

City of Rockville 111 Maryland Avenue Rockville, Maryland 20850-2364 www.rockvillemd.gov

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CITY CLERK/DIRECTOR OF COUNCIL OPERATIONS Sara Taylor-Ferrell

> CITY ATTORNEY Robert E. Dawson

April 26, 2022

Gregory Murrill, Division Administrator Federal Highway Administration, Maryland Division U.S. Department of Transportation 31 Hopkins Plaza, Suite 1520 Baltimore, MD 21201

Dear Mr. Murrill:

Thank you for your letter dated April 21, 2022, to the Mayor and Council of Rockville ("Mayor and Council"), requesting the City of Rockville's written concurrence that the proposed I-495 & I-270 Managed Lanes Study (the "Proposed I-495 / I-270 Project") would have *de minimis* Section 4(f) impacts on three (3) parks owned and managed by the City of Rockville: (i) Rockmead Park, (ii) Woottons Mill Park, and (iii) Rockville Senior Center and Park. The authority to provide written concurrence rests with the Mayor and Council of Rockville.

Enclosed as requested is the City of Rockville's signed Section 4(f) *de minimis* concurrence for the three subject parks. Mayor and Council's concurrence is contingent upon (i) delivery to the City of the mitigation commitments outlined in your April 21st letter, including 7.22 acres of specific replacement parkland across four separate properties, and (ii) incorporation of context-sensitive design solutions. These commitments are intended to compensate the City of Rockville for the 5.4 total acres of City-owned parkland to be affected by the Proposed I-495 / I-270 Project—should the Project proceed beyond a Record of Decision.

To be clear, Mayor and Council's limited Section 4(f) *de minimis* concurrence herein is not, and should not be construed, as support for either the Proposed I-495 / I-270 Project, or as a waiver of Mayor and Council's valid concerns communicated in its prior submitted comments. Mayor and Council takes this very limited action in order to maximize a fair mitigation package for any Cityowned parkland impacts that would occur should the Proposed I-495 / I-270 Project proceed beyond a Record of Decision. This step, as with any future actions by Mayor and Council regarding the Proposed I-495 / I-270 Project, is taken solely in furtherance of the best interests of the City's residents.

We look forward to further discussions with the United States Federal Highway Administration and the Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration and their Project consultants to protect against and appropriately mitigate the Proposed I-495 / I-270 Project's disparate and significant impacts on the City of Rockville.

Sincerely,

Robert DiSpirito, City Manager

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cc: Mayor & Council, City of Rockville

Robert E. Dawson, Rockville City Attorney

Tim Chesnutt, Rockville Director of Recreation and Parks

Craig Simoneau, Rockville Director of Public Works

Jeanette Mar, Environmental Manager, FHWA

Jitesh Parikh, P3/MLS Director, FHWA

Keilyn Perez, Senior Area Engineer, FHWA

Caryn Brookman, Environmental Program Manager, I-495 & I-270 P3 Office,

MDOT SHA

Jeffrey T. Folden, P.E., DBIA, Director, I-495 & I270 P3 Office, MDOT SHA

Tim Smith, P.E., Administrator, MDOT SHA