

Citizens Coordinating Committee on Friendship Heights
Melanie Rose White, Chair
5500 Friendship Blvd., #2221
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

February 24, 2020

BY CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Ms. Anju Bennett, Public Information Act Representative
The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission
6611 Kenilworth Avenue, Suite 402
Riverdale, MD 20737

Re: Public Information Act request - Cost Estimates Associated with the Capital Crescent Trail Crossing of Little Falls Parkway, revealed in the Meeting of the Montgomery County MNCPPC Planning Board on September 12, 2019

Dear Ms. Bennett:

Under the Maryland Public Information Act (PIA), Title 4, on behalf of the Citizens Coordinating Committee on Friendship Heights, I am requesting an opportunity to inspect or obtain copies of public records (hereinafter, "records"), in paper, electronic or other form, related to the Montgomery County Parks Department follow-up to the June 13, 2019 Montgomery County Planning Board meeting, and related to the September 12, 2019 Montgomery County Planning Board meeting. More specifically, this request pertains to cost estimates associated with the relocation of the crossing by the Capital Crescent Trail of Little Falls Parkway to the signalized intersection of Little Falls Parkway with Arlington Road, in the area of Bethesda, Maryland.

By way of background, at the June 13, 2019 Montgomery County Planning Board meeting, the Planning Board or one or more of its Commissioners requested that the Parks Department provide cost estimates on the relocation of the Capital Crescent Trail crossing of Little Falls Parkway. At the September 12, 2019 Montgomery County Planning Board meeting, a Montgomery County Parks Department representative stated that the Trail crossing at the signalized intersection of Little Falls Parkway with Arlington Road was estimated to cost approximately \$2.5 million.

This PIA request is for:

1. All cost estimates, including back up records for cost estimates, prepared by or for the Montgomery County Parks Department including its staff in response to the request at the June 13, 2019 Planning Board meeting by the Planning Board or one or more of its Commissioners for cost estimate(s) on the relocation of the Capital Crescent Trail crossing of Little Falls Parkway to the intersection of Little Falls Parkway with Arlington Road.
2. All cost estimates, including back up records for cost estimates, provided by the Montgomery County Parks Department to the Planning Board, its Chair and/or Commissioner(s), in response to the request at the June 13, 2019 Planning Board meeting by the Planning Board or one or more of its Commissioners for cost estimate(s) on the relocation of the Capital Crescent Trail crossing of Little Falls Parkway to the intersection of Little Falls Parkway with Arlington Road.

3. All records, including back up materials, considered or relied upon by the Montgomery County Parks Department including its staff in developing the estimate, provided to the to the Montgomery County Planning Board on or about September 12, 2019, that in essence a Capital Crescent Trail crossing at the intersection of Little Falls Parkway with Arlington Road would cost approximately \$2.5 million.
4. All records, including back up materials, considered or relied upon by the Montgomery County Parks Department including its staff in developing cost estimate(s), provided to the to the Montgomery County Planning Board on or about September 12, 2019, on the cost of a Capital Crescent Trail crossing at or next to the intersection of Little Falls Parkway with Arlington Road.

We are a nonprofit organization engaged in zoning and planning issues for 18 communities in the vicinity of Friendship Heights. If there are any fees for searching or copying these records, I would like to request a waiver of all fees in that the disclosure of the requested information is in the public interest and will contribute significantly to the public's understanding of this situation. In the event that the fee waiver is not granted, the fees that we are willing to pay (excluding any copying) are limited to \$100.

This information is not being sought for commercial purposes.

The Maryland Public Information Act requires a response to this request within 30 days. If access to the records I am requesting will take longer than this amount of time, please contact me with information about when I might expect copies or the ability to inspect the requested records.

If you deny any or all of this request, please cite each specific exemption you feel justifies the refusal to release the information and notify me of the appeal procedures available to me under the law.

Thank you for considering our request.

Sincerely,

Melanie Rose White, Chair
Citizens Coordinating Committee on Friendship Heights

CC: Hon. Brian Frosh, Maryland Attorney General
Hon. Marc Elrich, Montgomery County Executive
Hon. Sidney Katz, President, Montgomery County Council
Hon. Andrew Friedson, Member, District 1, Montgomery County Council
Hon. Casey Anderson, Chair, Montgomery County Planning Board
Mike Riley, Director, Montgomery County Department of Parks