



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE  
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND 20850

Isiah Leggett  
*County Executive*

February 11, 2009

Mr. Darian Unger, Chairman  
Silver Spring Citizens Advisory Board  
8435 Georgia Avenue  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

Dear Mr. Unger:

Thank you for your recent letter outlining the Silver Spring Citizens Advisory Board support for the Light Rail Purple Line alternative. Last week, after reviewing hundreds of letters, emails, and testimony from the four public hearings, I decided to support the Medium Investment Light Rail Transit (LRT) alternative. The County Council also endorsed the Medium Light Rail Transit alternative so we now have consensus and Council President Phil Andrew and I co-signed a letter to John D. Porcari, Secretary, Maryland Department of Transportation transmitting our endorsement.

Our joint endorsement recommends that the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA), before selecting a locally preferred alternative, continue to evaluate a tunnel option between the Silver Spring Transit Center and the vicinity of Wayne Avenue and Mansfield to the same level of detail as has been already completed for the surface option between these points. If a surface light rail alternative is selected as the locally preferred alternative, we requested that the MTA give special attention to the LRT vehicle crossing of Georgia Avenue and the intersection of Fenton Street and Wayne Avenue. This will ensure that the LRT, pedestrians, and vehicular traffic will operate in a compatible manner.

I will work with the MTA to move the Purple Line through the Federal Transit Administration New Starts Process and to initiate preliminary engineering. I look forward to working with the Silver Spring Citizen Advisory Board as we advance the Purple Line.

Sincerely,

Isiah Leggett  
County Executive

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