

**ATTACHMENT # C**

Planning Board Briefing # 8

September 15, 2005

**TITLE:**

Public Testimony Received after Briefing # 7 to close of record at  
5:00 p.m., August 15, 2005.

**2931 Shepperton Terrace  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20904-6716**

Hon. Derick P. Berlage  
Chair, Montgomery County Planning Board  
The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission  
8787 Georgia Avenue  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3760

27 July 2005

***By E-mail only.*** To respond by e-mail, please use [CPZ@OS2BBS.COM](mailto:CPZ@OS2BBS.COM).

**Subject: InterCounty Connector Study - Planning Board Briefing #7  
Parkland replacement**

Dear Chairman Berlage:

Since the Fairland Golf Course Community will apparently not be constructed as planned (and as discussed in the 1997 Fairland Master Plan), I suggest that the existing Old Gunpowder Golf Course would serve as an excellent reforestation site to replace some of the wooded areas to be taken along the master-planned route of the InterCounty Connector.

The golf course is a good reforestation site for the following reasons:

- It is in the Little Paint Branch Watershed - part of the larger Anacostia River Watershed;
- It is located in Montgomery County<sup>1</sup>;
- The land is, as I understand it, already owned by the M-NCP&PC;
- The course is not a positive contributor to water quality in the Little Paint Branch; and
- The Montgomery County Planning Board and Montgomery County

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<sup>1</sup> Even though the Web site (apparently operated by the persons holding the concession to operate the course) claims that it is in Prince George's County. Please see <http://www.gunpowdergolf.com/> for details.

Hon. Derick P. Berlage  
27 July 2005

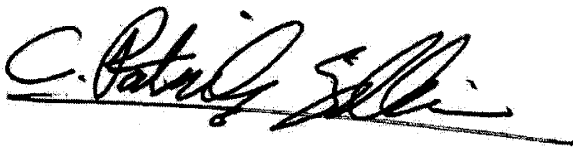
Page 2 of 2

Subject: InterCounty Connector Study - Planning Board Briefing #7  
Parkland replacement

Council had already reached conclusions to close the course down.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and your consideration of this suggestion.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Patrick Zilliacus", written over a horizontal line.

C. Patrick Zilliacus

cc: Hon. Marilyn J. Praisner  
Mr. Wes Mitchell  
Dr. Stuart Rochester  
Ms. Barbara Sears, Esq.  
Mr. Douglas H. Simmons, P.E.  
Ms. Piera Weiss

#1

**MCP-Chairman**

**From:** Hondowicz, David [David.Hondowicz@montgomerycountymd.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 25, 2005 1:45 PM  
**To:** ublj@comcast.net  
**Cc:** Coleman, Joyce; MCP-Chairman  
**Subject:** FW: Mid County Highway Extension

**R E C E I V E D**  
 1311  
 JUL 25 2005

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN  
 THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL  
 PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Dear Ms. Ubl:

Thank you for your e-mail to Councilmember Andrews. Since the parkland at issue is under the jurisdiction of the Montgomery County Planning Board, Mr. Andrews had directed me (by copy of this reply to you) to forward your e-mail to the Chairman of the Montgomery County Planning Board for a response.

The concern you have expressed about safe access to Redland Park would not be an issue if the ICC were no longer under consideration – which is one of many reasons why the Councilmember strongly opposes the ICC.

Sincerely,  
 David Hondowicz  
 Office of Councilmember Phil Andrews

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Joyce D Ubl [mailto:ublj@comcast.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 25, 2005 1:26 PM  
**To:** Andrews' Office, Councilmember  
**Subject:** Mid County Highway Extension

Mr. Andrews -

Today I read the following:

**Road right of way**

The Planning Board also authorized the purchase of the Sue W. Layman property in Derwood.

Located at 6917 Garrett Road, the 5.91 acres lie along the right of way of the Intercounty Connector and the proposed Mid-County Highway extensions. A road is expected to be built through Derwood to connect Mid-County Highway with the proposed ICC.

Mid-County Highway was designed as an alternate to Route 355 and Interstate 270, connecting Shady Grove Road to Damascus. Only a section of the roadway exists, running from Shady Grove Road to Montgomery Village Avenue.

The Garrett Road property would be purchased through the Advanced Land Acquisition Revolving Funds, a program designed to buy land slated for public use that otherwise could be lost to private development, said Bill Gries, land acquisition specialist for Park and Planning.

The County Council must authorize the sale.

7/26/2005

C-3

As you know, this extension of Mid-County Highway would skirt along yet another boundary of Mill Creek Towne - leaving us totally surrounded by high speed roads - with yet another one going right through our middle.

This highway extension would also separate the whole of Mill Creek Towne from Redland Park, which was built after active campaigning of the citizens of Mill Creek Towne. I have a question of safety which I feel must be addresses BEFORE any road construction begins. **How are the residents of Mill Creek Towne going to get to the park SAFELY?** You are either going to built crossing lanes - which will inevitably lead to someone being struck, injured or killed while attempting the crossing.

The safest alternative would be a tunnel. However, I must say that we don't exactly trust the county when it comes to tunnels. The county promised us last winter that the lighting in the tunnel, which has been out for many years, would be restored by late spring. It is the middle of summer and there is no lighting in that tunnel.

The tunnel under Shady Grove, while being cared for by the County was a pig sty. It was full of garbage, graffiti, and dangerous debris. I finally arranged for a local firm to take on the maintenance of the tunnel (with my assistance) so we would have, at least, a clean tunnel to walk through. I don't know that they would be willing to take on yet another tunnel to maintain. Even now, we still fight the graffiti. I, armed with one small razor blade, am no match for the vandals.

Our question is have you given any consideration to the fact that this will be a major problem for our community. Children's soccer games will be going on right up against a major thoroughfare.

Thanks for all your help.

Joyce Ubl, Director  
Mill Creek Towne Civic Association

7/26/2005

C-4

**MCP-CTRACK**

**RECEIVED**  
#1  
R JUL 28 2005 D

**From:** Roger Plaut [rplau001@umaryland.edu]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2005 4:03 PM  
**To:** MCP-Chairman  
**Subject:** Intercounty Connector mitigation plan

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN  
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL  
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Dear Chairman Berlage and members of the Planning Board,

I have reviewed the staff recommendations regarding mitigation of parkland to be destroyed in order to build the Intercounty Connector, and I am appalled. The Board has a responsibility to protect the county's parkland. You are stewards of our parks. The proposal of the state to compensate for the loss of parklands by the acquisition of land far outside the watersheds of those lands is absurd. The resources that the state would destroy to build the ICC are unique, and as such, are irreplaceable. Construction of the ICC through Paint Branch would undoubtedly destroy the brown trout. To suggest that county residents could be compensated for these losses by providing land in a completely different watershed is outrageous--especially considering that the land being acquired would likely be acquired in the near future anyway, regardless of whether or not the ICC is built!

Please stand up to Governor Ehrlich and the State Highway Administration, and do everything in your power to protect our parks.

Sincerely,

Roger Plaut  
13915 Bauer Dr  
Rockville, MD 20853  
H 301-460-3369  
W 410-706-0097

RECEIVED  
1303  
JUL 29 2005

**Krass, Dorothy**

**From:** Bruce Brizendine [bruce.brizendine@verizon.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, July 29, 2005 10:33 AM  
**To:** MCP-Chairman  
**Subject:** ICC

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN  
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL  
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Mr. Chairman,  
I live in the Sherwood Forest area-- which will be affected by the ICC. I looked at the maps for the ICC and cannot understand why pre-existing roads cannot be used for this connector. Why do our parklands have to be torn up to provide something that is ALREADY there?

I do not believe that the ICC is needed and a waste of my tax dollars. Besides, developers will pressure for more development along this route, which in turn will create MORE traffic.  
I don't understand why a simple concept such as too much development creates road congestion. How about adequate roads and schools BEFORE development??????  
Does no one at the commission understand this concept?

Thank you,

Denise A. Marshall  
512 Scott Drive  
Silver Spring, MD 20904

7/29/2005

C-6

**MCP-Chairman**

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**From:** MCP-Chairman  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 26, 2005 8:32 AM  
**To:** 'ublj@comcast.net'  
**Cc:** 'Hondowicz, David'; Coleman, Joyce  
**Subject:** RE: Mid County Highway Extension

Dear Ms. Ubl:

This is to acknowledge receipt of a copy of your recent email to Councilmember Andrews about safe access to Redland Park. The Chairman has asked staff to provide him with specific information so that he may respond substantively to the issues you have raised.

Please rest assured that the Department of Park and Planning is concerned about the safety of park users on their way to and from the parks as well as while they are inside the parks. We take your concerns very seriously, and will respond to them in detail very soon.

Thank you for taking the time to bring these issues to our attention.

Dorothy Krass

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Hondowicz, David [mailto:David.Hondowicz@montgomerycountymd.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 25, 2005 1:45 PM  
**To:** Cc ; MCP-Chairman  
**Subject:** FW: Mid County Highway Extension

Dear Ms. Ubl:

Thank you for your e-mail to Councilmember Andrews. Since the parkland at issue is under the jurisdiction of the Montgomery County Planning Board, Mr. Andrews had directed me (by copy of this reply to you) to forward your e-mail to the Chairman of the Montgomery County Planning Board for a response.

The concern you have expressed about safe access to Redland Park would not be an issue if the ICC were no longer under consideration - which is one of many reasons why the Councilmember strongly opposes the ICC.

Sincerely,  
David Hondowicz  
Office of Councilmember Phil Andrews

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Joyce D Ubl [mailto:ublj@comcast.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 25, 2005 1:26 PM  
**To:** Andrews' Office, Councilmember  
**Subject:** Mid County Highway Extension

Mr. Andrews -

Today I read the following:

**Road right of way**

7/26/2005

*All material*

(C-7)





**MCP-Chairman**

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**From:** Chris & Susan Phillips [ceronisuch@toast.net]  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 30, 2005 11:58 PM  
**To:** MCP-Chairman  
**Subject:** ICC

RECEIVED  
1300  
AUG 01 2005

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN  
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL  
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Dear Chairman,

I would be really interested in hearing one good reason why we should build the ICC. I haven't heard a single one, yet I am constantly hearing about the negative impact it will have on Montgomery County and especially our few remaining green spaces. I also have heard politicians claim that the vast majority of county residents are for this project. How do they know that? Most people I talk to are not for it or have no idea what it's all about. I have an anti-ICC bumper sticker on my van and get positive feedback about it.

Please listen to concerned citizens. We want our parks and our clean drinking water. We don't want the ICC!

Sincerely,  
Susan Phillips  
4220 Thorncroft Terr.  
Olney, MD 20832  
301-774-0759



Stonegate Citizens Association

Alvin J. Auerbach  
President

15117 Centergate Drive, Silver Spring, Maryland 20905-5714

Phone/Fax: 301-384-0796

E-mail: sca.pres@verizon.net

RECEIVED  
1327  
AUG 01 2005

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN  
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL  
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

July 29, 2005

Mr. Derick Berlage, Chairman  
MNCPPC  
8787 Georgia Avenue  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

SUBJECT: Testimony regarding ICC Mitigation:

Dear Chairman Berlage and Commissioners:

As president of the Stonegate Citizens Association representing 1300 households adjacent to the Intercounty Connector, I wish to state our opposition to MNCPPC acquiring property in other areas of the county to mitigate the impacts of the ICC.

The selected alignment of the ICC that would cross the Northwest Branch near Bonifant Road would greatly impact our community. Therefor, we would like to highlight the impact and proposed mitigation recommended in that watershed.

ICC Corridor 1 with Northwest Branch Option 1, will impact 46.3 acres of parkland and 60.5 acres of Interior Forest in the Northwest Branch Watershed. Both MDOT and the MNCPPC Staff recommendations allow only 23.2 acres (Llewelyn Fields), which is to be developed into ball fields, as the only replacement in our Watershed. No forest at all!

Since it is not possible to adequately mitigate the loss of the natural resource functional values in the impacted watersheds, MNCPPC should not permit these irreplaceable parklands to be destroyed. The community of Stonegate would be deprived of a peaceful sanctuary that serves our immediate neighborhood.

The ICC would be the single most environmentally destructive project ever built in the County. If you as commissioners of the MNCPPC permit our parks to be destroyed, you are not upholding your responsibilities to be stewards of our park system.

Please do not build the ICC.

Sincerely,

Alvin Auerbach

RECEIVED  
1324  
AUG 02 2005**MCP-Chairman**

**From:** Kathryn Lipton [kathryn.lipton@verizon.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 01, 2005 10:28 PM  
**To:** MCP-Chairman  
**Subject:** Regarding the ICC

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN  
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL  
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Dear MNCPPC:

This is to request (no, beg) that you do not approve the ICC mitigation plan that fails to adequately protect Montgomery County's unique and special parklands and natural areas. The parklands and other areas slated for the ICC are habitats for an abundance of wildlife and provide countless opportunities for residents of the area to enjoy the serenity and beauty of nature.

As stewards of our parkland, Park and Planning is responsible for protecting our parklands. Accepting the staff-recommended mitigation would be ignoring the agency's stated mission. The ICC would be the single-most environmentally destructive project ever built in the County. This destruction need not be the legacy of the current MNCPPC.

While the MNCPPC proposed mitigation provides compensatory parkland, the vast majority of it is far outside the impacted watersheds. So residents in the proposed ICC corridor are "compensated with" parkland miles away from their homes while left with the noise, pollution and destruction of a superhighway. Is the permanent loss of recreation areas for the local communities and unique ecological function for concrete and congestion a fair exchange?

The MNCPPC proposal does absolutely nothing to compensate for the loss of natural resource values in the Mill Creek, Rock Creek, North Branch, or Northwest Branch watersheds. Although Paint Branch is thrown "a bone," it does not compensate for the enormous impacts to Paint Branch Park including the critical Good Hope trout spawning tributary that would be degraded beyond recovery if the ICC were to be built. It is simply not possible to adequately mitigate the loss of natural resource functional values in the impacted watersheds.

Yes, we beg you to not allow the State Highway Administration to destroy irreplaceable parklands. It is YOUR obligation to protect our parklands. If you allow the SHA to destroy our parks, MNCPPC is not upholding its responsibilities to be stewards of our park system. **THE ICC SHOULD NOT BE BUILT!**

Sincerely,

Kathryn and Douglas Lipton

316 Kimblewick Drive

Silver Spring, MD 20904

8/2/2005

C-11

RECEIVED  
1313  
JUL 27 2005

Page 1 of 1

# 1

MCP-Chairman

**From:** family [family@pittleman.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 26, 2005 7:23 PM  
**To:** MCP-Chairman  
**Subject:** ICC

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN  
THE PARK AND NATIONAL CAPITAL  
PLANNING COMMISSION  
PA

After writing to you and the Park and Planning Commission at an earlier date regarding opposition to the ICC, you made it clear that you would support it. While I find everything about the ICC to fly in the face of protection of our parkland, somehow you don't. Wetlands – wiped out; forested land – bulldozed; Chesapeake watershed – polluted. Now the state has thrown a bone of setting aside parkland to compensate for that which they will rape and pillage in the next few years. How can you, who are guardians of our parks, support such a trade? This land appears to be no where near the parkland that will be permanently lost – denying recreational opportunities to many residents who will be unable to travel to where this new parkland is located. There is nowhere else in the state that has the same ecological significance as the land being decimated by the ICC. How can you stand by and allow such a farcical “trade” to take place. It is still not too late to do something to protect our parkland. Or am I wrong in ever thinking that was one of the missions of your organization?

Karen Pittleman

7/27/2005

C-12

#1

**MCP-CTRACK**

**From:** Petrocci's [77petrocci6@integrity.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 28, 2005 8:26 AM  
**To:** MCP-Chairman  
**Subject:** ICC mitigation plan

**R E C E I V E D**  
 13/0  
 JUL 28 2005

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN  
 THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL  
 PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Dear Chairman Berlage and members of the Planning Board,

Throughout the past five years, I have been actively involved in the planning process in the communities of Upper Rock Creek, Olney and Shady Grove. I have heard countless times that the community should "trust" Park and Planning to be the best stewards of natural resources, protection of the intents of Master Plans, determination of adequate infrastructure prior to new development. Long before the major violations in Clarksburg, the communities have known that this request for "trust" is often lip service as the Planning Board and the County Council have bowed to the pressure for unbalanced and far too rapid growth.

You have an opportunity to begin to right your record with decisions regarding mitigation of ICC damage, should it be built. In reality, the ICC is the largest vehicle for escalation of the out of control development in this 18 mile area. And our communities will see a increase in traffic. No matter what the State Highway Administration decides in the end, it is Park and Planning's responsibility to stand up for our parks and natural resources. The Board must require a mitigation plan that is much more comprehensive and effective than that which is proposed.

The vast majority of replacement parkland is far outside the impacted watersheds and does absolutely nothing to compensate for the loss of natural resource values in the Mill Creek, Rock Creek, North Branch, or Northwest Branch watersheds. Not only are these recreation areas permanently lost for the local community, the ecological function of these areas is not replaced. The areas lost to the ICC would be irreplaceable because they are unique in this area. In addition to enduring the excess traffic on local roads, local citizens/communities would be lose the peaceful sanctuary that serves their immediate neighborhoods.

Because it is not possible to adequately mitigate the loss of natural resource functional values in the impacted watersheds, SHA should not be permitted to destroy these irreplaceable parklands. The ICC would be the single most environmentally destructive project ever built in the County. It is time for strong, unwavering and effective decisions which uphold your responsibilities as stewards of our park system. Do not permit SHA to destroy our parks. Since we all know that mitigation couldn't possibly rectify the damage of the ICC, it is the Board's duty to require a much more stringent mitigation plan than is proposed.

Sincerely,

Susan Petrocci  
 4645 Cherry Valley Drive  
 Rockville, MD 20853

7/28/2005

C-13

RECEIVED  
JUL 28 2005

#1

**MCP-CTRACK**

**From:** Barbara Bienkowski [BarbaraB@meetingmngmt.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2005 5:33 PM  
**To:** MCP-Chairman  
**Subject:** NO ICC

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN  
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL  
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

I am a resident of Longmead Crossing that will be directly impacted by the ICC by the air and noise pollution it will cause. To say nothing of the increased traffic it will bring to the area. I am totally disgusted with MCDPP's proposed "mitigation" which will do absolutely nothing to compensate for the loss of our valuable parkland. The "replaced" parkland is way too far from our area to render it a "replacement."

Your web site states that "the purpose of the MCDPP is to improve the quality of life by conserving and enhancing the natural and developed environment for current & future generations." The MCDPP was totally delinquent in rubber stamping its approval for the fiasco of development at Clarksburg Town Center. And here again you are not upholding your responsibilities as stewards of our park system. It's about time for you to do your job!

You've already given your approval regarding the ICC but it is not too late to redeem yourselves in the public's eye and put a stop to this monstrous, costly project that will not ease the traffic congestion proponents think it will.

Put a stop to the ICC!

Barbara Bienkowski  
8 Habersham Court  
Silver Spring, MD 20906

7/28/2005

C-14

RECEIVED  
JUL 28 2005

#1

**MCP-CTRACK**

**From:** Diane M. Cameron [dianemcameron@verizon.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2005 10:57 PM  
**To:** MCP-Chairman  
**Subject:** Please vote no on the ICC "mitigation"

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN  
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL  
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

July 27, 2005

Dear Chairman Berlage and Commissioners,

Please vote "No" tomorrow on the proposal by SHA to "mitigate" the losses caused by the ICC in Mill Creek, Upper Rock Creek, NorthWest Branch, and other watersheds, by a proposed purchase of parkland in a separate watershed. Although parkland preservation through purchase is usually a good thing, it is bad public policy in this instance. An out-of-watershed purchase cannot replace the irreplaceable values provided by the watersheds that the InterCounty Connector would permanently damage. An out-of-watershed purchase of parkland will not replace the wetlands, stream channel habitat, vulnerable interior species of plants and animals, and high-level water quality in the watersheds that the ICC would damage. Your mission, as Montgomery County Planning Board Commissioners, is to "protect and steward" our County's natural resources. You are therefore duty-bound by your mission, to not only reject this mitigation proposal, but also to reverse your earlier approvals and to reject the ICC itself as anathema to the natural resources and community values that you are supposed to protect.

Thank you for considering my request to vote no on the mitigation proposal.

Sincerely,

Diane M. Cameron  
3102 Edgewood Road  
Kensington, MD 20895

7/28/2005

C-15



RECEIVED  
JUL 28 2005

#1

**MCP-CTRACK**

**From:** RWi3206724@aol.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2005 11:36 PM  
**To:** MCP-Chairman  
**Cc:** bhenry@audubonnauralist.org; lifeonearth@juno.com; Loissherm@aol.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for the M-NCPPC Hearing on Environmental Mitigation for the ICC

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN  
 THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL  
 PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

7/28/05

**Testimony for the M-NCPPC Hearing on Environmental Mitigation for the ICC  
 From Citizens to Save South Valley Park and Whetstone Run**

The proposal to mitigate the loss of extremely valuable environmental resources caused by construction of the ICC in the Corridor 2 Northwest Branch and Paint Branch alignment is totally unacceptable. This proposal does not mitigate anything but allows M-NCPPC to say they are preserving other existing environmental resources elsewhere. M-NCPPC failed to do their job as stewards of the environment by approving of this awful destruction in the first place.

M-NCPPC has allowed developers to control our valuable natural resources by providing them with unlimited access to County, State and Federal environmental permitting meetings and information while keeping the general public out. With this un-level playing field no wonder all our valuable natural resources are being traded away for further destruction of our environment!!! The proposed mitigation plan to acquire additional parkland will not begin to mitigate environmental losses for the original ICC construction let alone for the additional losses due to the associated development allowed by this road.

To continue to ignore Federal and State clean water and clean air regulations and goals for an alignment proposed before the 1972 Clean Water Act provides the wrong message to developers and the general public that development is more important than health, safety and quality of life. Ask the developers if they would build this destructive highway in their neighborhoods!!!

Richard D. Wilder  
 9969 Lake Landing Rd  
 Montgomery Village, MD 20886  
 301-208-1828

7/28/2005

C-16

**MCP-TRACK**

#1

**From:** Doug Percival [dpercival@igc.org]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2005 4:00 PM  
**To:** MCP-Chairman  
**Cc:** douglas.duncan@montgomerycountymd.gov  
**Subject:** ICC Mitigation Plan

**RECEIVED**  
JUL 28 2005

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER  
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL  
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Dear Mr. Berlage:

As Montgomery County resident for 40 years, I urge you and the Planning Board to reject the proposed Intercounty Connector "mitigation" plan which in fact will do little or nothing to compensate for the tragic and irreversible destruction of some of Montgomery County's last remaining ecological treasures.

The land that will be devastated by the ICC is in fact irreplaceable. The "mitigation" plan adds insult to injury by proposing to "replace" this land with areas that are either outside the affected watershed or insignificant to the local ecology compared to the land being lost.

Let's face reality: construction of the ICC will cause serious and permanent damage to environmentally sensitive areas with profoundly negative consequences for the entire county. Even proponents of the ICC have now been forced to acknowledge that the ICC will do nothing to relieve traffic congestion, despite the utterly dishonest developer-funded "End Gridlock" propaganda campaign waged by County Executive Doug Duncan and his political allies in the last election cycle. The ICC is the most blatant example of cash-and-carry political corruption that I have seen in Montgomery County in 40 years, with bought-and-paid-for politicians shilling for the development interests who are drooling over the enormous profits that await them when the ICC opens a new corridor for environmentally catastrophic development.

The Planning Board should not be a rubber stamp for a fake, phony "mitigation" plan that is really nothing more than another exercise in dishonest propaganda for a massive, unnecessary boondoggle that will rape the environment and the taxpayers of Montgomery County, all to enrich Doug Duncan's financial backers.

The Planning Board should, indeed must, reject the proposed ICC "mitigation" plan.

Thank you for your attention to my concerns.

Sincerely,  
Doug Percival  
10509 Malone Street  
Silver Spring, MD 20902  
dpercival@igc.org

RECEIVED  
JUL 28 2005

#1

**MCP-CTRACK**

**From:** Kathy Sheehy [ksheehy@verizon.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2005 3:34 PM  
**To:** MCP-Chairman  
**Cc:** Henry B. Heller; Carol\_Petzold@house.state.md.us; Leonard Teitelbaum; Adrienne A. Mandel  
**Subject:** ICC Environmental Mitigation Meeting on July 28, 2005

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN  
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL  
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Dear Mr. Chairman:

We live near the proposed route of the ICC and expect our property value will increase from its construction. Nevertheless, we wish to express our view that the ICC will be a natural and cultural disaster well beyond any power the MNCPPC Board has to mitigate. The very notion that these losses to natural habitat and neighborhoods can be mitigated is a mere public relations deceit. In truth, the environmental destruction and mental and physical harm to persons would be irremediable.

The ICC, like nearly all projects of its size and scope, will likely cost a great deal more than the present estimate of \$3 billion. Funds for more creative and worthy, but possibly less developer-friendly, transportation solutions will be mortgaged far into the future.

Instead of seeking pointlessly to mitigate the ICC's destructive impact, the MNCPPC should look to its responsibility to protect delicate and diminishing parklands and oppose the ICC.

Thank you.

John and Kathleen Sheehy (1909 Norvale Road, Silver Spring, MD 20906)

7/28/2005

C-18

PLEASE STOP - the ICC

RECEIVED  
1307  
JUL 27 2005

#7

**MCP-Chairman**

**From:** Henrikson, Erik N [HENRIKSONE@cder.fda.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 26, 2005 1:56 PM  
**To:** MCP-Chairman  
**Subject:** PLEASE STOP - the ICC  
**Importance:** High

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN  
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL  
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

To all of the Planning Board,

We live just a few houses from where the Inter-County Connector is slated to be built. At night, the air is so quiet, just the sounds of insects and birds.

If you build this road, the park that is in back of our home that is so green and lush will be gone to a very great extent..

Please, we beg you, do not build this.

Erik Henrikson  
16608 Summertree Ct.  
Rockville, MD 20853

7/27/2005

C-19

#

**MCP-Chairman**

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**From:** Colleen - Home [purplesams@comcast.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 26, 2005 3:08 PM  
**To:** MCP-Chairman  
**Subject:** Protect our Parklands!!! - NO ICC

The MNCPPC proposed mitigation does absolutely nothing to compensate for the loss of natural resource values in the Mill Creek, Rock Creek, North Branch, or Northwest Branch watersheds. Although Paint Branch is thrown a bone. It DOES NOT compensate for the enormous impacts to Paint Branch Park including the critical Good Hope trout spawning tributary that would be degraded beyond recovery if the ICC were to be built.

The vast majority of replacement parkland is far outside the impacted watersheds. This means the recreation areas for the local community are permanently lost, and the ecological function of the area is not replaced. The areas lost to the ICC would be irreplaceable because they are unique in this area. No matter what the State Highway Administration (SHA) decides in the end, Park and Planning has a responsibility to stand up for our parks.

Because it is not possible to adequately mitigate the loss of natural resource functional values in the impacted watersheds, you should not permit SHA to destroy these irreplaceable parklands. My community (Longmeade Crossing) would be deprived of a peaceful sanctuary. The ICC would be the single most environmentally destructive project ever built in the County.

If you permit SHA to destroy our parks you are not upholding your responsibilities to be stewards of our park system. The ICC should not be built!

Colleen Martin  
2342 Massanutten Drive  
Silver Spring, MD 20906

7/27/2005

C-20

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**MCP-Chairman**

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**From:** Rousseaucj@aol.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 26, 2005 4:06 PM  
**To:** MCP-Chairman  
**Subject:** Park and Planning Hearing on environmental mitigation for the ICC

At the **Park and Planning Hearing on environmental mitigation for the ICC** on Thurs. July 28, 10 AM, Board members will decide whether to approve an ICC mitigation plan that I believe fails to adequately protect Montgomery County's unique and special parklands and natural areas. **As I can not personally attend this hearing, I am submitting testimony in this letter.**

The MNCPPC proposed mitigation does absolutely nothing to compensate for the loss of natural resource values in the Mill Creek, Rock Creek, North Branch, or Northwest Branch watersheds. Although Paint Branch is spared, it cannot compensate for the enormous impacts to Paint Branch Park, including the critical Good Hope trout spawning tributary, that would be degraded beyond recovery if the ICC were to be built.

The vast majority of replacement parkland is far outside the impacted watersheds. This means the recreation areas for the local community are permanently lost, and the ecological function of the area is not replaced. The areas lost to the ICC would be irreplaceable because they are unique in this area. No matter what the State Highway Administration (SHA) decides in the end, Park and Planning has a responsibility to stand up for our parks.

As it is not possible to adequately mitigate the loss of natural resource functional values in the impacted watersheds, Park and Planning should not permit SHA to destroy these irreplaceable parklands. Local citizens of communities in these areas, which include the one in which I live (Colesville), would be deprived of the peaceful sanctuaries that serve their immediate neighborhoods. **The ICC would be the singlemost environmentally destructive project ever built in the County.** It will not provide relief from traffic congestion, but promote more, especially on the north-south routes, such as New Hampshire Avenue and Georgia Avenue, which are already congested. No mitigation of natural resource loss can be justified in building this road. We lose on all counts.

Put simply, if the Board permits SHA to destroy our parks they are not upholding their important responsibilities to be stewards of our park system in Montgomery County.

Sincerely,

Claudia Rousseau, Ph.D  
Professor, Art History

**School of *art* + design**  
**at Montgomery College**

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7/27/2005

C-21

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**MCP-Chairman**

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**From:** Laurie Checco [laurie.checco@verizon.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 26, 2005 5:00 PM  
**To:** MCP-Chairman  
**Subject:** No ICC!

Because it is not possible to adequately mitigate the loss of natural resource functional values in the impacted watersheds, the Planning Board should not permit SHA to build the ICC and destroy our irreplaceable parklands. Local citizens and communities would be deprived of a peaceful sanctuary that serves their immediate neighborhoods. The ICC would be the single most environmentally destructive project ever built in the County.

If the Planning Board permits SHA to destroy our parks, they are not upholding their responsibilities to be stewards of our park system. We are counting on you to protect our parks. The ICC should not be built!

Larry and Laurie Checco  
508 Scott Drive  
Silver Spring, MD 20904

7/27/2005

C-22

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**MCP-Chairman**

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**From:** Owrutsky/Strahan [jcoses@comcast.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 26, 2005 5:07 PM  
**To:** MCP-Chairman  
**Subject:** do not approve the ICC mitigation plan

Dear Chairman,

It is the responsibility of Parks and Planning to protect our parklands and local natural resources. If this board approves the ICC mitigation plan, it will not be upholding responsibility to the citizens of this county. This alleged 'mitigation' plan will not protect or replace losses in the Rock Creek, Northwest Branch, or Paint Branch watersheds. These areas will be irreparably degraded if the ICC is built. These beautiful parklands provide sanctuary for animals and people throughout our county, vastly improving our quality of life. Building the ICC would be the single most environmentally destructive project ever in Montgomery County. Protect us! Don't rubber stamp approval for the sake of developers!

Sincerely,  
Susan Strahan  
13225 Trebleclef Lane  
Silver Spring, MD 20904

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jcoses@comcast.org

7/27/2005

C-23



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**MCP-Chairman**

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**From:** Jeff Weingarten [jweingarten@interfacevideo.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 26, 2005 5:25 PM  
**To:** MCP-Chairman  
**Subject:** ICC

**Planning Board Chairman and Committee:**

The ICC should not be built. It is not possible to adequately mitigate the loss of natural resource functional values in the impacted watersheds, you should not permit SHA to destroy these parklands. Our citizens and communities will be deprived of a peaceful sanctuary that serves our immediate neighborhoods. The ICC is the single most environmentally destructive project ever proposed in the county. Allowing the SHA to destroy our parks is shirking your responsibilities to be stewards of our park system. No matter what the State Highway Administration (SHA) decides in the end, Park and Planning has a responsibility to stand up for our parks.

Jeff Weingarten  
605 Hawkesbury Terrace  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20904

7/27/2005

C-24

#1

**MCP-Chairman**

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**From:** jg0121@aol.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 26, 2005 6:03 PM  
**To:** MCP-Chairman  
**Subject:** Environmental Mitigation for the ICC

I am unable to attend the hearing on Thurs., but I would like to go on record as opposing the MNCPPC proposed mitigation plan. I believe it does nothing to compensate for the loss of natural resource values in the Mill Creek, Rock Creek, North Branch, or Northwest Branch watersheds. The plan for Paint Branch does little to compensate for the enormous impacts to Paint Branch Park including the critical Good Hope trout spawning tributary that would be degraded beyond recovery if the ICC were to be built.

The vast majority of replacement parkland is far outside the impacted watersheds. This means the recreation areas for the local community are permanently lost, and the ecological function of the area is not replaced. The areas lost to the ICC would be irreplaceable because they are unique in this area. No matter what the State Highway Administration (SHA) decides in the end, **Park and Planning has a responsibility to stand up for our parks.**

Because it is not possible to mitigate adequately for the loss of natural resource functional values in the impacted watersheds, the MNCPPC should not permit SHA to destroy these irreplaceable parklands and deprive local citizens and communities of a peaceful sanctuary that serves their neighborhoods.

**The ICC would be the singlemost environmentally destructive project ever built in the County.**

**If you permit SHA to destroy our parks, you are not upholding your responsibilities to be stewards of our park system.**

Joni Goodman  
13905 Zeigler Way  
Silver Spring, MD 20904  
jg0121@aol.com

7/27/2005

C-25

#1

## MCP-Chairman

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**From:** KFahey@capron.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 26, 2005 6:18 PM  
**To:** MCP-Chairman  
**Cc:** gwenmoulton@comcast.net  
**Subject:** icc

Dear Park and Planning Board Members,

The Minority Voter Environmental Impact Study

We all know:

The traffic problems in the Washington Metro Area will never go away.

Continually building more roads will not solve the problem since only more development in the region will follow. This is based on the "Build it and they will come" theory.

The financial cost to build the ICC will far exceed 4000 million dollars.

The environmental costs are way beyond the ICC knifing across the lungs of the bay.

That we are deforesting the region and the bay it dying and building the ICC will be a significant negative factor.

We all know the Park and Planning commission needs to take a stand.

Taking a stand may involve some risks, possibly get someone fired or maybe have the governor get really mad. There are significant economic and political pressures against you. We know that the motives of the developers and road construction contractor's are primarily self-serving and that in their minds the environmental impact is just a fact of life, collateral damage if you will.

On your web site it states,

"The purpose of the Montgomery County Department of Park and Planning is to improve the quality of life by conserving and enhancing the natural and developed environment for current and future generations".

If you give the SHA a pass on the environmental impact we will also know that you have failed at your purpose. Do not approve the build the ICC, do not look the other way; stand up for what you know is right.

We need to promote investing our money into road enhancements across the

region, promote flex scheduling and virtual Internet infrastructure for businesses. That is how we can improve our quality of life and preserve the environment for current and future generations.

Rachel Carson, onetime native of Montgomery County and the nature writer who propelled the environmental movement with her book *Silent Spring*, observed in 1954 the preciousness of Rock Creek Park and its threat from urban sprawl:

"We see it in distressing form in the nation's capital, where I live. There in the heart of the city we have a small but beautiful woodland Area Rock Creek Park. It is a place where one can go, away from the noise of traffic and of man-made confusions, for a little interval of refreshing and restoring quiet—where one can hear the soft water sounds of a stream on its way to river and sea, where the wind flows through the trees and a Veery sings in the green twilight. Now they propose to run a six-lane arterial highway through the heart of that narrow woodland valley—destroying forever its true and immeasurable value to the city and the nation."

(*Lost Woods, The Discovered Writings of Rachel Carson*, Boston: Beacon Press, ed. Linda Lear, 1998, p. 161)

Sincerely,

Kevin Fahey  
Derwood, Maryland

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(C-27)