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March 22, 2019

The Honorable Larry Hogan, Governor  
100 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Pete Rahn, Secretary of Transportation  
Greg Slater, MDOT/SHA Administrator  
7201 Corporate Center Drive  
Hanover, Maryland 21076

Dear Governor Hogan, Secretary Rahn, and Administrator Slater,

The Mayor and Council continue to be very concerned about the potential impact of the I-495 & I-270 Managed Lanes Study to nine Rockville neighborhoods that abut I-270. Councilmembers Onley and Pierzchala attended the "standing room-only" DontWiden270.org meeting on March 9, 2019, and heard anxious residents speak about the uncertainty surrounding their homes, neighborhood, and community.

Mayor Newton attended Secretary Rahn's recent briefing to the County Council. We are disappointed that neither the Secretary nor the Administrator would confirm that the project will stay within the current right-of-way. It is imperative that MDOT/SHA follows through on the Governor's statement that no homes will be taken. The City remains strongly opposed to any alternative that will take residences, businesses or infrastructure, or include multi-parcel takings, or any potential loss of city property to add lanes or widen I-270 in either direction through Rockville.

Option ten from the list of preliminary screened alternatives proposes an increase in the number of lanes from twelve to sixteen. Without dimensions, the public is unable to determine if this option stays within the existing right of way, adding further uncertainty to an already tense situation. We urge you to reinstate transit options, include a noise analysis in the study, and commit to construct all sound walls necessary for this project, including the West End Park Noise Barrier.

Finally, it is essential that the State understands that leaving a home untouched, while potentially taking a portion of a yard, playground, park, or other amenity would dismantle our community. Let's work together to identify the best solution that achieves our mutual goals of reducing traffic congestion and protecting our resident's quality of life.

Sincerely,

  
Bridget Donnell Newton, Mayor

  
Beryl L. Feinberg, Councilmember

  
Virginia D. Onley, Councilmember

  
Mark Pierzchala, Councilmember

Mayor and Council of Rockville

cc: District 17 Delegation

MAYOR  
Bridget Donnell Newton

COUNCIL  
Beryl L. Feinberg  
Virginia D. Onley  
Mark Pierzchala

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DIRECTOR OF COUNCIL OPERATIONS  
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