

## October 22, 2020 Virtual Public Workshop Question Summary

### 1. Is the buffer area raised above the road and path level?

The buffer area and pathway will be at the same height; however, both will be at the height of the top of the existing roadway curb, which is raised above the roadway.

### 2. Will there be a safe way for cyclists heading south on Oakland Mills Road to get onto the path?

Yes. A connection is not shown at this time but will be further analyzed and designed in future phases of the project and require ongoing coordination with both the Snowden River Parkway Capital Project and the Oakland Mills Road Complete Streets Study.

### 3. Is there an on-demand signal planned for Robert Fulton for cyclists and pedestrians at Solar Walk?

Currently there is no plan for a signal to be placed at the mid-block crossing on Solar Walk. The project team considered whether a signal would be needed, but due to the low speed and low volume of traffic on Solar Walk, it was determined that it was not required. It will continue to be looked at in later design phases as the project moves through final design.

### 4. Would it be possible to talk about how and where this will connect to existing sidewalks/trails?

The project will connect to an existing pathway along Columbia Gateway Drive. The pathway will also connect with proposed pathways along Snowden River Parkway and Oakland Mills Road. There is also potential for a future connection to McGaw Road under a different future project. Please feel free to add your own suggestions for other potential connections on the comment form for consideration in the next phase of design.

**5. Do the paths have a dawn to dusk expectation? Will there be new lighting that will create new ambient light? Will neighbors in the townhomes have the ability to get trees added to block the extra traffic and noise?**

The sections of the pathway directly adjacent to Robert Fulton Drive will have no dawn to dusk expectations. The sections of the pathway within the utility easement will need to be approved by both BGE and Columbia Association.

A lighting analysis has not been completed in this design phase. Lighting analysis will be considered for future design phases. If additional lighting is required, the lighting design will take precautions to use low-ambient light and to prevent the new lighting from impacting nearby residences.

The County is anticipating new landscaping with this project. The extent of landscaping, including the type and location, will be determined in the next phases of design.

**6. Do you plan to notify each resident specifically in Snowden Ridge that this is taking place? And for those who will be impacted by the increased amount of people cycling and walking?**

The County has completed mailings and has an e-mail list that residents can sign up to stay informed with the project. The County will continue to complete outreach efforts to keep residents informed as the project progresses. All residents are encouraged to sign up for the e-mail list and encourage community members as well.

**7. The Solar Walk traffic light is not friendly for residents leaving the community. Will there be a way to give residents a little more time for the light? The light sequence is barely enough time to turn, and we will be slowing down to avoid pedestrians and cyclists.**

The traffic signal at Solar Walk will require modifications due to the pedestrian crossing to the bus stop. As a part of this analysis, the entire traffic signal timing will be reviewed.

**8. When and how can residents provide input to the budget process to advocate for construction funding?**

The annual budget process presents many opportunities for input from residents, mostly between February and April each year. For more details, see this website: <https://cc.howardcountymd.gov/Budget/Budget-Process>

**9. Is there a site that has data on all the bike improvement projects going on in Columbia?**

Infrastructure improvement projects in Howard County are managed by several different agencies, including the Department of Public Works, the Office of Transportation and the Department of Planning and Zoning (for development projects). [The Howard County Complete Streets website](#) provides information and links to all of these sources.