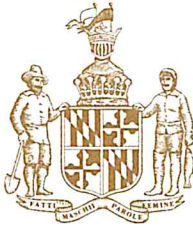


SENATOR NANCY J. KING
SENATE DELEGATION CHAIR

SENATOR ROGER MANNO
SENATE DELEGATION VICE CHAIR

301-858-3686 · 410-841-3686
800-492-7122 Ext. 3686



DELEGATE SHANE ROBINSON
HOUSE DELEGATION CHAIR

DELEGATE DAVID FRASER-HIDALGO
HOUSE DELEGATION VICE CHAIR

301-858-3010 · 410-841-3010
800-492-7122 Ext. 3010

THE MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

MONTGOMERY COUNTY DELEGATION

October 6, 2016

Honorable Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.
Governor
State House, 100 State Circle
Annapolis, MD 21401-1925

RE: Corridor Cities Transitway

Dear Governor Hogan:

We are writing with regard to your recent decision to eliminate the Corridor Cities Transitway (CCT) from the construction phase of the State's capital transportation spending plan and deferral of all future funding for the project to fiscal 2023. We believe this decision is shortsighted and misguided.

The attached letter from the Al Roshdieh, Director of the Montgomery County Department of Transportation, identifies the harmful and costly repercussions of this decision. Together the County and the State have made significant investments in this project - \$37 million. Unfortunately, delaying the construction funding will require additional investments in the future because much of the preliminary engineering will have to be redone -- and, paid for a second time. This is not the best use of taxpayer money nor is it business friendly.

Maryland is and has ALWAYS been open for business as evidenced by the thriving bio-tech and other industries along the I-270 corridor that will be served by the CCT. The 16 mile CCT will provide faster, more direct transportation between residential and major employment areas; reduce congestion by up to 36,000 cars per day; support economic development consistent with local master plans; and reduce air pollution levels.

Statewide business organizations and major employers overwhelmingly support investment in transportation infrastructure and transit, including but not limited to the Maryland and Montgomery County Chambers of Commerce, the Greater Baltimore Committee, and Johns Hopkins University. The CCT will particularly serve as a lightning rod for economic development. It is very unfortunate that you elected to eliminate the planned funding and delay construction.

Ironically, in MDOT's fiscal 2017 budget review, DLS noted that "[w]hile most transportation projects can be said to support economic activity, some projects have tremendous potential and further stated:

Continued development of the Great Seneca Science Corridor, a major high-tech employment center planned in Montgomery County, is dependent on progress in

construction of the Corridor Cities Transitway, which is designed to ensure adequate transit access and help alleviate and prevent unacceptable levels of road congestion in the I-270 corridor.

Maryland's economy would be greatly improved by replacing the Howard Street Tunnel and by constructing the Corridor Cities Transitway. The cost for each of these projects is large. However, if all projects were evaluated and ranked based on a cost-benefit basis for inclusion in the CTP, these two projects would likely be highly ranked and funded sooner than currently planned.

If you truly intend to create jobs and foster economic development, then we urge you to reconsider and reverse your decision to eliminate the entire CCT from the construction phase of the State's capital transportation spending plan and deferral of all future funding for the project to fiscal 2023.

Thank you for your consideration of our request. We look forward to working with you to ensure we meet the transportation needs of Marylanders.

Sincerely,

The Montgomery County Delegation

Senator Nancy J. King, Chair – Senate Delegation
Delegate Shane Robinson, Chair – House Delegation

District 14

Senator Craig J. Zucker
Delegate Anne R. Kaiser
Delegate Eric G. Luedtke
Delegate Pamela Queen

District 15

Senator Brian J. Feldman
Delegate Kathleen M. Dumais
Delegate David Fraser-Hidalgo
Delegate Aruna Miller

District 16

Senator Susan C. Lee
Delegate C. William "Bill" Frick
Delegate Ariana B. Kelly
Delegate Marc Korman

District 17

Senator Cheryl Kagan
Delegate Kumar P. Barve
Delegate James W. Gilchrist
Delegate Andrew Platt

District 18

Senator Richard S. Madaleno, Jr.
Delegate Alfred C. Carr
Delegate Ana Sol Gutierrez
Delegate Jeff Waldstreicher

District 19

Senator Roger Manno
Delegate Bonita L. "Bonnie" Cullison
Delegate Benjamin F. Kramer
Delegate Marice Morales

District 20

Senator Jamie B. Raskin
Delegate Sheila E. Hixson
Delegate David Moon
Delegate Will Smith

District 39

Senator Nancy J. King
Delegate Charles Barkley
Delegate Kirill Reznik
Delegate Shane Robinson