

Holland Point Citizens Association
PO Box 232
North Beach, Maryland 20714

July 12, 2016

Dear _____:

I am contacting you today on behalf of The Holland Point Citizens Association to request your urgent assistance in resolving a serious safety issue in the Holland Point community of southern Anne Arundel County. **Walnut Avenue (the 1.6 mile section of MD 261 that runs through Holland Point) is unsafe for motorists, bicyclists, pedestrians, mail and newspaper delivery personnel, and emergency vehicles. As such, it presents a legal liability to both County and State.**

- The **width does not meet current County, State, or Federal standards** for motorists or for emergency vehicles.
- Insufficient maintenance since its construction in 1956, combined with increased traffic and storm water drainage issues, is increasing the rate of road deterioration. **Walnut has not had even minimal maintenance since 1997.** Of particular concern at the moment is a dispute between State and County over storm water management systems that has resulted in complete lack of systems maintenance for several years and accelerated roadway deterioration.
- MD 261 is designated a State Scenic Byway, bringing lots of traffic, despite the fact that the Walnut Avenue section through this community provides the only way for residents to enter and leave the community and the only means of access between two popular tourist destinations. **There are no sidewalks and no shoulders in Holland Point, so pedestrians, bicyclists, heavy trucks, and motorists are often thrown into conflict on this narrow, curving roadway.**

This 1.6 miles of roadway desperately needs substantial improvements to reduce potential harm to its travelers and legal liability to the County and State. Even though we are a community of a little over 200 residences, Holland Point has a \$ 88.5 million assessable tax base and contributes over \$ 915,000 in property taxes to State and County coffers. Nevertheless, we find ourselves caught in the middle of two major development projects at our southern end (in North Beach and Chesapeake Beach) and frequent improvement/expansion projects at our northern end (Herrington Harbor/Rose Haven). These projects were approved apparently without consideration of their deleterious effects on our community.

Attached is a more detailed description of our issues, along with specific requests for help. We would greatly appreciate the chance to meet with you soon to discuss next steps; we look forward to working with you on a plan to solve this problem.

Regards,

Woody Young
President, Holland Point Citizens Association
410-286-5556, cell 443-603-4651