

MONTGOMERY COUNTY 2016 FEDERAL PRIORITIES

Purple Line New Starts Project. The Washington DC metro area suffers from some of the worst traffic congestion in the nation. The Purple Line transit project, an east-west light rail route connecting Montgomery and Prince George's Counties, has been proposed to assist with alleviating this problem. The project is estimated to cost approximately \$2.15 billion according to State of Maryland and will be a public-private partnership (P3) funded by a combination of federal, State, and local government funds and the private sector. Federal funding is awarded through the Federal Transit Administration's Capital Investment Grants program (i.e. New Starts Program) to fund heavy rail, light rail, commuter rail, bus rapid transit and streetcar projects. Montgomery County requests that our Congressional delegation support the President's FY17 budget request of \$125 million for the Purple Line project. (This would be an increase over the FY16 appropriation of \$100 million.)

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) White Oak Campus. The FDA's growth in recent years means that it has more employees than available space. In this flat non-defense discretionary budget environment, the FDA is not going to be able to fund the construction of additional facilities on its White Oak campus to accommodate the planned growth of its workforce. Montgomery County would like to assist the agency with its space needs through a government-to-government development proposal in which the County would use a public-private venture to build the required office space on land that it owns adjacent to the existing White Oak campus and would then lease the new building to the FDA. To support this proposal, Montgomery County requests that the Congressional delegation seek report language that would direct the FDA and the General Services Administration (GSA) to consider innovative financing opportunities with non-federal governmental entities that would provide for the needed additional office space.

National Cybersecurity Center of Excellence (NCCoE). The NCCoE at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) is a key location for research and development in cybersecurity for vital sectors of the U.S. economy. In order to continue the work done to date at NCCoE, Montgomery County requests that our Congressional delegation support FY17 appropriations needed to advance cybersecurity research that is critical to safeguarding our nation's economy.

Corridor Cities Transitway (CCT). The CCT is a two phase 15-mile bus rapid transit (BRT) project that connects Clarksburg to the Shady Grove Metrorail Station. The State of Maryland plans to submit an application this fall to the Federal Transit Administration's New Starts program that would move the first nine-mile phase of the CCT into the project development phase. Montgomery County urges that our Congressional delegation support the State's application to FTA as it will position the project for future federal transit funding.

Entrepreneurs in Residence. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has instructed the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to be the lead agency for biomedical

technology transfer and intellectual property policy matters for all agencies within HHS. In response, NIH created the Office of Technology Transfer (OTT) to evaluate and monitor inventions and discoveries, oversee patent issues, develop technology transfer policies, and execute licensing evaluations. The Entrepreneur-in-Residence (EIR) program was subsequently established within NIH's Office of the Director to help evaluate and identify licensing opportunities for drugs, vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics and medical devices from the intramural research that is done at NIH and FDA. The EIR program at NIH currently operates in partnership with BioHealth Innovation- a public-private partnership in Montgomery County. The County requests that the Maryland Congressional delegation direct NIH to expand the EIR program across all research programs in HHS.

Economic Impact of Federal Infrastructure. Montgomery County is home to 18 federal agencies and installations providing a large impact to the local economy. Under the budget caps currently in place, nondefense spending remains effectively flat in FY17. Given that any federal agency's internal budget can be targeted for reductions, Montgomery County asks that the Congressional delegation closely monitor the operating budgets for the federal agencies and installations located in the County.

Civilian Cyber Campus. As attacks increase against the federal government and private sector, a government-based civilian workforce is needed to focus on protecting against cyber-attacks. The creation of a Civilian Cyber Campus was proposed several years ago by the Obama Administration and received \$35 million in planning funds in FY15. Regrettably, the project was not included in the President's FY17 budget. Montgomery County urges our Congressional delegation to closely monitor this issue to ensure that any future request for information by the General Services Administration (GSA) for a Civilian Cyber Campus include the entire National Capital Region in its request and not limit the location to Northern Virginia.