

## **CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND**

HB 977 Support

Environment and Transportation Committee

March 1, 2018

HB 977 – State Highway Administration Neighbor Notification Act

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The City of Takoma Park supports HB 977, which would require that the State Highway Administration to provide notice to nearby property owners at least two weeks in advance of planned construction on a State highway, as well as information on the scope and duration of the planned work.

All too often, construction projects occur in and around Takoma Park without adequate notification to nearby property owners, or even local government officials. City Councilmembers and staff are frequently caught off guard when we receive inquiries and complaints from residents about work that we were never notified was going to occur. Unfortunately, without legislation of this nature, local governments are left with few options in terms of "carrots and sticks" that can be used to encourage better communication or address communication failures.

For these reasons the City of Takoma Park urges a favorable vote on HB 977.