

**Jennifer and Roger Fajman**

17922 Pond Road  
Ashton, Maryland 20861

November 1, 2008

Montgomery County Council  
100 Maryland Ave., 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Rockville, MD 20850

Dear Council Members:

We have lived in Montgomery County for 39 years and in Ashton for about 20 years, approximately three miles from the intersection of Route 108 and New Hampshire Avenue (Route 650). The traffic at this intersection has increased tremendously over the past few years, creating congestion that makes it very difficult for both residents and commuters to travel in the area during rush hour. The increased traffic causes significant safety problems and makes the area unattractive to pedestrians.

The State Highway Administration designed and engineered a plan to improve the intersection, but the funding has been withdrawn. We hope that the Council will include the Ashton intersection improvements in the State Transportation Participation Project.

The main focus for the intersection improvements is to improve safety for both cars and pedestrians, reduce congestion and increase traffic flow. There have been serious accidents at the intersection. However, if the intersection improvements are made then construction of a new shopping area, Ashton Meeting Place, can begin at this intersection. The community worked for three years to make sure that the design will fit into our rural area and the plan was finally approved by the Planning Board in May 2008. The community is eager to have the new services that Ashton Meeting Place will offer. The combination of the intersection improvements and the Ashton Meeting Place development will make the intersection a more walkable and inviting area.

If you need any more information from us, we can be reached by phone at 301-570-9065 or email at [jennifer@fajman.org](mailto:jennifer@fajman.org) or [roger@fajman.org](mailto:roger@fajman.org).

Sincerely,

Jennifer Fajman

Roger Fajman

cc: Phil Andrews, Council Vice President  
Roger Berliner, Council Member  
Marc Elrich, Council Member  
Valerie Ervin, Council Member  
Nancy Floreen, Council Member  
Royce Hanson, County Planning Board  
Anne Kaiser, State Delegate  
Mike Knapp, Council President

Rona Kramer, State Senator  
Michelle Layton, SSARPC  
George Leventhal, Council Member  
Karen Montgomery, State Delegate  
Fred Nichols, Nichols Development Inc.  
Don Praisner, Council Member  
Joshua Sloan, Staff, Park and Planning  
Herman Taylor, State Delegate  
Duchy Trachtenberg, Council Member