



Speaking on behalf of our Board of Directors, Fort Washington Forward supports DSP-22022 Hillside at Fort Washington, the townhouse project at the intersection of Oxon Hill Road and Fort Foote Road in Fort Washington.

From the beginning of the process, the owner of the property has been willing to communicate with the public, and make much needed investments in our community. Fort Washington Forward met with Haverford Homes to discuss the importance of increased trail signage, crosswalk markings, and safety signals in the area. Haverford Homes has made plans to invest in those much-needed improvements. They also agreed to extend the sidewalk from their property to Henson Creek Trail so residents can safely get to Henson Creek Trail.

More importantly, this project is part of a larger effort that will begin to fulfill the county's own Henson Creek Village Area Study, commissioned in 2020. That study called for the prioritization of neighborhood activation, beautification efforts, walkable infrastructure improvements, all with the goal of increasing area appeal to housing developers and high-quality retailers. This townhouse project is part of that.

Make no mistake, the concerns regarding traffic are legitimate. Oxon Hill Road and Livingston Road in this area need to be widened, and sidewalks and bike lanes need to be connected. Fort Washington Forward has recommended this before, and we are recommending it once again. What is also true is this commercial corridor in Fort Washington is changing for the better. The Shoppes at Livingston Square, a potential new hospital complex, and these townhomes, all represent much needed assets that will help keep tax dollars in the county. Fort Washington Forward strongly believes developments like this can occur smartly, while also maintaining compatibility with the prevailing Broad Creek historic character. Development is not an either or situation. We can do it all, and we can get done too! Once again, Fort Washington Forward supports the Hillside at Fort Washington townhouse project.

David B. Owens  
President  
Fort Washington Forward