North College Park Community Association 4912 Nantucket College Park, MD 20740

October 29, 2020

Ms. Lisa B. Choplin, DBIA I-495 & I-270 P3 Program Director I-495 & I-270 P3 Office 707 North Calvert St. Mail Stop P-601 Baltimore, MD 21202

Re: Draft DEIS and Draft Section 4(f) Document I-495 and I-270 Managed Lanes Study

Dear Ms. Choplin:

At the October 8 meeting of the North College Park Community Association, the members voted to submit a letter regarding the I-495 & I-270 Managed Lanes Study DEIS/Draft Section 4(f) Evaluation as the residents of the area just north and south of the beltway in College Park will be directly impacted by the construction of managed lanes.

We must emphasize passionately that two dozen of our homes will have part of their backyards taken in support of this project. Some of us homeowners will be so close as to be able to offer beltway drivers a hamburger from our family barbecue.

Hundreds of other residents will suffer the ill effects of environmental damage that will come along with this project. We will suffer from air and noise pollution that will further deteriorate our quality of life and health. Such contaminants will lead to or exacerbate our asthma, COPD and cancer. The youth at the school situated right next to the beltway will also suffer the negative impacts.

Currently, the noise from the beltway, although buffered in some spots by noise walls, can be heard at least a half mile away forcing many of us to keep our windows closed.

Finally, since the College Park Polish Club bought the property at Edgewood Rd and 53rd Avenue in the 1970's, the six-acre plot has been a green buffer for the neighborhood. If the managed lanes are constructed, the land will be razed, eliminating trees, decimating endangered species, and spoiling the local wetlands and wildlife habitat for the purpose of a staging area for construction vehicles.

We would like to suggest the staging area be moved to an alternative site such as the Greenbelt Metro northern parking lot which will allow for the vehicles to be safeguarded while permitting them quick access to the project.

Finally, your department has never approached the Polish Club regarding the use of their property for the managed lanes project. However, they have stated in a letter to the College Park City Council that should the property be used as a staging area that it be returned to its natural state upon completion of the project.

We thank you for your time and consideration, and urge you to protect our properties and the local environment.

Sincerely,

Mary C. Cook NCPCA President

Cc: County Councilmember Thomas Dernoga Maryland District 21 Delegation