

McPeters, Brian

From: Elaine Bailey <etbailey@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 8, 2018 1:02 AM
To: >Belmont.Bridge
Subject: comments

Hi,

I'm pleased to say that after seeing the proposed design, I think we are narrowing in on a design that will work. Hooray! I'm pleased to see so many of our comments from previous meetings taken to heart. THANK YOU for preserving the left-turn in to Graves Street. While I am sad to miss the left turn out of this intersection, I understand that this is a compromise that had to be made.

On paper at least, it seems that the pedestrian access tunnel has been designed with care, and I am cautiously optimistic that this will prove a workable alternative to losing the at-grade pedestrian crossing near the Bridge PAI (though admittedly I still really wish we'd been able to keep it). One small tweak: it would be great if in addition to the ADA ramp down to the tunnel if there was also a (steeper) path through the grass to allow for more direct access for bikes coming from the neighborhood.

As for the possible addition of fencing over train tracks, I truly hope that it can be avoided; adding it would be a big loss for the aesthetics of the project and make the bridge a much less welcoming gateway to the city. So, I am wishing you good luck with your negotiations with the train company – be strong!

One final note – I'm glad to hear that the plan is to coordinate street furnishings with the West Main and East High Street projects, as this will help create a cohesive urban experience. Well done :)

Thanks again for working so hard to include community input into your project. Now let's get this bridge built!!

Best,
Elaine

McPeters, Brian

From: Doug Campbell <dougcampbell48@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 7, 2018 8:14 AM
To: >Belmont.Bridge; JANICZEK@charlottesville.org; Doug Campbell
Subject: My Comments on the Belmont Bridge Replacement Project

Dear BelmontBridge@kimley-horn.com and Jeanette JANICZEK@charlottesville.org,

Thank you for your work to gather comments on the Belmont Bridge Replacement Project. I own a house on Monticello Road where it intersects with Levy Avenue.

I understand the proposed bridge design will close off the left turn out of Graves Street onto Avon (by Quality Pie), and instead redirect that left turn traffic up Monticello Rd to turn right onto Levy Avenue to reach Avon Street. I believe this "The Monticello Road Reversal Pilot Project" is unworkable and is a very bad idea. Yes, it would shift a lot of traffic off of the bridge at that point, but it would funnel those cars into our kid-heavy residential neighborhood.

Because Monticello Road would continue to be one-way from Goodman to Levy, big trucks which accidentally turn onto Levy Avenue from Avon (which they do often) will have no outlet and will either have to back up Levy Avenue, or do a three-point turn in the very narrow Levy Avenue, or go the wrong-way on Monticello Road (which they also do often, at fast speeds).

From a pedestrian standpoint, closing the crosswalk across Avon at Graves Street is also a bad scheme. A walker coming from Graves or Hogwaller wanting to cross the bridge would still tend to cross Avon at Graves instead of taking the longer path to cross Avon at Levy. And Levy Avenue doesn't have adequate sidewalks.

Therefore, you should should continue to allow left turns out of Graves onto Avon, so there's no need to shift the left-turners into our residential neighborhood, and leave Monticello Road one-way from Goodman to Graves.

Thank you for your consideration,
Doug Campbell
321 Monticello Road

McPeters, Brian

From: Tom Hubbard <tom.hubbard@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 5, 2018 8:01 AM
To: >Belmont.Bridge
Subject: Belmont Bridge design comments

I'd like to add some comments to the design of the Belmont Bridge.

We own the Inova Solutions building, and we ask that you improve access from our property to the pedestrian tunnel. **On the private section of Monticello Road, at location 209.75, please add a crosswalk connecting our sidewalk to a new paved path from the street to the pedestrian tunnel.**

Also, please consider modifying the alignment of the parking spaces at location 209 so that cars enter/exit at an angle. (Most cars will enter from the south.)

Additional comment: please remove the steel screen that blocks the view from the walkways across the bridge.

Thank you for considering our comments.

Tom

Tom Hubbard
General Manager
Hubbard Properties, LLC
434-531-5311 mobile
tom.hubbard@gmail.com

McPeters, Brian

From: Bailey, Robert Reid (Reid) (rrb5b) <rrbailey@virginia.edu>
Sent: Monday, June 4, 2018 7:26 PM
To: >Belmont.Bridge
Subject: Comments

There were a few issues that were of high priority for me since the last meetings. One I am happy with the current design, one I feel unlistened to... and then a few more comments.

Allowing left turns into Graves Street. Yeah! This is great.

Removing crosswalk at Graves Street. Boo. Not great. I feel like the design team rammed their idea through under the guise of "safety." I'd most like to see that crosswalk back.

New issue: in reviewing the access to the pedestrian tunnel near Lampo, I don't see good access to that tunnel for cyclists coming down Monticello Road or Graves Street. I come down Graves street regularly on my bike and would ride over grass (and possibly over a curb) to access the tunnel (if I am reading the drawings correctly).

Finally, I would rather have left turns allowed out of Graves ...as that self-regulates pretty well. On crowded times, people just avoid taking lefts there. On early Saturday morning when no one is there, it is too bad that we no longer will be able to turn left. I'd rather left turns be allowed – at very least during off-peak hours.

-Reid

Associate Professor
Systems and Information Engineering
University of Virginia
434-924-6352 -- Olsson 114b

McPeters, Brian

From: property-management@comcast.net
Sent: Saturday, June 2, 2018 7:20 PM
To: >Belmont.Bridge
Subject: Design Public Hearing for the Belmont Bridge Replacement Project

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

I attended the Belmont Bridge Replacement Project public hearing on May 24, 2018. At the hearing I made some comments for the recorder on behalf of Avon Court LC, a property owner affected by the Bridge Project. I indicated that EXISTING PARKING ACCESS needs to be maintained for Downtown Family Heath Care and for Champion Brewing Company. Since the meeting, I have studied one of the drawings presented at the public hearing more closely. I noticed that one of the existing entrances on the property is not shown. Two are used by Downtown Family Health Care and these are shown as EXISTING PARKING ACCESS on the drawing. However, the existing entrance for Champion Brewing Company is not shown as an EXISTING PARKING ACCESS. An EXISTING PARKING ACCESS needs to be shown for the Champion Brewing Company entrance. I would like to meet at the site to review the parking access locations.

I also have additional thoughts about the location of the proposed temporary easement and would like to meet on site to review the location.

Thank you.

Caroline Satira, Manager
Avon Court LC

McPeters, Brian

From: john stoudt <johnstoudt534@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 31, 2018 9:12 AM
To: >Belmont.Bridge
Subject: to whom it may concern

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

kimley-horn.com, the only concern I have for the bridge is I heard that it was going to be reduced from two lanes to one .as the anticipated congestion only gets worse should we be doing this?was this a false rumor or is there some merit to it.i can understand improving pedestrian walkways and making them wider but at the expense of rush hour traffic?

McPeters, Brian

From: Chris Wiles <chris.wiles@stvfd.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 30, 2018 3:57 PM
To: >Belmont.Bridge
Subject: May 24, 2018 public hearing comment

I am dissatisfied with the median strip separating opposing lanes of traffic at the Levy Ave. end of the project area. Traffic traveling at the posted 25 mph does not need to be separated, rather this separation only projects a false sense of security and additional risk-taking in the form of speeding, which ultimately negatively impacts the safety of more vulnerable road users (bicyclists & pedestrians). Please revisit this design component and find a better use of this road area to enhance safety for all road users.

Sincerely,
Chris Wiles
1602 Del Mar Dr.

McPeters, Brian

From: djackson21@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 30, 2018 3:39 PM
To: >Belmont.Bridge
Subject: one lane going north

Hi,

Thank you for a very informative and well planned meeting last week. I came in quite grumpy about the tunnel (still don't like it, but may use it if it's well lit and has highly visible surveillance cameras) and you all were able to deal with my crankiness in a very helpful manner. I did write/leave extensive notes.

My comments today -

1) Please re-consider the one lane bridge going north. I did hear the explanation for one lane. I also know that there is a 5 acre development in Belmont in the planning stages now. the site plan calls for 918 cars exiting/entering every day. I know we'd like to think that everyone is walking and biking everywhere, but we're not - this isn't (yet) Amsterdam. I continue to think, as I live in Belmont and drive on Avon St. frequently, that there are 2 lanes leading north on to and on the bridge, even though I've been told there's only one. With this significant development (over 138 planned apartment, with SUP it will be over 250) there will be many more cars going north in a very few years.

2) Please do something interesting/entertaining/innovative with the bridge design/materials as are stated in teh goals for the bridge. The current design couldn't be more mundane. It's the worst of Atlanta's flyovers. Let's make this an architectural feature which draws people! I'm not a designer, so I don't have suggestions for changes. I did come to the design charrettes last year, and did vote for iconic bridge etc.

Thank you,
Deb Jackson

Deb Jackson

McPeters, Brian

From: Dave Krovetz <wordpress@kimley-horn.com>
Sent: Friday, May 25, 2018 6:46 AM
To: >Belmont.Bridge
Subject: Belmont Bridge

I am concerned by the addition of an 8' high fence along the parapets of the bridge as shown on 5/24 in drawings. Because several other bridges over the railroad do not have this - at Ridge St and on JPA - it clearly is possible to get a variance from this requirement. I would rather have the current, ugly and decrepit bridge, than a new one with these cage-like fences along the walkway.

McPeters, Brian

From: Janiczek, Jeanette <JANICZEK@charlottesville.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 16, 2018 9:36 AM
To: 'Kathleen Maier'
Cc: >Belmont.Bridge
Subject: RE: Two lanes?

Good Morning Ms. Maier -

Yes, the Belmont Bridge Replacement project is proposing a two vehicular lane bridge (one lane in each direction). The project team has been conducting traffic analysis and presenting their findings at various public meetings. You may review these materials at <https://www.belmontbridge.org/resources/> - for the Design Charrette and Open House. A Traffic Analysis Report can also be found at https://www.belmontbridge.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Belmont-Bridge-Traffic-Report_032618_ADA.pdf.

In summary, the project area is surrounded and being fed by a series of two lane streets. While the project area is already urban in nature, we provided a growth rate to vehicles, bicycles and pedestrians. No future projects are currently proposed for roadway widening in Downtown Charlottesville. By focusing on the length and configuration of the turning lanes on either end of the bridge, the project can maximize the efficiency or amount of vehicles proceeding through the signals - slightly better than existing in the short term and same/slightly worse in the long term.

Please visit the Informal Plan Review on May 24th from 5-7pm to visit the Traffic Board and discuss this issue in person. There will also be an opportunity to speak at the Public Hearing starting at 7pm or you may send additional comments or questions to belmontbridge@kimley-horn.com.

Sincerely,
Jeanette Janiczek
UCI Program Manager
City of Charlottesville
Phone 434-970-3309
Fax 434-970-3359

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

From: Kathleen Maier <kmaier7@me.com>
Sent: Friday, April 27, 2018 9:33 AM
To: >Belmont.Bridge <BelmontBridge@kimley-horn.com>
Subject: Two lanes?

Is this true that there will be one lane each way? With increase development in Belmont?

This has been questioned by the neighborhood and I wonder what their voices have not been heard?

Kathleen Maier

McPeters, Brian

From: Jehu Martin <wordpress@kimley-horn.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 6, 2018 7:04 PM
To: >Belmont.Bridge
Subject: Belmont Bridge

Survey: Unable to take the survey as it has been closed for weeks. However the letter that you sent out last week referred to the survey as well but was sent out after you closed it--Is this a game or do you really want input?

Bridge Plans: Why are the plans for a single lane in each direction -when

1)- the current bridge is inadequate as is and over 30,000 more cars are expected to use it in the coming years

2) In addition there are at least 5 major construction projects that will significantly increase personnel and traffic in the coming years and nothing has been done to account for this

Scheduling:

You plan to begin construction that will involve shutting down half of the already inadequate bridge for 2 years while multiple construction projects are underway. This should create a massive 2-3 year long traffic jam that will affect the entire city plus negatively impact downtown businesses..

McPeters, Brian

From: sean miller <wordpress@kimley-horn.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 3, 2018 5:20 PM
To: >Belmont.Bridge
Subject: Belmont Bridge

One of the most pathetic city projects in sometime. What idiocy mandates a single lane in each direction when by your own studies 27,000 plus more cars will be using the bridge moving forward. And that anemic estimate was made with out taking into account all the new construction and upgrades scheduled to begin soon. It might also be helpful to add that you are -planning to operate with half a bridge for 2 years minimum while all the new work is going on- what a recipe for a total mess. Great planning as usual.