



Jolene Ivey
Chair
At-Large Council Member

"Serving the People of Prince George's County!"

January 21, 2025

Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Maryland Transit Administration's Application for the Regional Infrastructure Accelerator Grant

Dear Secretary,

The Prince George's County Council fully supports Maryland Transit Administration's (MTA) grant application to the Build America Bureau's Regional Infrastructure Accelerator Grant Program to develop innovative financing strategies for accelerated development of a pipeline of rail projects in the State of Maryland. The proposed Maryland Area Rail Infrastructure Accelerator (MARIA) will focus on necessary state of good repair investments and enhancements to leverage more value from MARC, Light Rail, Metro Subway, the Purple Line, and state-owned freight rail lines, as well as financing strategies for the Red Line. These rail infrastructure projects are key to both the transportation network and growing economy of our state and region.

The MARIA will bring additional capacity to the MTA to identify innovative financing solutions and project delivery methods for projects identified in the MTA's modal investment plans, such as the Light Rail and Metro Subway Cornerstone Plans and the MARC Growth and Transformation Plan. The projects in these plans include a foundation of critical safety and state of good repair investments, and also address service expansion, fleet modernization, intermodal connections, and transit-oriented development. Following the grant-funded work by the MARIA, both the MTA and the Maryland Department of Transportation have the organizational capacity and agency experience to utilize the innovative financing solutions and implementation methods identified by the MARIA to advance the rail projects supporting the Maryland freight and passenger rail networks.

I urge you to favorably consider this effort, which will support the connection of people to jobs, services, and amenities, as well as the movement of freight throughout the State of Maryland and to the Washington metropolitan region and neighboring states.

Thank you,

Jolene Ivey, Chair
Prince George's County Council