



# CITY OF COLLEGE PARK

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL

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November 8, 2023

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Mr. Paul J. Wiedefeld  
Secretary, Maryland Department of Transportation  
7201 Corporate Center Drive  
Hanover, Maryland 21076

Re: Draft 2024-2029 Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP)

Dear Secretary Wiedefeld:

On behalf of the City of College Park, I would like to provide the following comments and requests regarding the Draft 2024-2029 Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP). The City supports the State's proposed investment in transit systems, pedestrian and bicycle safety, electric vehicle infrastructure, and safety and efficiency improvements for roads. Given the high level of pedestrian injuries and fatalities in Prince George's County, these safety improvements must be funded and implemented with the highest urgency.

The City has advocated for the reconstruction of Baltimore Avenue for decades, and we are pleased that the 1.5-mile Phase 1 is nearly finished. For many years, we have requested the State to fund engineering and construction for Phases 2 and 3, the 1.1-mile segment from MD 193 north to I-495. This would enable construction to continue without delay and project completion in the most efficient manner. As you know, Baltimore Avenue is a major entrance to the City of College Park and the University of Maryland. Regrettably, parts of it are dangerous, particularly for pedestrians and cyclists, and hinder the expansion of multi-modal transportation options and private investment.

The safety, traffic flow, and aesthetic improvements for Baltimore Avenue from MD-193 to I-495 are long overdue and it is puzzling why the State has still not funded this work. The City respectfully requests that the

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2024-2029 CTP include significant engineering and construction funding for this critical project.

For the same reasons, the City also requests that the Greenbelt Road Streetscape Improvement Project receive funding. This major east-west corridor requires a redesign to safely accommodate pedestrians, cyclists, transit, and automobiles, as well as provide an inviting streetscape.

The City appreciates the State investment in MARC services, the Purple Line and WMATA, and the Prince George's County bus program. We are excited to see the investment in bus electrification and the required infrastructure, as well as the proposed funding for bike and scooter infrastructure at the University of Maryland campus.

Thank you for considering the City's requests and comments.

Sincerely,



Fazlul Kabir  
Mayor

cc: Maryland 21<sup>st</sup> District Delegation  
The Honorable Angela Alsobrooks, Prince George's County Executive  
The Honorable Thomas E. Dernoga, Chair, Prince George's County Council  
Prince George's County Councilmembers