



## Takoma Park City Council Meeting – October 18, 2017 Agenda Item 3

### **Voting Session**

Resolution Opposing the Proposed Additional Northern Bridge Crossing/Corridor

### **Recommended Council Action**

Consider and vote on the resolution.

### **Context with Key Issues**

On July 19, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Government's Transportation Planning Board (TPB) voted to accept, for further study, ten initiatives proposed by its Long-Range Plan Task Force. The list includes a new northern bridge crossing over the Potomac River, as a multimodal corridor, and new express bus services connecting existing Activity Centers in this multimodal corridor.

At its work session on October 11, the City Council agreed to address the issue of an additional northern bridge crossing over the Potomac by adoption of a resolution on October 18. The resolution drafted for Council consideration opposes construction of a new northern crossing and directs the City's representative on the TPB to vote in accordance with the Council's position.

### **Council Priority**

Livable Community for All; Environmentally Sustainable Community

### **Environmental Impact of Action**

Building an Additional Northern Potomac River Crossing/Corridor would have an adverse environmental impact on the Potomac River, on wetlands in northern Montgomery County, and on the Montgomery County Agricultural Reserve.

### **Fiscal Impact of Action**

Unknown

### **Racial Equity Impact of Action**

A new Potomac River Crossing in Northern Montgomery County would have little benefit for residents of color inside the Capital Beltway who are more likely to be dependent on Metro and bus service in commuting to and from work.

### **Attachments and Links**

- Draft Resolution Opposing the Proposed Additional Northern Bridge Crossing/Corridor
- Montgomery County Council Resolution Opposing a New Potomac River Bridge Crossing (July 18, 2017)

Introduced By:

**CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND  
RESOLUTION 2017-  
Opposition to a New Potomac River Bridge Crossing and Highway Corridor**

- WHEREAS, on July 19, 2017, the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB) voted to approve further study of an Additional Northern Bridge Crossing/Corridor project, as recommended by the TPB's Long-Range Plan Task Force; and
- WHEREAS, the Additional Northern Bridge Crossing/Corridor project would consist of a new northern bridge crossing of the Potomac River as part of a multimodal roadway corridor extended from Virginia Route 28 into Montgomery County to connect to the Intercounty Connector (ICC); and
- WHEREAS, Montgomery County and the State of Maryland have consistently and repeatedly opposed construction of a "second crossing" of the Potomac River into Montgomery County; and
- WHEREAS, the City of Takoma Park favors transit over the building of new roadways as environmentally preferable and more beneficial for existing inner-Beltway jurisdictions; and
- WHEREAS, construction of a Northern Bridge Crossing/Corridor would drain limited regional financial resources from improving Metro, expanding bus service, and maintenance of existing roads and bridges.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Takoma Park endorses the position taken by the Montgomery County Council in Resolution No. 18-870, opposing further study of the Additional Northern Bridge Crossing/Corridor project and urging the Transportation Planning Board to reject inserting a new Potomac River bridge crossing into its long-range transportation plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the City's representative on the Transportation Planning Board will follow the position stated in this resolution.

Adopted this \_\_\_\_ day of October, 2017.

ATTEST:

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Jessie Carpenter  
City Clerk