



Testimony on the Pedestrian Access Act

Friends of White Flint is a nonprofit organization composed of property owners, businesses, and residents, all working together to transform the Pike District/White Flint area into a walkable, transit-oriented, vibrant community.

Friends of White Flint, in general, supports the legislation entitled the "Pedestrian Access Act." We believe that the State Highway Administration (SHA) ought to maintain pedestrian access when it issues access permits in areas close to a transit station. We wholeheartedly agree with the intent of this bill, which is to ensure that pedestrian and bicycle access be maintained around construction in areas where we encourage Marylanders to walk or ride bikes, such as around transit stops.

Our suggested amendments to the bill would be as follows:

- 1) Two miles around a WMATA or MARC rail or transit station

We believe a more appropriate standard would be one mile or half a mile.

- 2) Bike lane requirements

We want to make sure preserving bike lanes is neither intrusive nor expensive and does not require merging bicyclists and adjacent traffic into a shared lane of traffic.

Please accept this testimony in favor of the Pedestrian Access Act. We hope it will enable pedestrians and bicyclists to continue to walk to and from transit during construction, a laudable and attainable goal.

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