



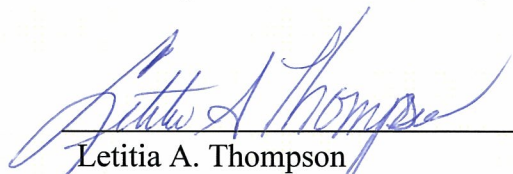
Purple Line
Montgomery and Prince George's Counties, Maryland

Alternatives Analysis/Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Section 4(f) Evaluation

Prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, §102 (42 U.S.C. §4332); and Federal Transit Laws (49 U.S.C. §5301(e), §5323(b), and §5324(b)); and 49 U.S.C. §303 (formerly Department of Transportation Act of 1966, §4(f)); National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, §106 (16 U.S.C. §470f);

Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands);
Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management); and
Executive Order 12898 (Environmental Justice).

by the **Federal Transit Administration**
US Department of Transportation




Letitia A. Thompson
Regional Administrator, Region III
Federal Transit Administration

9/30/08

Date of Approval

and the **Maryland Transit Administration**
Maryland Department of Transportation



Paul J. Wiedefeld
Administrator
Maryland Transit Administration

10/1/08

Date of Approval

Abstract

The Purple Line is a proposed 16-mile rapid transit line extending from Bethesda in Montgomery County to New Carrollton in Prince George's County. The purpose of the project is to address mobility and accessibility issues in the corridor. The Purple Line would connect the major activity centers in the corridor and will provide direct rapid transit connections to the Metrorail Red Line (Bethesda and Silver Spring Metro Stations), Green Line (College Park Metro Station) and Orange Line (New Carrollton Metro Station). The Purple Line will also connect to MARC, Amtrak, and local bus services.

The alternatives include: the No Build Alternative, the Transportation Systems Management (TSM) Alternative, and six Build Alternatives. The Build Alternatives include three using bus rapid transit (BRT) technology and three using light rail transit (LRT) technology. The project would be completed in a manner that minimizes adverse effects on the environment and maximizes benefits to the communities.

This document describes and summarizes the potential transportation and environmental effects, costs and benefits, and presents a comparative evaluation of the alternatives.

For further information concerning this document, contact:

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**Comments on Purple Line
Alternatives Analysis/Draft
Environmental Impact Statement and
Section 4(f) Evaluation**

Comments on this document may be submitted in writing. Written comments are due 90 days following the Notice of Availability. Written comments can be sent to Diane Ratcliff at the address listed on Page 1; through the project website at www.purplelinemd.com; emailed to purpleline@mtamaryland.com; or submitted at the public hearings. Comments may be made orally at the public hearings. Please include your contact information with your comments.

Information on the date, time, and location of the public hearings will be published in local and regional newspapers and on the project website.

For questions regarding the Alternatives Analysis/Draft Environmental Impact Statement (AA/DEIS) or general project information, please contact Michael Madden, at the following address:

Michael Madden

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Maryland Transit Administration
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410-767-3694

Document Availability

The AA/DEIS and related Technical Reports are available on the project website at www.purplelinemd.com. Copies of the documents are available on a CD from MTA through the project website or using the contact address. Printed copies of the AA/DEIS are available for public review at the following locations:

Bethesda Library
Bladensburg Library
Chevy Chase Library
Greenbelt Library
Hyattsville Library
Long Branch Library
Maryland Department of Legislative Services Library
Maryland State Archives
Maryland State Law Library
New Carrollton Library
Silver Spring Library
State Library Resource Center
Takoma Park Maryland Library
University of Maryland Library
M-NCPPC - Montgomery County
M-NCPPC - Prince George's County
Silver Spring Regional Services Center
Maryland Department of Transportation - New Carrollton Regional Office

Technical Reports

- Air Quality Technical Report
- Architectural History Technical Report
- Capital Cost Estimating Methodology Technical Report
- Conceptual Plans
- Definition of Alternatives Report
- Energy Technical Report
- Geotechnical Data Technical Report
- Hazardous Materials Technical Report: Initial Site Assessment
- Natural Resources Technical Report
- Noise and Vibration Technical Report
- Operating and Maintenance Cost Estimate Technical Report
- Phase Ia Archeological Assessment Survey Technical Report
- Preliminary Section 4(f) Evaluation Technical Report
- Public Outreach and Coordination Technical Report
- Socioeconomic Technical Report
- Traffic Analysis Technical Report
- Travel Demand Forecasting Technical Report

The Technical Reports are available for public review (upon request) at the MTA offices located at 6 St. Paul Street, 9th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202 or via the project website at www.purplelinemd.com. Any person with special needs, such as English language assistance or Braille should contact the MTA for assistance.

Printed copies of the Technical Reports can also be viewed at:

M-NCPPC - Montgomery County

M-NCPPC - Prince George's County

Silver Spring Regional Services Center

Maryland Department of Transportation - New Carrollton Regional Office