to proceed with one option for further study and design;

Now, therefore be it resolved, that the MCA finds that present and expected future conditions demand substantial intersection improvements and, therefore, MCA opposes both a no-build course of action and Alternative C, which provides the least amount of projected congestion relief; and

Be it further resolved, that the MCA supports the continued study of Alternative A.1, as the option responsive to the interests of McLean area residents; and

Be it further resolved, that, whichever option is ultimately pursued, MCA urges FCDOT to continue to proactively engage with adjacent homeowners associations and property owners about the development and implementation of construction plans, so that disruption and attendant cut-through traffic are minimized during construction.

Approved by the MCA Executive Committee

August 14, 2018

McLean Citizens Association, P.O. Box 273, McLean, Virginia 22101

cc: John Foust, Dranesville Magisterial District Supervisor
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