Attachment K: Letter from MTA Regarding Forest Conservation Plan



MARYLAND TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Martin O'Malley, Governor • Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor James T. Smith, Jr., Secretary • Robert L. Smith, Administrator

March 11, 2014

Ms. Mary Dolan, Chief Functional Planning &Policy Division Montgomery County Planning Department Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission 8787 Georgia Avenue Silver Spring, MD 20910

PROJECT: Purple Line and Related Projects - Forest Conservation Plan

Dear Ms. Dolan:

As the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) continues to prepare for the March 20th Mandatory Referral on the Purple Line and related projects, please be advised that with regard to the Forest Conservation Plan (FCP) which MTA is required to develop as required by the Forest Conservation Act of 1991 (FCA):

- Given the close interrelationship of the projects, MTA has prepared and will submit a single FCP for the Purple Line (MR# MR2014033), the Bethesda Metro South Entrance (MR# MR2014034), Silver Spring Green Trail (MR# MR2014036) and the Capital Crescent Trail (MR# MR2014035).
- The revised FSD has recently been completed and will be submitted to the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for review and approval by the end of March 2014. The FSD identifies the existing forest cover and environmental features in the project area which include 315 specimen trees and 56 forest stands.
- Responsibility for completion of the FCP and DNR approval will be the responsibility of the Concessionaire subject to review and comment by stakeholders including M-NCPPC. This can only be developed as final design progresses and will be done with a goal of meeting or exceeding the requirements of the Maryland laws and regulations related to forest conservation.

If you have any questions or comments, or if you require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 443-451-3724 or email to jkendrick@mtatdd.com. Thank you for your ongoing coordination concerning these project activities.

Sincerely,

Jamie Kendrick Deputy Executive Director

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- cc: Mr. Greg Benz, Purple Line Task Manager
 - Mr. Robert Brownstein, Purple Line Task Manager
 - Mr. Steve Hawtof (GEC/MTA)
 - Mr. Michael Madden, MTA Planning Manager
 - Ms. Leslie Roche (PMC/MTA)
 - Mr. Joseph Romanowski, Engineering Management