

**Montgomery County Bill 38-19,
Streets and Roads - Permit to Obstruct Public Rights-of-Way**

Montgomery County Council
Public Hearing, January 14, 2020

Re: Support Bill 38-19

The reason that the League of Women Voters of Montgomery County (LWVMC) urges support for Bill 38-19 is that it fits with our positions favoring safety for pedestrians and bikers during times of construction.

Our positions clearly state that (1) “When building and rebuilding communities.... sustain education, engineering, and enforcement elements to encourage more people to walk and ride bikes”, and (2) “Coordination is needed between municipal, county, and state agencies and among county departments to support increasing availability of safe pedestrian and bicycle options to vehicle trips.”

LWVMC views this bill as important because it particularly enhances the use of sidewalks and bike lanes to make them safer for use during periods of construction.

Often the walker or biker is given less care than vehicles in roadways; consequently, the process outlined in this bill -- to be used during times of construction -- is a positive one for safety and encouraging pedestrians and bicyclists.

We therefore ask county councilmembers to please support Bill 38-19.

Diane Hibino and Kathy McGuire, co-presidents
Bee Ditzler, chair, Transportation & Land Use Committee