

## **INTRODUCTION**

About 40 people attended this meeting, which focused on the residential communities of Derwood, including Old Derwood, located between MD 355, Redland Road, and Indianola Road. The first part of the meeting was a review of the planning area's boundaries, recognizing that residential communities in the area are sometimes between two planning areas.

Accordingly, this planning process will make a particular effort to identify and incorporate residential community concerns, being sure to analyze the effects in Derwood of changes in adjacent planning areas. A Derwood planner has been assigned to track and coordinate recommendations and the Shady Grove Sector Plan will include a section addressing the residential communities.

The following notes reflect discussions at five tables, roughly divided by neighborhood, about the assets, liabilities, and opportunities they see in their communities. This information will be used to develop plan recommendations. The maps reflect residents' views of their neighborhood's character and boundaries.

### **GROUP 1**

- No additional Metro parking, move shuttle to outlying parking lots
- Reduce through traffic in the neighborhoods
- Create a Gude Drive to I-270 route that serves as a Derwood bypass
- Flatten and straighten Muncaster Mill Road from the post office to Laytonia Drive
- All road construction needs to be pedestrian-friendly
- Establish a moratorium prior to adequate infrastructure being built
- Install a noise barrier along Shady Grove Road to Mid-County Highway
- Common sense shows that traffic analysis doesn't reflect observed reality
- Locate new industry within 1/2 mile of highway
- Build an active community for those over 55 years

### **BIGGEST ISSUES:**

- Reduce through traffic impacts,
- Protect the existing neighborhoods
- No industrial uses near residential communities

## **GROUP 2**

- Keep Blueberry Hill Park as a park, not a school site
- Locate a school on the Casey site, next to Washington Grove
- Widen Redland Road on the south-eastern side
- Park Overlook needs a protected sidewalk/trail/bikeway to the Metro station
- Going north on Crabbs Branch Way, install a turn lane going north-east on Redland Road
- Install sidewalks and bike paths on both sides of Redland Road from Crabbs Branch Way to Muncaster Mill Road, and along Needwood Road between Redland and Muncaster Mill Roads
- Create a Ride-On bus route to serve Magruder High School
- Fix the I-370 on/off ramps onto Crabbs Branch Way at Redland Road
- Locate a library and recreation center in the planning area

### **BIGGEST ISSUES :**

- Make pedestrian connections
- Improve access to I-370

## **GROUP 3**

- Need non-road, inter-community connections: bike routes, hiking trails, and connections to Metro
- Mitigate truck traffic on Shady Grove Road (the Plan should do a truck count)
- Install traffic calming features, noise mitigation, and boulevard streetscaping on Shady Grove Road
- Develop alternative routes to Shady Grove Road
- No ICC intersection (on-off ramps) at Shady Grove Road or Mid-County Highway
- Improve the water quality of Mill Creek

### **BIGGEST ISSUES :**

- Provide pedestrian access to parks
- Improve the character of Shady Grove Road

## **GROUP 4**

- Like our community's:  
economic diversity, good schools, tall trees and wooded areas, proximity to historic and scenic Washington Grove, and proximity to Metro
- Don't like:  
no town center, no park in Amity-Epsilon area, no children's park within walking distance, too much traffic, bus service is infrequent and there are no shelters, Shady Grove Road is hard to cross, and can't walk between neighborhood
- Plan should recommend:  
a path from Washington Grove to the Rock Creek park system, preservation of mature trees and forest areas, a park for the Amity-Epsilon community, a new school site that creates adequate capacity and a new high school cluster, a community town center and gathering place

## **GROUP 5**

- Keep Old Derwood an intact residential community near the Metro
- Address traffic problems: cut-through traffic, rush hour route to I-370, dealership vehicles including 18-wheelers and test drivers, inadequate sidewalks, street lighting, and curbs. Old Derwood's roads are narrow and not designed for heavy traffic that has a negative impact on the residential environment
- Rezone I-1 land to RT-8 or less
- Add no parking signs on Derwood Road
- Demolish I-1 uses and replace with residential uses
- Stop church takeover of expansion into Old Derwood land and homes
- THE PLAN SHOULD:  
ensure the area's safety, limit local roads to residential traffic only, re-zone for residential uses, recognize historic value of cemetery

## **BIGGEST ISSUES:**

- Safety for pedestrians
- Saving and celebrating Old Derwood