

Akida Rouzi

Subject:

FW: Comment on tonight's docket: BRT

Dear Members of the Planning Commission,

I am writing to say that I am concerned that the BRT design that is up before the Planning Commission has no mention of bicycles. I am not sure how best to accommodate people who wish to travel by bicycle to a BRT station, but there really ought to be some kind of plan. Otherwise any tree that is planted anywhere near one of these stations may be damaged by people looking for suitable parking and finding none. Perhaps a bike station would be a good idea somewhere in the Alexandria portion of the system.

Also, I'd like to alert you to a sign of the growing popularity of bicycling in the DC area. This poll, conducted by the Washington Post, shows that a majority of citizens are in favor of bike lanes. The poll was a telephone survey of over 1000 residents, with an error of +/- 3.5 percent.

http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/polling/washington-increase-bicycle-effort/2013/06/29/01ce014e-e120-11e2-a0dc-145598a7b2b7_page.html#

The on-line display allows results to be sorted by region, income level, age, etc. Among the group that is least supportive of bike lanes, older citizens 65+, there is still 50 percent support (versus 35 percent opposed and 15 percent without an opinion). There is no group among the various categories with less than 50 percent support. In most cases, the support is 2-to-1 in favor.

I regret that I will not be able to speak to the Commission this evening as I have family visiting this week. Thank you for your time and attention.

Best Regards,

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CC: BPAC Chair and Vice Chair