



Resolution on Bill 38-19

Whereas, Bill 38-19, Streets and Roads—Permit to Obstruct Public Rights-of-Way, requires the County Executive to draft a regulation for permits to close a curb lane, sidewalk, or shared-use path in the public right-of-way limit the closure to the minimum time necessary; and

Whereas, this bill requires the Department of Permitting Services to regularly review right-of-way permits to determine if the permittee must immediately reopen the sidewalk or begin to provide a safe alternative path (such as a covered walkway or protected pathway in a parking lane or curb lane) on the same side of the street; and

Whereas, this bill specifies the standards a permittee must meet to demonstrate that maintaining pedestrian access is an extreme hardship; and

Whereas, this bill requires the County to publish right-of-way permit applications and permits online; and

Whereas, the purpose of this bill is to increase pedestrian safety, and

Whereas, this bill will assure that public sidewalks and walkways may be closed only for the minimum time periods necessary with minimum disruption and inconvenience to the public; and

Whereas, sidewalks are an essential part of our transportation infrastructure;

Therefore, be it resolved that the MCCF supports Bill 38-19.

Adopted at the January 13, 2020, General Meeting #909 of the Montgomery County Civic Association