



Montgomery County Council

From the Office of Councilmember George Leventhal

For Immediate Release

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Statement by Councilmember George Leventhal on Governor Ehrlich's Announcement Favoring the Inner Purple Line & Corridor Cities Transitway

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"I appreciate Governor Ehrlich's support for transit. I agree with the governor that we can only address our transportation problems with a combination of better roads and more public transportation. I am glad that he has chosen to endorse the Inner Purple Line and the Corridor Cities Transitway, both of which I support.

"I have spent a lot of time on this issue and I am persuaded that, following a review of all options, light rail between Bethesda and New Carrollton will be selected as the preferred option for the Purple Line.

"Having said that, I am intrigued by new, environmentally sound technologies and I think we should look into the option of hydrogen or other non-polluting buses.

"Regarding the Jones Bridge Road option, it has no merit. It is not in the interest of homeland security to run a bus line across the Bethesda Naval property or the NIH property. Woodmont Avenue is already congested beyond its capacity and cannot afford to lose two traffic lanes for an express busway. Studying the Jones Bridge Road option will only delay further the date on which working people can look forward to riding clean, fast, and efficient transit between Bethesda and Silver Spring."

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