

## Summit Avenue Extension



This is a Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) plan with several options to reroute traffic on Connecticut Avenue around the congestion between Knowles and Pylers Mill. Reviewed and commented on positively by the Planning Board (PB). The County Council has final approval of the project.

Connecticut Avenue, particularly between Knowles and Pylers Mill, is deemed a “failed intersection”, meaning it cannot efficiently accommodate the level of traffic that currently moves through it. Last year, the MCDOT proposed to study the option of extending Summit Avenue through to Farragut Avenue, thereby creating a means for passing around this intersection.

Based on comments received from the public and discussions with the ToK Council, MCDOT identified four long term options which it submitted to the Planning Board for review and comment: L1) The original proposal extending Summit to Farragut; L2) A second proposal extending Summit just to Dupont; L3) Adding lanes to Connecticut at the railroad bridge; and L4) Instead of extending Summit, creating dynamic lanes on Connecticut so the AM rush hour south bound would have four lanes (and the north bound would have two); the PM rush hour would reverse this. They have also proposed several short-term solutions to provide more immediate relief.

On October 11, the Transportation and Environment (T&E) Committee of the County Council (CC) held a work session to review the Summit Extension proposal. The work session was the opportunity for Committee members and other interested Councilmembers to provide informal feedback to DOT as to whether to proceed to Phase II of facility planning with guidance as to which options to study. Phase II is the detailed planning stage that would produce the precise project scope and develop reliable estimates of cost and community and environmental impact. If the Phase II study goes forward according to the funding schedule in the current capital program, a Summit Avenue Extended Capital Improvements Program (CIP) project may be a candidate for inclusion in the FY21-26 CIP.

The T&E committee agreed that MCDOT should proceed with Phase II, focusing on options L1 and L2.

### Related documents

Planning Board staff report, see:

<http://montgomeryplanningboard.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Summit-Avenue-Extension-Sept-06-201.pdf>

County Council Transportation and Environment Committee, see:

[http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/cm/2018/20181011/20181011\\_TE3.pdf](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/cm/2018/20181011/20181011_TE3.pdf)

**Next Steps**

MCDOT completion of Phase II, which will identify best design option(s) and costs.