



THE PEOPLE BEFORE
CARS COALITION UNITES
LOCAL STAKEHOLDERS
AROUND SHARED
PRIORITIES TO CREATE A
SAFER AND MORE
ACCESSIBLE
TRANSPORTATION
NETWORK ACROSS
NATIONAL LANDING.

October 19, 2023

Kyle Kling
Arlington County - Department of Environmental Services
2100 Clarendon Blvd, Suite 900
Arlington, VA 22201

Re: Long Bridge Drive Multimodal Project

Dear Mr. Kling,

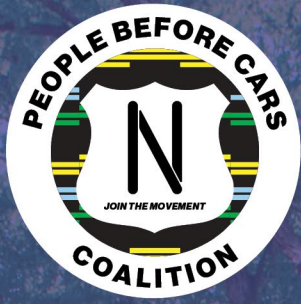
We are writing on behalf of the People Before Cars Coalition to express our strong support for Arlington County's Long Bridge Drive Multimodal project and provide a few important pieces of feedback to ensure the project is as impactful and transformative as possible. The People Before Cars Coalition is comprised of business, advocacy, and community groups working together to promote safe, sustainable transportation in National Landing. As such, we strongly support Arlington's plan to fill the gap in the County's low-stress bike network along Long Bridge Drive.

This project would provide an important connection between the future bike and pedestrian span of the Long Bridge, the under-construction trail connection to the Mount Vernon Trail being built by the Boundary Channel Drive project, the east end of the two-way protected bike lane being constructed by the Army Navy Drive Complete Streets Project, and the trail along Clark Street connecting to the Crystal City Metro Station being constructed by the 15th Street Realignment project.

We think it's important for the county to consider the following feedback during the design phase of this project:

- This project would have immediate benefits as soon as it can be constructed. The Boundary Channel Drive Project's trail connection to the Mount Vernon Trail is already nearly complete and will drive desire for this connection, well before construction of the Long Bridge bike/pedestrian span begins. The goal should be to construct this project as soon as feasible, not to wait for the Long Bridge connection.
- The existing bike lanes are separated from fast-moving traffic only by paint and are frequently blocked; they are not an all-ages and abilities facility.
- If the trail will be on the west side of Long Bridge Drive, as seems to be indicated in the concept drawing, safe crossings of Long Bridge Drive at the aquatic center and at the main field entrance, suitable for all ages and abilities, will be critical; crossing Long Bridge Drive now is challenging.





- If this connection is to fulfill its goal of keeping long-distance and high-speed micromobility traffic off of the Long Bridge Park Esplanade, it needs to be an equal or better experience – connected, direct, safe, and pleasant. If the Esplanade gets people where they're going more quickly, directly, safely, or pleasantly, then many users will just take the Esplanade. The County should be taking a holistic look at all space within the public right-of-way, inclusive of the median, bus stop structures, and on-street parking, when deciding how to reallocate space to make a compelling and useful trail connection.

This is an important project, both from a regional connectivity standpoint and as an important local connection to the Long Bridge Park Aquatics Facility. We look forward to continued collaboration on this worthy endeavor.

Thank you for your consideration of our input,

Stewart Schwartz
Executive Director, Coalition for Smarter Growth

Jay Corbalis
Vice President, Public Affairs JBG SMITH

Chris Slatt
President, Sustainable Mobility for Arlington County

Gillian Burgess
President, Safe Streets Are For Everyone Thank You

Tracy Sayegh Gabriel
President & Executive Director, National Landing BID

Elizabeth Kiker
Executive Director, Washington Area Bicyclist Association

