



WMATA Board of Directors
600 5th Street NW
Washington DC 20001

April 26, 2020

RE: Proposed parking garage modifications at Grosvenor-Strathmore METRO station

Dear WMATA Directors:

As you are well aware, climate change is our most critical global challenge.

One important way that key regional institutions, such as WMATA, can address climate change is by making transportation and land use decisions that will lessen our dependence on the automobile.

Which brings us directly to the proposal to NOT go forward with the Phase 2 Grosvenor-Strathmore parking garage expansion. In brief, Sierra Club urges WMATA to scale back parking at this METRO station by eliminating the Phase 2 parking garage expansion.

When Sierra Club testified on November 8, 2018 regarding the Grosvenor-Strathmore Plan, we enumerated 6 key aspects of the plan that we support. These 6 key characteristics are – High density; Affordable housing; Parks and plazas; Walkability; Reduced parking; and Energy efficiency.

Regarding reduced parking, we said “the emphasis should be on the positive – designing this neighborhood to offer a more convenient and attractive set of non-automobile options to get around (and into Grosvenor-Strathmore from elsewhere) – transit, walking, biking; but the plan should also reduce the amount of parking that new development must provide.”

Our position is unchanged.

We thus urge WMATA to eliminate the Phase 2 parking garage expansion.

This is one small, but important, step in addressing climate change. The upcoming development at the Grosvenor-Strathmore METRO station, by limiting parking -- while simultaneously upgrading other transportation options – will contribute to the regional reduction in vehicle miles per capita.

Sincerely,

Thank you.

Shruti Bhatnagar, Chair
Sierra Club Montgomery County, MD
Shruti.bhatnagar@mdsierra.org

Dave Sears, Land Use Chair
Sierra Club Montgomery County, MD
davidwsears@aol.com