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# PULSE

Your guide to Purple Line news,  
information and events

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Matthew Pollack, PE, PMP

## Message from Matt

The Purple Line Corridor Coalition (PLCC) released a [report](#) Sept. 28 on the best ways to ensure equitable, sustainable and vibrant development along the project corridor.

I was proud to join PLCC representatives, key stakeholders, and an enthusiastic audience during the event outside the Brigadier General Charles E. McGee Library in downtown Silver Spring.

The report offers extensive recommendations for Prince George's and Montgomery counties to improve the streetscape and lifestyle along the corridor, including strategies for affordable housing, preserving small businesses, providing pedestrian and bicycle access to stations, and spurring diversified economic growth.

The Purple Line will revolutionize the corridor by connecting communities from New Carrollton to Bethesda and beyond. Transit improves access to jobs, education, culture, history and entertainment. As one speaker noted, a worker in Langley Park trying to get to work in Bethesda can sometimes spend two hours getting to work today. The Purple Line would cut that travel time to a small fraction of that time.

Our team remains focused on completing the Purple Line. We are planning to host Community Advisory Team meetings later this fall to keep communities updated on construction work as we move toward our fall 2026 opening date. Information on those meetings will be distributed soon.

Please follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube for more updates about this report and the people who helped put it together. And as always, email us with questions about the project at [outreach@purplelinemd.com](mailto:outreach@purplelinemd.com) or call our hotline, 443-451-3706 (English) or 443-451-3705 (Spanish).

Sign up to receive construction notifications at [purplelinemd.com](https://purplelinemd.com)



# Construction Photo/Update:



*From left to right: Crews continue to advance construction of the light rail vehicle bridge over Rock Creek in Montgomery County. They are building the formwork for the bridge deck that will soon be filled with concrete. In New Carrollton, stormwater pipe installation continues in Prince George's County.*

## Business Spotlight: Nancy's Nails

Nancy and Hoang Nguyen immigrated from Vietnam to Maryland in 1982, looking to live the American dream. By 1995, they opened Nancy's Nails on Bonifant Street in downtown Silver Spring.

Nancy's Nails is small operation that provides manicures and pedicures, waxing, and other beauty services. The business is truly a family affair, with extended family joining the staff as the business has expanded to serve their growing clientele.

The owners are very excited about the Purple Line because they say it will attract more customers to their salon and help them continue to grow.

Nancy's Nails is located at 951 Bonifant Street in Silver Spring. The shop is open from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturdays. For more information, call 301-588-7940.



*Above: Purple Line Business Engagement Liaison Minh Diep poses with the Nguyens, and a customer is treated to a manicure.*



# Purple Line Fast Fact:



## People Behind the Purple Line: Ray Biggs II

Ray Biggs II is the MDOT MTA Project Director for the Purple Line project.

He serves as second in command to Executive Director Matt Pollack and supervises operations. Ray brings a great depth of experience in large scale projects, including the more than \$13 billion John F. Kennedy (JFK) Airport Redevelopment program, WMATA's Project Management and Construction Management Program, and HNTB.

He joined the team in July after serving as the Division Chief for Safety, Risk Management and Assurance for the Transit Safety and Oversight Office at the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

As division chief, Ray managed FTA's internal Safety Risk Management Program, identifying, assessing and mitigating transit safety issues. He also managed FTA's National Transportation Safety Board Recommendations Response Program and coordinated with the Office of Research to prepare analyses, summaries and visualizations of transit safety data. Ray also served in the Office of Program Development for the Capital Investment Grants (CIG) Program, where he helped advance the Hudson Tunnels, Portal North Bridge and Canarsie Line Power and Station Improvements through planning and project development.

Ray is excited to be a part of the Purple Line team and to meet residents and stakeholders at the fall CAT meetings.



Ray Biggs II is the MDOT MTA Project Director for the Purple Line project