



## SILVER SPRING URBAN DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

June 16, 2011

The Honorable Isiah Leggett  
Montgomery County Executive  
Executive office Building  
101 Monroe Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Rockville, MD 20805

Re: Silver Spring Urban District Advisory Committee Letter to support Opposition to Historic designation of First Baptist Church, Downtown Silver Spring

Dear County Executive Leggett:

The Silver Spring Urban District Advisory Committee has voted to advise you to oppose the historic designation of any portion of the retail, residential and church project planned by the First Baptist Church of Silver Spring and LaKritz Adler Development for the First Baptist Church property at Wayne Avenue and Fenton Street in downtown Silver Spring.

The Historic Preservation Commission has already voted that no part of the property should be designated as historic. This should be the definitive decision on the matter. This development project should not be placed in jeopardy for reasons of historic issues. Creating great uncertainty on the historic nature of this project discourages development in a time of great economic difficulty for the county and our urban district, a quick and final decision when facing a historic challenge is needed in order to support our smart growth initiatives, especially when a decision has already been reached for this project.

We urge you to oppose the historic designation of any part of this property.

Sincerely,

Julie M. Statland  
Committee Chair

Silver Spring Urban District Office  
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County Executive Leggett

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cc:

Francoise Carrier, Planning Board Chair, M-NCPPC

Marye Wells-Harley, Planning Board, Vice Chair and Commissioner, M-NCPPC

Joe Alfandre, Planning Board Member and Commissioner, M-NCPPC

Amy Presley, Planning Board Member and Commissioner, M-NCPPC

Norman, Dreyfuss, Planning Board Member and Commissioner, M-NCPPC