

Timestamp	First Name	Last name	City	State	Zip code	Are you representing yourself?	If not, who are you representing?	Remarks	File Upload (optional)
2025-03-17 9:04:57	Kurt	Svendsen	ARNOLD	MD	21012	Yes		See attached one-page written testimony about the Need for Action RE: County Supplement to Homeowners Property Tax Credit, and supporting documentation	https://www.aacounty.org/system/files/webform/cc_general_testimony/51511/testimony-invitation-to-audience-2025-03-17.pdf



Kaley Schultze <ccschu24@aacounty.org>

Traffic concerns on National Business Parkway and surrounding area

George Palm [REDACTED]

Fri, Mar 7, 2025 at 10:07 PM

Bcc: ccschu24@aacounty.org

Good evening,

My name is George Palm. I am a resident of Anne Arundel County. I also work in the county in the National Business Park along National Business Parkway (NBP).

I am concerned about traffic volume and safety in this area. While I understand that not all of the concerns that I will detail below are directly controlled by the county, I expect that the county can exert sway on those that do have control. This really is a multi-agency concern and true solutions will require everyone to work together.

My first concern is volume. NBP is designed in a way where (unless you have access to NSA) there are only 2 ways in and out. One is to the north via MD-175 and the other is to the West via Guilford Rd. During the afternoon commute, both directions are far beyond capacity and traffic stretches for more than a mile trying to get through the traffic signals. As I live north-east of NBP, I will focus on the northern exit issues, but rest assured that both directions need significant improvements.

The highest volume of traffic using the northbound exit from NBP is turning east on MD-175. To get to this turn, northbound traffic must enter a 2-lane traffic circle, merge into a single right lane, then back into 2 lanes as you get closer to MD-175. Now I do realize that MD-175 is currently undergoing reconstruction, but the issue I address to you is getting to MD-175. The problem is exacerbated when the prisons on Brock Bridge Rd have shift change as they get right-of-way in the traffic circle. This leads to 3 long lines of cars attempting to merge into a single lane. This also results in the left turn to westbound MD-175 being blocked by traffic, so it really doesn't matter which direction you need, you will wait. Many days, the delay will require 30 minutes to get through.

I expect the problem to get worse as the county has approved the construction of several more buildings in the NBP area. The land between NBP and MD-295 has been almost completely cleared of trees to make room for more buildings. This will add additional volume to an already failing road.

Now, I was taught in the military to present problems with solutions. First, pause the construction of new buildings until the road can handle the traffic. Second, work with NSA to allow non-NSA traffic to use Connector Rd to access MD-295. The bridge to cross the highway is outside the fence line and the gate, so why not allow traffic to use the bridge to access the highway. Much of the traffic are people who support them, so they could be a better neighbor and help with traffic concerns. Third, expand the traffic circle to allow 2 dedicated lanes that go to MD-175 eastbound and a third far left segregated to go west. It would also improve safety if there was a median from the circle to MD-175 splitting north and south traffic with no left turns in or out of the gas station. Fourth, use the open land between NBP/Brock Bridge and the prisons to create a dedicated road for Brock Bridge to access MD-175.

Now, this brings me to the safety concerns. Law enforcement in this area is basically non-existent. While some of this should be addressed by the improvements to the MD-175 interchange construction, that is years from completion and the danger is now. I'll start with the northbound NBP issues since I have already described the traffic in that direction. Many times drivers will stay in the far left lane passing a long line of cars in the right lane, then block the left turn lane while waiting to get in the 2 right turn lanes. I have witnessed accidents caused by this, and yet no enforcement has occurred. Thus we allow drivers to impede traffic so they don't have to wait in line.

Additionally, there is an access to a gas station where traffic trying to get into and out of the gas station will block the road waiting to get through, which would also be illegal. And last for the northbound issues, some drivers will drive through the gas station to get around the traffic signal, thus using a parking lot as a street and endangering pedestrians. The gas station also serves as a shortcut in the morning as drivers will turn off of MD-175 and go through the parking lot to access NBP.

Ok, I've ranted on the northbound traffic enough; let's discuss MD-175. While this is a state route, I know our county police can also enforce laws here. My comments in this section will apply mainly to eastbound in the afternoon and evening and westbound in the morning, but the concerns are the same. Traffic in both directions will use the shoulder to get around the line of cars. There is a bike lane for some of the distance and a right turn lane in others. These areas will

be used daily by drivers passing on the right and then forcing their way into the left lanes. While I firmly believe in zipper merging, the turn/bike lane is not the place for this.

As we move further east, there is a section at Race Rd where no left turns are allowed into or out of Race Rd. This leads to many drivers either busting the plastic barriers or making illegal u-turns. This risks a collision as they don't seem to care about on-coming traffic.

Then as we continue east, the right lane becomes exit only and should be vacated by traffic crossing the bridge long before the exit, but they will stop just before the exit and block traffic until they can get into the left lane. Alternatively, they will simply continue across the bridge using the shoulder as a lane.

I know this has been long, but I am almost done. My last area of concern is MD-295 southbound approaching MD-175. The right lane is an exit only lane. The through lanes are extremely congested, not much the county can do there, but the county can enforce laws regarding impeding the flow of traffic by drivers staying in the right lane until just at the exit and then stopping to merge right. This impedes exiting traffic as we have to wait until a nice driver lets them merge. A similar situation happens when that same traffic moving from southbound MD-285 to westbound MD-175 gets to the top of the ramp. Through traffic on MD-175 will tailgate to prevent traffic from merging. While merging traffic is required to safely merge, through traffic is required to leave a gap by not tailgating.

Thank you for taking the time to get through this. Obviously I feel that this is important. We need better traffic flow and safety in the area of NBP/MDS-175/MD-295.

Thank you,
George Palm