

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

2003 Legislative Session

Resolution No. CR-1-2003

Proposed by Council Members Dernoga, Shapiro, Knotts, Dean, Peters, Hendershot

Introduced by Council Members Dernoga, Shapiro, Knotts, Dean, Peters, Hendershot

Harrington and Exum

Co-Sponsors _____

Date of Introduction December 3, 2002

RESOLUTION

1 A RESOLUTION concerning

2 Proposed Inner Purple Line connecting New Carrollton and Bethesda

3 For the purpose of establishing the Prince George's County Council's position and support

4 regarding funding of the proposed Inner Purple Line.

5 WHEREAS, on October 21, 2001 the Governor directed the Secretary of the Maryland

6 Department of Transportation (MDOT) to make planning, funding and building the 14 mile, \$1.4

7 billion light rail project the State's top transit priority in the Washington region; and

8 WHEREAS, the proposed Inner Purple Line will provide an east-west expansion of the

9 regional rail system to connect Prince George's and Montgomery Counties; and

10 WHEREAS, the proposed Inner Purple Line will take thousands of cars off the Washington

11 region's roads, encourage Smart Growth development by promoting the revitalization of the

12 business and residential communities through which it passes, and provide much improved access for

13 lower-income residents and college students who are most in need of transit facilities; and

14 WHEREAS, when completed in 2012, the Inner Purple Line will include stations at New

15 Carrollton, Riverdale, the University of Maryland (two to four stations), Takoma/Langley, Silver

16 Spring, Woodside, West Silver Spring, Chevy Chase Lake, and downtown Bethesda; and

17 WHEREAS, the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) is in the draft FY2003

18 Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP) for the Washington Region and current work by the

19 Maryland Department of Transportation, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

20 (WMATA), in cooperation with Prince George's and Montgomery Counties, and the Maryland-

21 National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC), is considering prospective station

1 locations and connecting alignments; and

2 WHEREAS, prospective station locations and connecting alignments are being analyzed
3 for inclusion in the DEIS; and

4 WHEREAS, a Locally Preferred Alternative will be selected as the basis for more detailed
5 engineering, right-of-way acquisition and construction as funding becomes available; and

6 WHEREAS, Federal funding would be a major source of construction funding and the up-
7 coming surface transportation reauthorization legislation will play an important role in
8 maintaining steady progress toward construction of the proposed Inner Purple Line, and

9 WHEREAS, Congress will approve the next Federal surface transportation reauthorization
10 bill in 2003; and

11 WHEREAS, the proposed Inner Purple Line Project must be included in the surface
12 transportation reauthorization bill to receive necessary Federal appropriations, and for
13 completion of activities leading up to and including construction; and

14 WHEREAS, the Inner Purple Line from New Carrollton to Bethesda is the only version of the
15 Purple Line that has been sufficiently studied to be eligible for earmarking in the next Federal transit
16 funding authorization, which is due to be approved by Congress in late 2003; and

17 WHEREAS, the cost of the New Carrollton to Bethesda line is \$1.4 billion (Year 2003 dollars),
18 and so its cost and cost effectiveness can compete successfully against other new rail starts for Federal
19 funding; and

20 WHEREAS, the Inner Purple Line is consistent with the new General Plan for Prince George's
21 County; and

22 WHEREAS, pursuant to the Governor's recommendation, the Purple Line segments (New
23 Carrollton to Bethesda, and Branch Avenue to Alexandria) will be added to the transportation
24 master plans in Prince George's and Montgomery Counties.

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Prince George's
26 County, Maryland, that the County Council hereby expresses its strong support for the Inner
27 Purple Line between New Carrollton and Bethesda and urges that the Maryland Department of
28 Transportation proceed diligently to complete the environmental studies, design, land acquisition
29 and construction of the Inner Purple Line from New Carrollton to Bethesda and
30 that the United States Senators and Representatives support the earmarking of the Federal
31 authorization for the Inner Purple Line; and that the Governor and General Assembly provide the
32 State financial support on an expedited basis.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon the effective date of this resolution it shall be
2 transmitted by the Clerk of the Council to the Governor-Elect, General Assembly, Maryland
3 Congressional Delegation, Council of Governments/Transportation Planning Board, MDOT,
4 WMATA, M-NCPPC and Department of Public Works and Transportation.

Adopted this 3rd day of December, 2002

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: _____
Peter A. Shapiro
Chair

ATTEST:

Redis C. Floyd
Clerk of the Council