



UPCOUNTY CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

July 27, 2009

The Honorable Philip Andrews
President
Montgomery County Council
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, Maryland 20850

Re: July 28th, 2009 Public Hearing Supplemental Appropriation to the FY09 Capital Budget for the Smart Growth Initiative

Dear Mr. Andrews:

The Upcounty Citizens Advisory Board (UCAB) has continued to monitor activities related to the County's Smart Growth Initiative to relocate County facilities and functions from the Shady Grove Metro area to other sites central in the county. UCAB representatives will continue to participate on the Shady Grove Sector Plan Implementation Group and on the Smart Growth Initiative Implementation Advisory Group (SGIAG) in order to help identify issues and solutions. The Board has previously testified before the County Council stating its support for the Executive's Smart Growth Initiative that will meet the present and future needs of our County government to clear the Shady Grove Metro area for approved development and to house daily government functions in updated and safer facilities. The benefits reaped from this initiative will support our: a) growing and changing workforce; b) economic development goals; c) housing needs; and d) clean-up and redevelopment of old industrial sites as well as protecting our investment in technology and life sciences while leveraging our assets.

We are writing this specific letter today in support of the County Executive's supplemental appropriation request to add \$48,316,000 to the County's FY09 Capital Budget to relocate the Public Safety Training Academy (PSTA) from the Shady Grove Life Science Center to the new County Multi-Agency Service Park. Redevelopment of the PSTA for high value investment and usage is an important component and building block to the creation of the dynamic, mixed-use life sciences oriented community envisioned in the Gaithersburg West Master Plan. Relocating the PSTA is an important step towards moving our Smart Growth vision forward.

Sincerely,

Robert C. Thompson
Chairman