
September 7, 2021

Mr. Paul Dorr
The Traffic Group, Inc.
9900 Franklin Square Dr. - Suite H
Baltimore, MD 21236

Dear Mr. Dorr:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the concept plan, for the (Takoma Junction development – SHA Tracking #19-AP-MO-008-xx) in Montgomery County, Maryland. The State Highway Administration (SHA) review is complete and we are pleased to respond.

Based on the information provided, please address the following comments in a point-by-point response:

District 3 Traffic Comments (By: Alvin Powell):

1. It is noted that the developer has increased the width of the lay-by lane to provide a single turning maneuver entry. However, based on the turning movements shown in Exhibit A, it appears that the WB-67 wheel path must first encroach/slip partially into the left turn lane and then make a hard right maneuver crossing the through lane and bike lane before entering the layby which creates undesirable driver expectations for drivers and cyclist alike. There are still significant concerns with regards to truck and bicycle lane weaving that remain unaddressed. MDOT SHA District 3 Traffic Office cannot support approval of the plan in its current form.
2. It is noted that the developer proposed to improve the sight distance by removing or trimming trees but there are still other obstructions not captured in the profile or Exhibit D that include parked cars and ornamental fence on private property. In addition, the property owner has expressed concerns and will not support tree trimming and tree removal. MDOT SHA District 3 Traffic Office cannot support approval of the plan in its current form.

Engineering Systems Team (EST) Comments (By: Urooj Zafar):

Acceptance of the layby concept is dependent upon the Developer's ability to acquire two things. 1) Urban Design Waiver and 2) Permission to remove the trees on the adjacent property. We have no further comments until these conditions are met.

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Innovative Contracting Division (ICD) Comments (By: John Vranish):

The plans reviewed for the subject project are compliant with the *MDOT SHA Accessibility Policy and Guidelines for Pedestrian Facilities along State Highways*.

The network cannot support the proposed layby at this location therefore SHA cannot approve it as proposed. Further plan submittals should reflect the above comments. Please upload the plans and all supporting documentation in PDF format, including a point-by-point response to reflect the comments noted above directly to our online database. For electronic submissions create an account with our new online system <https://mdotsha.force.com/accesspermit>. Please reference the SHA tracking number on future submissions. Please keep in mind that you can view the reviewer and project status via the SHA Access Management web page at <http://www.roads.maryland.gov/pages/amd.aspx>. If you have any questions or require additional information please contact Mr. Kwesi Woodroffe at 301-513-7347, by using our toll free number (in Maryland only) at 1-800-749-0737 (x7347), or via email at kwoodroffe@sha.state.md.us or shaamdpermits@sha.state.md.us.

Sincerely,



Erica Rigby,
District Engineer, SHA

ER/ts

cc: Glen Cook, Traffic Group
Jingjing Liu, NDC
Katie Mencarini, Montgomery Planning
Alvin Powell, SHA – District Traffic
Kwesi Woodroffe, SHA – Access Management