

3 October 2019

Residents Meeting Summary

- MDOT SHA thanked approximately 25 residents in attendance and staff at Victory Tower for the opportunity to attend their Monthly Residents Meeting. MDOT SHA added that their goal was to hear input from Victory Tower on a transportation vision for Takoma Junction and to share what the study team has heard from the surrounding community up to this point. MDOT SHA was interested in whether they were missing any concerns from Victory Tower or if the residents had new input to share. Some of the attendees were familiar with the vision study, while the study was new to others.
- The group was reminded that the Takoma Junction Vision Study (TJVS) is not a specific project or improvement, but rather a way to collect what is important to the community and develop a guiding document to be used in considering future improvements.
- MDOT SHA reviewed the study area and the location of Takoma Junction. They explained that a vision statement will be included in an upcoming report with recommendations on how to make the junction better. MDOT SHA provided a brief recap of what public outreach has been done, including the two June workshops.
- The residents stated that buses are important to them and asked if this study will take away bus routes. MDOT SHA assured residents that transit is an important concern that will be included in the document.
- Attendees asked a question about the proposed 7221 Carroll Avenue development. They wanted to know, if commerce increases, how will transportation improvements will be feasible? MDOT SHA responded that the subject intersection is currently failing, and traffic issues should be addressed regardless of potential future developments. For the purposes of this study, the proposed development is not considered an approved condition. Instead the TJVS will address existing conditions and suggest potential future improvements based on the traffic and challenging pedestrian and bicycle access.
- Attendees requested clarification on the intention of the vision document. MDOT SHA explained that it will be a guiding document to be used in the near and the long term to evaluate improvements to be implemented today and/or years from now.
- The group reviewed common themes among the three vision statements with the most votes. Victory Tower residents agreed that pedestrian access, safety and signal timing at crosswalks are important to them.
- Other concerns from the residents included:
 - The traffic light in front of Victory Tower that has not been completed
 - Rush hour traffic is bad
 - Fear that the Co-op would close
 - Light at the bend near Co-op does not control traffic (line of sight issue near the Pavilion)
 - Potholes on MD 195 (Carroll Avenue)
 - Timeline for solving the problems
 - Do not move bus stops (Favorites are Ride-On 12, 17, 18, 16)
 - Sidewalks in front and to the right of Victory Tower are torn up at Tulip Ave

MDOT SHA explained that although some of the maintenance items mentioned above can be taken care of outside of the Vision Study and that the appropriate staff would be notified of those issues.

The MDOT SHA explained that they were leaving postage-paid surveys behind that can still be filled out and mailed. The team also left postage paid comment forms. MDOT SHA thanked the group for their time and the residents continued with their monthly meeting.