

Dear Councilmembers and Planning Officials,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of the FY25-30 Capital Improvement Plan, with a particular focus on the Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) Bus Depot Maintenance and Relocation Plan as it relates to the Crabbs Branch facility.

As a resident living immediately adjacent to the existing Crabbs Branch depot, I have seen firsthand the daily challenges posed by the current site—both for those operating within it and for the surrounding community. The facility is overburdened, outdated, and not designed to support the volume of buses and maintenance activities required by today's growing MCPS fleet. These operational limitations have created persistent noise, traffic, and environmental impacts in our neighborhood.

The relocation and modernization plan outlined in the FY25-30 CIP offers a smart, long-overdue solution. By investing in a purpose-built facility elsewhere, MCPS will be able to operate more efficiently, reduce emissions, and improve working conditions for its transportation staff—while significantly relieving the strain on our community. This plan directly supports student safety and service reliability by ensuring our buses are maintained in a timely and professional manner.

Moreover, relocating the Crabbs Branch operations opens the door to reimagining that land in a way that better serves the community and aligns with broader county planning goals—whether through green space, transit-oriented development, or community amenities. It's an opportunity to transform a heavily industrial site into something more compatible with the residential character and future vision of the area.

I strongly urge you to continue supporting the funding and implementation of the MCPS Bus Depot Maintenance and Relocation Plan. It's an investment that will benefit students, staff, and neighbors alike—and it's time.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Casey Swiderski

Montgomery County Resident