



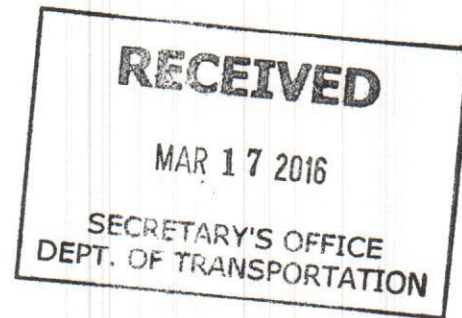
Rushern L. Baker, III
County Executive

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

March 4, 2016

Mr. Pete K. Rahn
Secretary
Maryland Department of Transportation
7201 Corporate Center Drive
Hanover, Maryland 21076



Dear Secretary Rahn:

Enclosed is Prince George's County's proposed 2015-16 Priority Projects List for the FY 2016-2021 State Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP). This reflects the County's priorities with regard to State highway construction projects, transit, project planning starts, safety improvements, system preservation and gateway projects and supports the County's priorities related to Transit Oriented Development (TOD), and pedestrian and bicycle safety.

Taken collectively, the Priority List represents projects that will provide Prince George's County with the greatest benefits in terms of community revitalization, economic development, transit access, congestion relief and safety improvements. Promoting projects that address safety for all users, particularly road sections that have been identified with high crash rates are crucial. It is also extremely important that the transportation network play its part in creating an environment that is conducive to economic development, as a healthier, more robust Prince George's County is important to the overall vitality of the State and the region.

This List reflects an effort to advance fewer items than in years past further narrowing the emphasis on economic development, safety and system enhancement. It builds on the progress made through the projects which have been funded in full or advanced through Governor Hogan's transportation program. We thank the Governor and MDOT for their commitment to funding the projects important to Prince George's County and moving them forward. It is crucially important that the CTP program that was under development and the projects announced by Governor Hogan this past spring proceed as they were designed and planned. We are very concerned, as there have been significant adverse changes since then to key projects such as the interchange at MD4 at Suitland Parkway. Additionally, the state has made an unprecedented request for County funding for a state project to support the potential Greenbelt FBI site. It is important that the State stand with both of our proposed FBI sites as the Governor has stated and continue to fully fund them. Prince George's County is ready to partner with MDOT to serve our citizens, but the State must fully honor its commitments.

Because several key projects from previous lists are already advancing, this list can

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address other needed projects that will benefit economic development and safety. Among them, for the FY 2016-2021 CTP, Prince George's County would like to highlight the following:

- **Purple Line:** Prince George's County's would like to express our deep appreciation to Governor Hogan for advancing the Purple Line into construction as this is the **number one transit priority** for the County. This project will connect the "spokes" of the Metrorail system, and is vital to State, Regional and County economic development. The County also appreciates the State's commitment to starting project construction in New Carrollton and for ensuring that the project's principal operations center will be in Prince George's County. The state's willingness to adopt these important components was critical to our increasing our local commitment to \$120 million.
- **FBI Infrastructure Needs:**
 - **Greenbelt Metro Access:** As Prince George's County's number one project for roadway construction, completing conversion of a partial interchange into a full interchange at the Capital Beltway (I-95/I-495) and the Greenbelt Metrorail Station, provides important support for Greenbelt, a potential site for relocation of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Prince George's County urges continued State funding towards construction of this vital project. However, the County is not in a position to provide an additional \$50 Million. This request was not discussed nor anticipated, and the County has already committed significant funding at the site of the project. Full state support is crucial to advance this Project in the CTP. The placement of the Greenbelt interchange is built upon its FBI relocation candidacy, if Landover is chosen, then the needed improvements for that location will become the top priority.
 - **MD 202 @ I-95/495 & Brightseat Road:** The placement of improvements in Landover reflects needed preparation in the event that location is selected for the new Headquarters of the FBI.
- **MD 210, Indian Head Highway (Palmer Road @ Livingston Road West Interchange):** Advancing the work beginning at Kerby Hill Road further down the MD 210 corridor is Prince George's County's number one priority for project planning. The County requests that the next intersection, Palmer Road at Livingston Road West, be advanced through planning and design as quickly as possible. The MGM facility is slated to open in 2016 and additional planned economic development within the MD 210 Corridor is coming. Advancing this project will benefit the State, Region and County by improving mobility from Southern Maryland into and through the County. Funding for work along the corridor will be supplemented by revenue provided as a result of the passage of Senate Bill one during the second special session of 2012. The measure requires 40% of local impact grants, up to \$15,000,000 to be used to address infrastructure needs related to MD 210.

- **US 1, Baltimore Avenue (College Avenue to I-95/495):** Prince George's County is most appreciative of the \$30 million announced by the Governor providing construction funding for the first phase of the County's number two construction priority from College Avenue to University Boulevard. However, as this is a unique opportunity to improve this showcase for the State's flagship college campus, ensuring that this project is well

designed and constructed is critical. This project will bring much needed streetscaping, and improved safety measures including sidewalk improvements to this highly congested and challenged section of US 1 in College Park.

- **MD 197, Collington Road (US 50 to MD 450):** Widening MD 197 from US 50 to MD 450 is important for relieving congestion, improving safety, and supporting economic development in the Bowie area. This is a major access and conveyance point for an important economic center within the County.
- **MD 5, Branch Avenue:** The fourth construction priority for the County is the Branch Avenue Project. Providing improved traffic flow and new interchanges in the Branch Avenue corridor, in coordination with necessary fixed guideway transit is pivotal to relieving traffic congestion on MD 5. We strongly urge the State to finalize the remaining planning and design elements and move the Project forward into construction.
- **MD 4 Corridor, Pennsylvania Avenue Interchanges (Westphalia Rd, Dower House Road and MD 223 Woodyard Road).** Prince George's number two planning project is to advance design for the remaining interchanges along Pennsylvania Avenue just outside of the Beltway. This will address existing mission related growth at Joint Base Andrews, relieve congestion, and help enhance development projects in the area. In addition, interim improvements at the MD 4 and Westphalia Road intersection are needed to address existing conditions as a result of BRAC movements at Andrews and the burgeoning needs of the corridor.
- **WMATA Funding:** Robust funding for the WMATA system is absolutely necessary to assure needed capacity and effective transit services throughout Prince George's County. Both the Metrorail and a soundly funded Metrobus network are essential to the County for addressing mobility needs and providing sustainable alternatives to single occupancy vehicles. Further, funding is needed for additional Priority Corridor Network (PCN) routes in Prince George's County, for Transit Oriented Development around the 15 Stations in the County, and enhanced transit connectivity between activity centers.

- **The Bus:** As Prince George's County operates a transit system separate from WMATA, additional funding is needed to help provide expanded service to meet existing needs and accommodate future growth.
- **Transit Oriented Development:** Prince George's County strongly supports infrastructure investment to support the vital economic development in transit oriented communities. In 2014, the County Council approved Plan 2035 Prince George's as our General Plan. It designates eight Regional Transit Districts, three of which are being designed as Downtown's; Prince George's Plaza, New Carrollton and Largo. The County appreciates the strong support and collaboration from the State to date on advancing such efforts as the road diet on MD 410 in front of the Prince George's Plaza Metro and will want to continue these important investments to advance economic development.
- **Prince George's County Transitway:** Advancing study of a fixed guideway network with emphasis on priority corridors is important for sustainable economic development and enhanced mobility within the County and the region. Priority corridors provide links to neighboring jurisdictions, and between activity centers within Prince George's County.
- **Southern Maryland Transit:** Advancing the study of fixed guideway transit, and coordinating closely with the State Highway Administration on the MD 5 highway and interchange project will provide better regional connectivity and help relieve congestion in this very congested corridor.
- **Pedestrian Safety Enhancements on State-maintained Roadways:** Projects that are intended to address safety, in particular those designed to reduce pedestrian crashes in Prince George's County are paramount and can be found in a number of the different categories of the list including System Preservation, and Project Planning. Prince George's County cannot emphasize strongly enough that the State must continue to further efforts to implement safety features on and along State-maintained roadways. This must include the installation of continuous street lighting, crosswalks, sidewalks, as well as other measures. Prince George's County commends the State for implementing rapidly improving safety program through such efforts as the Pedestrian Road Safety Audits, Community Enhancement projects. However, much more remains to be done, and we emphasize the need for continued focus and vigilance on this initiative.

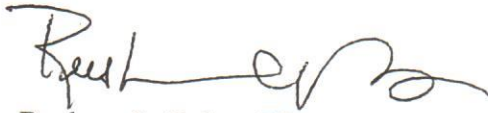
Lastly, the annual MDOT CTP Tour is the premier forum our elected officials, community leaders and residents, have an opportunity to hear from State officials and provide input on state transportation projects. We look forward to hosting you at the County Administration Building in Upper Marlboro once again for the 2016 tour stop next fall.

Prince George's County values the cooperative relationship we have with you and your staff on so many transportation related issue and thank you and the MDOT team for coming to

Secretary Pete K. Rahn
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the County to discuss the State program. We look forward to working closely with you to advance our transportation priorities for the betterment of the County, the region and the State of Maryland.

Sincerely,



Rushern L. Baker, III
County Executive



Derrick Leon Davis
Chairman, County Council

Enclosure

cc: The Honorable Douglas J. J. Peters, Chair, Prince George's County Senate Delegation
The Honorable Jay Walker, Chair, Prince George's County House Delegation
The Honorable Tawanna Gaines, Chair, Transportation and Environment Subcommittee
Maryland House Appropriations Committee
The Honorable Carolyn J.B. Howard, Chair, Transportation Subcommittee
Maryland House Ways and Means Committee
The Honorable Dannielle M. Glaros, Vice Chairman, Prince George's County Council
The Honorable Mary A. Lehman, Member, Prince George's County Council
The Honorable Deni Taveras, Member, Prince George's County Council
The Honorable Todd M. Turner, Member, Prince George's County Council
The Honorable Andrea Harrison, Member, Prince George's County Council
The Honorable Karen R. Toles, Member, Prince George's County Council
The Honorable Obie Patterson, Member, Prince George's County Council
The Honorable Mel Franklin, Member, Prince George's County Council
Nicholas A. Majett, Chief Administrative Officer, Office of the County Executive
Barry Stanton, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Office of the County Executive
Darrell B. Mobley, Director, Prince George's Department of Public Works
and Transportation
Bradley W. Frome, Assistant Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Office of the County
Executive
David S. Iannucci, Assistant Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Office of the County
Executive
Elizabeth Hewlett, Chair, Prince George's County Planning Board, M-NCPPC
Fern V. Piret, Director, Department of Planning, M-NCPPC
Ronnie Gathers, Director, Department of Parks and Recreation, M-NCPPC
Gregory C. Johnson, Administrator, Maryland State Highway Administration
Paul Comfort, Administrator, Maryland Transit Administration