

VILLAGE OF FRIENDSHIP HEIGHTS

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Approved Minutes **Friendship Heights Village Council Public Safety Committee** **Wednesday, September 4, 2024**

Council Public Safety Committee members present: Cheryl Tyler;
Bobby Pestronk; Melanie White.

Others present: Julian Mansfield; Chevy Chase Village Police Chief John Nesky;
Kutty Menon, Montgomery County Department of Transportation; and eight
residents.

At 6 p.m., Ms. Tyler called the meeting of the Friendship Heights Village Council Public Safety Committee to order. She referred to the meeting agenda.

The Committee postponed approval of the June 17 meeting minutes until the next meeting.

Chevy Chase Village Police Chief

John Nesky, Chief of Police for Chevy Chase Village, introduced himself and discussed crime trends in his community, efforts at crime prevention and the communication between different law enforcement agencies.

Lighting and Safety Issues

Mr. Mansfield mentioned a report that several streetlights are out on Wisconsin Avenue. He has notified Pepco to have the lights fixed. The lighting issue in the Friendship Heights Metro walkway has been resolved by WMATA. Mr. Mansfield also reported that the Village will be restriping the six crosswalks at the edges of the community (Hills Plaza/Somerset Terrace, South Park Avenue/Wisconsin Avenue, Hills Plaza/Willard Avenue, Friendship Boulevard/Willard Avenue, Shoemaker Farm Lane/Willard Avenue, and North Park Avenue/Willard Avenue intersections).

MCDOT Traffic Issues on Willard Avenue

Kutty Menon, traffic engineer with the Montgomery County Department of Transportation, reported that the County has scheduled a traffic study on Willard Avenue, which will begin next week after schools have opened. He indicated the County will plan to make the following changes: An area on Wisconsin Circle will change from no parking to no standing; pedestrian hybrid beacons will be installed at Shoemaker/Willard Avenue and at North Park/Willard

Avenue; and a no turn on red sign will be installed at the Wisconsin Avenue/Willard intersection, by July 2025. Additionally, the County will study if the Hills Plaza/Willard Avenue intersection warrants a full traffic signal.

School Bus Safety Issue

Mr. Mansfield gave an update on the safety issue that had been identified by the off-duty Police officers regarding the pickup and dropoff of a County school bus in front of the Willoughby at 5500 Friendship Boulevard. He indicated that an MCPS official met with him onsite and suggested a minor modification to the procedure that would reduce the amount of time that the school bus is stopping traffic.

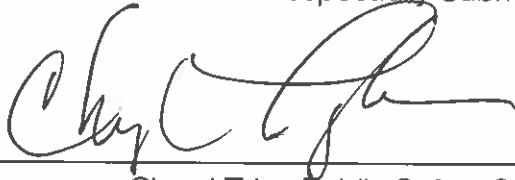
Lia Mamniashvili, a resident of the Willoughby and the mother of the child being picked up by the school bus, addressed the Committee with her concerns about the safety issue and how the issue was brought up and discussed.

Safety Town Hall

Ms. Tyler reported that the Village is holding a Safety Town Hall on September 30 at the Village Center. A Police officer and a Fire & Rescue official will present high-rise safety tips.

No other actions were taken by the Public Safety Committee. The meeting was adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cheryl Tyler", written over a horizontal line.

Cheryl Tyler, Public Safety Committee Chair