



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
of Montgomery County, MD, Inc.

February 27, 2018

Montgomery County Council

**In re: FY12-22CIP Facility Planning –
Transportation To Include US 29 Mobility and Reliability Study**

LWVMC position: Support

The League of Women Voters of Montgomery County (LWVMC) supports the inclusion of more study for mobility and reliability on US 29 as part of the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system.

As a participant in the Citizens Advisory Committee for Route 29, LWVMC has seen this project evolve as more information is gathered. We support the inclusion of additional facts gathered with this additional study to make Route 29 a better corridor for BRT.

Here are some questions that residents should be asking:

- What kind of BRT system will people want to ride?
 - One that will be the fastest and most convenient.
- Will this study provide more information to make decisions about the BRT system?
 - Yes. There are still unknowns about the Route 29 corridor.
- Are there more areas where a dedicated lane can be implemented?
 - We don't know. Let's find out with a study.
- Could BRT on 29 be more efficient with more dedicated lanes?
 - We don't know. Let's find out with a study.
- Could median busways be implemented in any areas?
 - We don't know. Let's find out with a study.
- Should the roadway be widened beyond the right of way?
 - The approved master plan says no.
- Will the study mean additional funding is necessary?
 - No.
- Has the public been involved in developing the Route 29 BRT system?

Yes -- and more public meetings are scheduled for March.

Obviously, there are still some questions to be answered. Consequently, LWVMC supports a transparent and open process in developing plans.

This additional study should be part of the plan to help answer questions that have not been fully investigated. More information will help the county to make the most informed decisions possible for this BRT corridor. We support a study to gain additional information to improve mobility for the county.

Yours truly,
Nancy Bliss, president