

## **RESOLUTION NO. 25-08**

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF CAMBRIDGE, MARYLAND REQUESTING THE STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION TO CONSTRUCT A ROUNDABOUT AT THE INTERSECTION OF MARYLAND ROUTE 16 AND STONE BOUNDARY ROAD INSTEAD OF INSTALLING TRAFFIC SIGNALS.**

**WHEREAS**, the intersection of Maryland Route 16 (“Route 16”) and Stone Boundary Road lies along the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Scenic Byway, a corridor of significant historical, cultural, and environmental importance to the City of Cambridge (the “City”), the State of Maryland (the “State”), and the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with the City of Cambridge Comprehensive Plan, and in respect to the legacy of Harriet Tubman, it is vital to preserve Route 16 as a rural roadway with scenic and historical character; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commissioners of Cambridge recognize the need to improve safety at the intersection of Route 16 and Stone Boundary Road but believe that the State’s proposed installation of a traffic signal at such intersection would fundamentally alter the rural and scenic nature of Route 16, conflict with preservation goals, and inadequately address traffic safety concerns; and

**WHEREAS**, modern roundabouts have been demonstrated to significantly reduce traffic crashes and fatalities, particularly at intersections previously controlled by stop signs; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the State Highway Administration (the “SHA”) and the Federal Highway Administration, roundabouts in the State have reduced total crashes by approximately 69.1 percent, injury crashes by 88 percent, and completely eliminated fatal crashes within a three-year period following their installation; and

**WHEREAS**, roundabouts are a proven, long-term infrastructure solution, and they require less maintenance, reduce the need for law enforcement traffic enforcement at intersections, and improve traffic flow without the clutter of overhead signal equipment or additional strain on emergency response resources; and

**WHEREAS**, traffic lights at this location would expose residents — especially our most vulnerable citizens — to higher risks of serious injury and fatal crashes due to vehicles running red lights and unchanged speed behavior, and the visual challenges at the intersection of Route 16 and Stone Boundary Road, including intense sun glare during sunrise and sunset, could exacerbate such dangers; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Cambridge is an underserved community with limited resources, and it is essential that investments in public infrastructure deliver the greatest benefit in safety, durability, and community character preservation; and

**WHEREAS**, the State's proposed installation of traffic control measures at the intersection of Route 16 and Stone Boundary Road provides a unique opportunity to implement context-sensitive design in line with State goals and federal guidance on rural road improvements and to incorporate future-proof elements, such as underground utilities and improved stormwater management.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF CAMBRIDGE** that:


1. The Commissioners of Cambridge strongly urge the SHA to pursue the construction of a modern roundabout at the intersection of Route 16 and Stone Boundary Road rather than the installation of traffic lights.

2. The Commissioners of Cambridge further urge SHA to consider design alternatives that preserve the rural and scenic character of Route 16, minimize visual impact, and protect the integrity of the Harriet Tubman Scenic Byway.


**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City Manager is directed to provide a copy of this Resolution to the Maryland Secretary of Transportation, the Administrator of the SHA, the County Council of Dorchester County, and other appropriate State and federal officials and agencies.

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

ATTEST:

  
W. Glenn Steckman, III, City Manager

THE COMMISSIONERS OF CAMBRIDGE

Signed by:  
  
By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Lajan Cephas, Mayor

**Introduced the 28<sup>th</sup> day of April 2025**  
**Adopted the 28<sup>th</sup> day of April 2025**  
**Effective the 28<sup>th</sup> day of April 2025**