

Rock Creek Hills Citizens' Association

Kensington, MD 20895



www.rchca.org

February, 10, 2008

**Mr. Isiah Leggett
Montgomery County Executive
Executive Office Building
101 Monroe Street, 2nd Floor
Rockville, MD 20850**

**Mr. Arthur Holmes, Director
Montgomery County Department of Public Works and Transportation
101 Monroe Street, 10th Floor
Rockville, MD 20850**

Subject: Funding of Sidewalk Along West Side of Connecticut Avenue in Kensington Vicinity

Dear County Executive Leggett, Director Holmes, and Councilmember Floreen:

We know that Montgomery County will be going through a difficult budget cycle this year, in which many competing priorities must be considered. In this light, Rock Creek Hills Citizens' Association (RCHCA) wishes to lend its support to making sure that the important issue of pedestrian safety still manages to obtain adequate funding in the County's Public Works and Transportation capital budget.

Specifically, we are asking that a much-needed sidewalk be installed on the west side of Connecticut Avenue between Saul Road to the south and Washington Street to the north.

We are all aware of the fact that there has been an increase in pedestrian accidents in our county and elsewhere in recent years. Many of you may know of the fatal accident that happened on Connecticut Avenue near Dresden last March. If you are familiar with the area, cars often speed coming northbound over a rise in the road, with poor visibility at night and few crosswalks. Not only are there no sidewalks in this west-side stretch of Connecticut Avenue, but in much of the area, the lawn slopes sharply to the street, making it difficult for pedestrians to walk on the grass.

We know that County Executive Leggett is familiar with what happened last year. He spoke eloquently along other elected officials, during a vigil held last November at Temple Emanuel on "World Day of Remembrance for Road Crash Victims and Their Families".

When asked via our listserv, RCHCA members overwhelmingly voiced their support for this important measure. Our association represents the interests of about 660 resident families. We hope and trust that this will assist our public officials as they consider budgetary priorities for the coming year.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Joe Rosenberg, President
RCHCA**

CC:

Councilmember Nancy Floreen
Councilmember Phil Andrews
Councilmember Valerie Ervin
Councilmember Marc Elrich
Councilmember Duchy Trachtenberg
Councilmember George L. Leventhal
Senator Richard Madaleno
Delegate Al Carr Jr.
Delegate Ana Sol Gutierrez
Delegate Jeffrey D. Waldsteicher
US Rep. Chris Van Hollen
Mayor Peter Fosselman, Town of Kensington
Jana S. Coe, Town Administrator, Chevy Chase View