



January 19, 2023

The Honorable Evan Glass
President, Montgomery County Council
Council Office Building
100 Maryland Avenue, 5th Floor
Rockville, Maryland 20850

SUBJECT: Joint Transportation Priority Letter

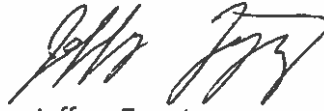
Dear President Glass:

At our regularly scheduled meeting on January 19, 2023, the Planning Board reviewed the draft Joint Transportation Priority Letter prepared by Montgomery County Department of Transportation, County Council and Montgomery County Planning Department staff. The Planning Board's specific recommendations/modifications to the draft are as follows:

- **BRT Implementation**
 - Prioritize the US 29 Phase 2 BRT above the MD 355 North and South BRT given the county's emphasis through Thrive Montgomery 2050 on investing in the east county.
 - Decouple the MD 355 North and South BRT and prioritize the MD 355 North BRT over MD 355 South BRT given the lack of high-quality transit to Clarksburg.
 - Swap the New Hampshire Avenue BRT with the North Bethesda Transitway given the multi-jurisdictional impact of the New Hampshire Avenue BRT and its potential to strengthen the east county economy and connectivity.
 - Emphasize the importance of the I-270 Transit Corridor Connectors and the years of commitments made to the communities served by the Connectors and the county's emphasis on the life sciences industry.
- **Commuter Rail Expansion**
 - Emphasize the need to expand MARC capacity.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have questions, please contact Stephen Aldrich at 301 495 4528 or Stephen.Aldrich@montgomeryplanning.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeffrey Zyontz', written in a cursive style.

Jeffrey Zyontz
Chair

Attachment:

Draft Joint Transportation Priorities Letter with Recommended Planning Board Revisions

JZ:SA:aj

cc: Glenn Orlin, Senior Analyst, Montgomery County Council
Christopher Conklin, Director, MCDOT
Tim Cupples, Acting Deputy Director of Transportation Policy, MCDOT
Tanya Stern, Acting Director, Planning Department
Robert Kronenberg, Deputy Director, Planning Department
Jason Sartori, Chief, Countywide Planning and Policy Division, Planning Department
Elza Hisel-McCoy, Chief, Downcounty Planning Division, Planning Department
Carrie Sanders, Chief, Midcounty Planning Division, Planning Department
Patrick Butler, Chief, Upcounty Planning Division, Planning Department