



Todd M. Turner  
Chair  
District 4

June 24, 2020

Mr. Gregory Slater, Secretary  
Maryland Department of Transportation  
7201 Corporate Center Drive  
Hanover, MD 21076

Re: Purple Line Project

Dear Secretary Slater:

On behalf of the Prince George's County Council I want to thank you for joining us on June 16<sup>th</sup> to share a status update on the upcoming Baltimore Avenue project as well as some updates on other projects impacting Prince George's County. The County Council looks forward to additional updates on other important transportation projects throughout the County.

As was discussed, the County Council is anxious to see forward progress on negotiations between the State and Purple Line Transit Partners (PLTP) as well as Purple Line Transit Constructors (PLTC). The Council is extremely concerned by Purple Line Transit Constructors' threat to walk away from the project due to delays and cost overruns. While the County Council takes no position on the dispute, we do strongly urge the State to quickly come to an agreement that prioritizes a timely completion of the Purple Line.

As you are aware, there is significant jobs and local contracting is tied to this project. Moreover, the project once completed will spur economic growth and connect communities to jobs and economic mobility. Already businesses and developers are making decisions based on the project moving to completion. Construction has already disrupted small businesses and residential neighborhoods along the corridor and any further delay will jeopardize the promise the State made to these communities and Prince George's County when this P3 project was first launched. An incomplete project will be an eyesore in communities and will depress neighborhoods whose working-class residents only seek upward economic mobility and enhanced transportation options.

The Council strongly encourages the State to continue to work with PLTC as well as PLTP to ensure this project moves forward and there are no further problems. We are confident that a pathway forward can be found. Thank you for your attention and continued work with the County.

Sincerely,

Hon. Todd M. Turner  
Council Chair

cc: Hon. Larry Hogan, Governor  
Hon. Angela D. Alsobrooks, Prince George's County Executive  
Hon. Marc Elrich, Montgomery County Executive  
Hon. Sydney Katz, President, Montgomery County Council  
Members, Prince George's County Council  
Members, Montgomery County Council  
Hon. Joanne C. Benson, Chair, Prince George's Senate Delegation  
Hon. Erek L. Barron, Chair, Prince George's House Delegation  
Mr. Peter van der Waart, CEO, Purple Line Transit Partners