

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COUNCIL OF FALLS CHURCH

April 27, 2015

Dear Falls Church City Council:

The Environmental Services Council (ESC) strongly supports the draft Bicycle Master Plan: Connecting Communities (v.18) prepared by the City's Planning Division and urges the City Council to adopt it.

Senior Planner Paul Stoddard presented the draft Bicycle Master Plan at our April 23 meeting and fielded a series of questions from ESC members. We were generally impressed with the work that City staff has devoted to preparing the plan and the vision that it puts forth to support and enhance biking in the City. That vision, as set forth in the Master Plan, is for the City to:

Provide a network of bicycle routes that connects the City's commercial areas and neighborhoods, transit facilities, schools, regional bicycle facilities, and designated bicycle routes in neighboring jurisdictions.

The report concisely summarizes the public health, environmental and economic benefits of biking, describes existing biking infrastructure in the City and neighboring jurisdictions, and explains a publicly-transparent, opportunity-driven methodology for maintaining and improving the City's biking network over time.

We believe it is essential for the City to continue to improve the City's biking network, and we fully endorse adoption and implementation of the draft Bicycle Master Plan as a meaningful approach for doing so.

Sincerely,

The Falls Church Environmental Services Council
Ray Arnaudo, Chair
Peter Adriance
Peter Oppenheimer
Andrew Crawford
Sarah Bayldon
Chris McCloud
Jackson Jost
Mary Keenan

Cc: Chris McGough, ESC Staff Liaison