

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #5 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/6/2013
First Name : Phelan
Last Name : Wyrick
Address : 9003 Linton Street
City : Silver Spring
State : MD
Zip Code : 20901
Email Address : phelanawyrick@yahoo.com

Submission Content/Notes : Please complete the Purple Line. This is going to bring much needed transportation and revitalization opportunities to families and businesses in communities across Montgomery and Prince Georges Counties, and to the Washington DC region. I have considered this project for years and now I have reviewed the impact statement. I am confident that the benefits far outweigh the risks. As a 15 year resident of Silver Spring and Takoma Park, I am very excited about what the Purple Line will bring to our area. This infrastructure will serve generations to come! Please don't be swayed by the small minority of vocal opponents who are thinking only of themselves. Thank you for everything you can do to make this project a reality!

A.1

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #6 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/6/2013
First Name : Judith
Last Name : Marshak
State : MD
Email Address : jmmarshak@hotmail.com

Submission Content/Notes : I am totally against the building of the Purple Line. MD has far more important projects they should be looking at -- i.e., road & bridge improvement. I am against the fact that 50% of the gas tax is going to building this line -- where is the money coming from? AND I cannot believe that almost all of the trees along the trail will be taken down, particularly in view of the fact that Montgomery Cy has passed a bill about the tree canopy. How much money will have to be paid out to people/businesses who are having to relocate and buildings torn down.

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E.3 **K.3**
J.3
J.4
A.2

THIS IS NOT a good project and I just wish it could be stopped.

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #7 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/6/2013

First Name : Ian

Last Name : Kelly

State : MD

Email Address : ikelly731@aol.com

Submission Content/Notes : I'm appalled at the cost of this, not only in money, but also in the loss of the hundreds of trees. Shameful!

E.11

K.2

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #8 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/6/2013

First Name : Ted

Last Name : Jacobson

State : MD

Submission Content/Notes : I scanned through it and didn't find anything about two issues that I think are super important:

C.1

1. dedicated bus lanes
2. hybrid line/battery power for the Purple line

The document compares one "No build alternative" to one Purple Line alternative.

I think this is too narrow, because neither of these take into account the possibility of dedicated bus lanes and hybrid power on the Purple line, which could significantly change the picture on both sides. Without considering these, it seems to me the impact study and comparison is woefully incomplete.

What I mean by these issues:

1. Dedicated bus lanes could allow buses to operate independent of traffic congestion, quite comparably to light rail. They would also be more flexible regarding the vehicle type, and would probably be much less expensive than the Purple line. The buses could be hybrid vehicles.

2. Hybrid power is in place on light rail systems in several locations around the world. I lobbied the MTA about this several times in the past and got nowhere.

There are several potential benefits of a hybrid system:

a. Less fuel energy is used: instead of wasting kinetic energy as heat in friction brakes, electromagnetic brakes use the kinetic energy to charge batteries (like in a hybrid car).

This reduces the power requirements, which

- reduces operating expenses
- reduces pollution and greenhouse gas emissions

Off-setting that is the costs and consequences of producing the batteries. A detailed comparison is needed.

b. The vehicle can run some distance without external power. This makes it possible to avoid construction of overhead power line towers for some stretches of track, which could be useful for logistical and/or aesthetic purposes, and which would save on construction costs.

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #10 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/6/2013

First Name : Justin

Last Name : Fidler

City : Bethesda

State : MD

Zip Code : 20817

Submission Content/Notes : Please build this. More public transportation is what the community needs, both now and in the future. The environmental impact seems minimal.

A.1

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #15 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/6/2013
First Name : Elaine
Last Name : Raue
State : MD
Email Address : elaineraue@me.com
Submission Content/Notes : Totally against Purple Line.

A.2

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #16 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/7/2013
First Name : Eleanor
Last Name : Balaban
Address : 4650 east west highway
City : Bethesda
State : MD
Zip Code : 20814
Email Address : Eleanor.balaban@Inf.com

Submission Content/Notes : Absolutely stupid to ruin the lives all along this residential line of homes. The path is so environmentally friendly. Let the commuters have a bus on East West hwy. that's what streets are for.

C.1

C.2

C.3

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #17 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/7/2013
First Name : Terry
Last Name : Bateman
Address : 4116 Leland Street
City : Chevy Chase
State : MD
Zip Code : 20815
Email Address : terrybateman1@gmail.com

Submission Content/Notes : This entire project, and the way the information is being manipulated is really insane. There is no way this project can be cost justified. The costs have doubled since the concept was first submitted for review and it will most likely double again before completion--if not more. That is in addition to the quality of life impact it will have on the people most affected--those who live on or near the trail. In a mass urban area the trail is a beautifully preserved and quiet part of nature that will be forever lost. This is clearly a political move by the governor, pushed by the Chevy Chase Land Company to allow denser zoning for their development efforts. And finally it is simply the MTA doing what they do--wanting to build more--whether it makes sense or not. I don't suppose logic will ever play into this decision because if it did, this project would have been shelved long ago. I have heard and read many extremely intelligent and articulate arguments for why this should be killed, and really have heard no good arguments for its justification--yet it just keeps on going--clearly the sign of government agencies doing what they do--spend senseless money.

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Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #18 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/7/2013
First Name : Darren
Last Name : Mays
State : MD
Zip Code : 20815
Email Address : darren.mays@gmail.com

Submission Content/Notes : The Purple Line is a terrible idea!! This is a pet project of politicians in Annapolis who don't listen to the constituents who it affects and who will ultimately foot a big chunk of the bill through local taxes. A few, of many reasons, why this is an awful, awful idea: (1) There's no evidence the project will reduce traffic or stimulate commerce (e.g., the NHTSA August 2013 report concluding such public transit projects don't reduce congestion). Even the planners behind the project admit that the vast majority of Purple Line riders will come from other public transit, thus not reducing congestion and perhaps even making it worse in the Montgomery County/NW DC areas; (2) It will devastate a cherished local green space, the northern portion of the Georgetown Branch Trail/Capital Crescent Trail between Bethesda and Silver spring. This park will be clear cut and virtually destroyed. (3) There is no regard for public safety. This will be an above ground line traveling at high speed through residential areas, near schools, and by busy pedestrian areas. (4) The potential benefit is certainly not worth the bill! The state does not have enough money to pay for the project, the federal government has not made a sure commitment to support it, and now much of the burden will fall on local taxpayers. Few of the constituents in Montgomery County who will pay much of the bill for this even want it; any lawmaker who argues this is not true is completely incorrect. We see this now when fares for public transit fall short of expenditures.

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Unfortunately, the complaints and issues raised by the people who actually live in the neighborhoods where the Purple Line will be built fall on deaf ears. That is because this project is largely a political maneuver by Martin O'Malley and his colleagues in the state capitol. In difficult economic times there are much wiser investments than new construction on a light rail that will ultimately have a negative impact on the community and cost taxpayers millions (e.g., rejuvenating and repairing the dilapidated Metro system that already exists). There is no evidence in this FEIS that suggests this project should go forward. Please do your job and listen to the constituents who voted you into office -- no one wants or needs this project, it will have a negative impact on the community, and there are far better ways to invest this money for the state of Maryland.

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #19 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/7/2013
First Name : Vivian
Last Name : Ehrlich
Address : 507 Bonifant Street
City : Silver Spring
State : MD
Zip Code : 20910
Email Address : ehrlichvivian@aol.com

Submission Content/Notes : My mom has lived at 507 Bonifant Street for 50 years. I have been living with her for the past 3 years. In my bedroom on the first floor, which looks out on the backyard, it is peaceful. I do not hear traffic or loud noises from either Wayne Avenue or Dale Drive.. I know that I, as well as my neighbors would like to keep things that way.

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We do not want to hear significant construction noise, particularly during the 30 months when a tunnel is being blasted between Wayne Avenue and Arliss Street. Also, we do not want to hear the "hum" of electrical substations nor the sound of warning horns or bells as trains approach intersections. We also do not want to feel vibrations from passing trains.

All this would destroy the peacefulness of the Silver Spring community. And yes, the neighborhood subdivisions, are right now, I a haven from noise and peaceful.

We do not want to the area to become LOUD, not only because noise causes stress but it can also cause hearing loss and tinnitus.

Bottom line - the Purple line is a BAD idea. The no build alternative would be the best way to go.

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #20 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/7/2013
First Name : Patrick
Last Name : Ruff
Address : 4012 Adams Drive
City : Silver Spring
State : MD
Zip Code : 20902
Email Address : pondo_stein@yahoo.com

Submission Content/Notes : I'm in favor of the purple line but there is one glaring issue with the operation of it - it appears that the train will run right over Connecticut Avenue without a bridge or overpass (see article below). The rush hour traffic right now on Conn Avenue is bad enough, I cant see how this purple line is going to help volume on that street since it is going east west and the road goes basically north south.

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How do you guys plan to alleviate the traffic being stopped so often for the trains? The montrose road crossing over the CSX railroad tracks in rockville has had a safety issue with a number of trains hitting cars (about once a year or more), so how is this Conn Ave crossing going to be any different?

Here is the article about Conn Ave:
http://articles.washingtonpost.com/2012-03-01/local/35449774_1_purple-line-light-rail-construction-costs

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #21 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/7/2013
First Name : Joan
Last Name : Mancuso
Address : 8808 Altimont Lane
City : Chevy Chase
State : MD
Zip Code : 20815
Email Address : mouse48@gmail.com
Submission Content/Notes : To the Governor-

C.2

C.3

In spite of your excitement with the advancement of the The Purple Line, it is an environmental disaster. You will ruin a much loved walking, hiking and biking trail covered in woods. It should be routed along the existing transportation corridor of the Beltway from New Carrollton to Bethesda or Grosvenor station where it won't destroy the character of our community. We are NOT an urban community. It is probably too late for that and it is so sad for future generations.

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #22 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/7/2013
First Name : Vivian
Last Name : Ehrlich
Address : 507 Bonifant Street
City : Silver Spring
State : MD
Zip Code : 20910
Email Address : ehrlichvivian@aol.com
Submission Content/Notes : Please, please do not build the Purple Line!!

A.2

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I have been looking on and off for a home in Montgomery County for quite some time. . The main criteria of the home is that I do not want to hear train or traffic noise. I have had to eliminate downtown Rockville and parts of Gaithersburg, because of the train noise, the entire route 29 corridor because of the traffic noise and many neighborhoods which border the ICC. (ie. Longmead), again because of the highway noise.

In my opinion, the county does NOT need any transportation projects which will add noise into currently peaceful neighborhoods.

Being able to buy a home in a peaceful neighborhood and enjoy the peacefulness is much more important than any commuting benefit the Purple Line would provide.

Bottom Line - The Purple Line will destroy the peacefulness of downcounty. And that is just not fair to the people who live downcounty.

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #23 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/8/2013
First Name : Assya
Last Name : Pascalev
Address : 4511 Sleaford Rd.
City : Bethesda
State : MD
Zip Code : 20814
Email Address : apascal2003@gmail.com

Submission Content/Notes :

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E.11

"No" to the destruction of the tree canopy, the citizens' well-being and the community life for the Purple Line! The FEIS provides ample evidence for the tremendous negative impact of the Purple Line. The human cost in terms of disrupted lives and communities far outweighs the benefits, which could be achieved by other means such as buses. The destruction of the tree canopy will be a huge loss for Maryland and for the future generations – this must not be allowed! The funds are needed and should be used to repair and maintain in good order the existing Red Line, which is filled with water and in need of repairs. The Capital Crescent Trail is unique and invaluable and must be preserved for all, including the future generations.

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #24 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/9/2013
First Name : Laura
Last Name : Lederman
Address : 3916 Underwood St
City : Chevy Chase
State : MD
Zip Code : 20815
Email Address : laura.lederman@gmail.com

Submission Content/Notes : I am writing to oppose the proposed light rail line along the Capital Crescent Trail.

- A.2
- C.1
- C.2
- C.3
- D.2
- E.8

What will happen if the Montgomery County succeeds in placing light rail along the trail?

1. It will render the Georgetown Branch of the Capital Crescent Trail (CCT) unsafe and unpleasant. Most of the CCT between Connecticut Avenue and Bethesda measures 66 wide or less, compared to a 100 foot-wide right of way elsewhere on the proposed route. The right of way narrows to just 32 feet at the entrance to the Bethesda tunnel under Wisconsin Avenue. If the proposed light rail is built, this section will be only 8 feet wide, unsafe for both runners and cyclists in an already crowded part of the trail.

2. It will provide an undeserved windfall to developers at the expense of our green space. The Chevy Chase Land Company advocates this project because it hopes to increase development density along Connecticut Avenue. This will further decrease public green space and increase traffic in an already heavily congested area.

3. It will miss an opportunity to mitigate the traffic nightmare along Wisconsin and Jones Bridge Road (JBR) because of the National Medical Center project under BRAC. For my family alone the destruction of the trail will mean my husband and son will have to commute by car, rather than by bicycle or foot. That is TWO additional cars on the road. MTA itself acknowledges that this \$2 billion project will not relieve traffic congestion.

4. It will destroy tree cover and green space and add more emissions than a Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) option. The state's Environmental Impact Statement confirms that the light rail option will result in the clear cutting of surrounding trees. In addition, the DEIS also states that the light rail option will produce higher CO2 emissions as compared to the BRT option. Finally, trains awaiting maintenance in the Woodmont east area will occupy the only grassy patch in downtown Bethesda!

There are precious few open green or public spaces in the Bethesda Chevy Chase area. Please preserve the Capital Crescent Trail as it is a unique and irreplaceable resource. Again, I oppose the light rail option for the Purple Line.

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #25 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/9/2013
First Name : Carter
Last Name : Davis
Address : 3322 Jones Bridge Court
City : Chevy Chase
State : MD
Zip Code : 20815
Email Address : seedabee@yahoo.com

Submission Content/Notes : I am the owner of a house directly adjacent to the proposed line between Jones Mill and Connecticut Ave. While I have a lot of concerns that are selfish (noise, vibrations, access to trail), I will not address those here. What I would like to address is the total loss of the existing mature tree canopy along the trail. The existing trees create a very park-like feel all along the trail, which is a rarity in an area so close to a major city. Many, many people enjoy this amenity, not just the ones backed up to it. To remove the canopy that has taken decades, if not centuries, to establish itself, is a real travesty, and loss to everyone. The even sadder part is that there is no plan to re-establish this tree canopy for future generations, so it will be a permanent loss. I think this fact should be looked at long and hard when deciding whether to ultimately approve the purple line.

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Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #26 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/9/2013
First Name : Barbara
Last Name : Ditzler
Address : 1225 Noyes Dr
City : Silver Spring
State : MD
Zip Code : 20910
Email Address : bditzle@yahoo.com

Submission Content/Notes : I am 100% for Purple Line and I commend MTA for redesigning for a better route. Reading that the Capital Crescent Trail may not continue all the way to downtown Silver Spring because of CSX right-of-way problems is not acceptable. There are other alternatives being proposed that must be considered. A full trail is one of the selling points of the PL for many people and a way must be found to implement a full trail.

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Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #27 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/9/2013
First Name : Elizabeth
Last Name : Spencer
Address : 8712 Susanna Lane
City : Chevy Chase
State : MD
Zip Code : 20815
Email Address : edsmsw@aol.com

Submission Content/Notes : The amount of noise this project could produce is shocking. We neighbors have been told over and over at meetings about the Purple Line that noise will not be a factor, and now to see this huge impact is terrible. This will ruin our neighborhood quality of life, not to mention our home values. This project should not move forward.

A.2

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Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #28 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/9/2013
First Name : Kim
Last Name : Marsh
Address : 3904 Manor Road
City : Chevy Chase
State : MD
Zip Code : 20815
Email Address : Kimmarsh1018@gmail.com

Submission Content/Notes : It is a great disappointment to read this FEIS document. Aside from ruining the quality and character of our little neighborhood, Chevy Chase Lake, we are now facing months and possibly years of midnight construction on Connecticut Avenue, more disruptive traffic congestion and an end to one of the most beautiful nature trails we have in Montgomery county. We feel that the years of objection and concern we have expressed around the purple line have fallen again and again on the deaf ears of the politicians and government staff who are paid to represent us.

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G.2

J.2

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #29 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/9/2013
First Name : Ashley
Last Name : Davis
Address : 3322 Jones Bridge Court
City : Chevy Chase
State : MD
Zip Code : 20815
Email Address : ashley_gibbs@hotmail.com

Submission Content/Notes : The Georgetown Branch / Capital Crescent Trail is a singularly unique feature used by countless residents in the Kensington, Garrett Park, Silver Spring, Lyttonsville, Chevy Chase, Bethesda and surrounding areas.

C.3

There are many aspects to the proposed light rail line that will have a deleterious impact to the surrounding communities. First, the harmful effects of the noise pollution cannot be underestimated. Even where they are below federal thresholds, the sustained exposure to noise can harm adults and children. Sounds generated from the high volume of passing trains, horns and the ongoing sounds generated from the electrical substations will erode the quality of day to day life for the adults and children in the impacted areas.

C.4

There are additional serious health concerns related to the exposure to unwanted sounds or noise. For example, in the July–August 2002 issue of the Archives of Environmental Health, a team of government and university researchers concluded that exposure to sound “acts as a stressor—activating physiological mechanisms that over time can produce adverse health effects.... noise may elevate systolic blood pressure, diastolic blood pressure, and heart rate, thus producing both acute and chronic health effects.”

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Even more serious is the impact unwanted sound, or noise, can have on the learning ability of children. A ground-breaking study was published in 1975 by AL Bronzaft entitled, "The effect of elevated train noise on reading ability." Environment and Behavior. 1975. The study compared reading scores between classrooms in the same school that were exposed and not exposed to railway noise. Poorer performance was noted on the noisy side with a 3-4 month delay compared to the quieter side.

The World Health Organization considered this and other corroborating studies to study children and noise across developmental categories (Fetus, Infant, Pre-school, Teenager, Youth). Their findings documented adverse effects across each age group. One finding of preschool children identified that "Effects of noise on cognitive development have been documented in preschool ages as well. Higher levels of noise at home are associated with decrements in cognitive development for age." In the September 1981 issue of the Journal of Environmental Psychology, an article looked across over 25 studies examining the effect of noise on children’s learning ability and "found the same thing to be true: noise can affect children’s learning.”

Chronic exposure to unwanted sounds or noise can also interrupt or delay sleep, moving sleep stages from deeper sleep to lighter sleep. Preventing or disturbing sleep over a short and long period of time is known to have negative health effects for adults and children. In children and adolescents, this can further negatively impact their growth and development.

In addition to noise pollution, there is also the environmental view. This trail is used extensively for walking and cycling to work, a truly green commuting option, as well as recreation for the many neighborhoods in the area. The trail makes cycling or walking to work a truly feasible and appealing option for the many working residents of these areas. The addition of the light rail will drastically reduce the number of access points to the trails, especially for those residents who live directly adjacent to the trail and are currently able to access the trail from their yards.

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Finally, the loss of the tree canopy has a negative impact both visually

E.11

and environmentally. Tree canopies play an important role in improving air and water quality along with the direct and indirect environmental and social benefits. Other cities, such as Baltimore, are moving in the opposite direction to preserve and expand tree canopy. In 2010, Baltimore enacted a sustainability plan to double the tree canopy, recognizing how vital the canopy is for the quality of life throughout the city's areas.

Ultimately, the value of the proposed line is vastly outweighed by the negative and harmful effects it will have on the many families and individuals living in the impacted communities.

Respectfully,

Ashley Davis
Resident of Chevy Chase, MD

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #30 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/10/2013
First Name : Allan
Last Name : Sutter
Address : 107 E Wayne Ave
City : Silver Spring
State : MD
Zip Code : 20901
Email Address : jsutter@rcn.com

Submission Content/Notes : There will be entrances to the underground section including the Manchester Ave Station where children and animals can enter the tunnel. What methods are employed to keep children and animals out of that area? What steps will be taken to protect the safety of children and animals that get into the tunnel?

D.5

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #31 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/10/2013
First Name : Glen
Last Name : Hutton
Address : 8615 Woodbrook lane
City : Chevy Chase
State : MD
Zip Code : 20815
Email Address : ghutton@faseb.org

Submission Content/Notes : I see in your announcement there are no links to the environmental study! I would like to see it to see what the EPA says. I don't really need it to tell me that my environment will change drastically for the worse. I live close to the trail and have lived there since 1963. The trees that will be removed and the added dirt and pollution in my neighborhood and at my house is a horror story. The sad thing is that the purple line will not help traffic congestion it will only increase it because its a developers dream come true. The Purple Line is a nightmare for single family homeowners along its path and only the greedy, the uninformed, and misguided are supporters.

D.2

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G

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #32 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/10/2013
First Name : Leon
Last Name : Calomiris
Address : 4408 JONES BRIDGE ROAD
City : BETHESDA
State : MD
Zip Code : 20814
Email Address : leospartiate@yahoo.com
Submission Content/Notes : You should scrap the whole project. Look at the ICC, and Silver Spring. I have lived on Jones Bridge Rd. for 20 years and I have opposed this project from day 1. Just a waste of taxpayer dollars.

A.2

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #33 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/11/2013
First Name : Eleanor
Last Name : McIntyre
Address : 9003 Glenville Rd.
City : Silver Spring
State : MD
Zip Code : 20901
Email Address : betsymacrn@aol.com

Submission Content/Notes : The purple line should NOT be built. It is such an expensive endeavor, will disrupt neighbors, and destroy homes/businesses. The noise pollution will be outrageous. It will be a tax burden for all Marylanders FOREVER. For a convenience of a few, all Marylanders would have to pay.STOP right now and do a bus route!

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K.3

K.4

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #34 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/11/2013
First Name : Mike
Last Name : Johnsen
Address : 7812 Takoma Ave
City : Takoma Park
State : MD
Zip Code : 20912
Email Address : mjohnsen@earthlink.net

Submission Content/Notes : A large part of what happens with transit is provided is that people switch from using private vehicles to using transit. However, in your safety impacts you ignore the impacts to safety from crashes, or, really, crash avoidance: does the preferred alternative save lives by removing passenger cars from the road? DOT's own research shows the crash rates for passenger cars to be much higher than transit: thus it should be fairly easy to calculate the number of crashes the transit option would prevent. This, by the way, is a huge benefit since the DOT values a life at over \$9 million. There are many questions you could have shed light upon concerning this issue. For example, are people less likely to drive intoxicated due to the transit option (the areas along the line do have a night-life component)? That would be nice to know. Since safety is part of DOT's mission, why is this omitted from analysis?

A.1

D.5

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #35 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/12/2013

First Name : Joshua

Last Name : Dowling

Address : 4513 Gregg Rd.

City : Brookeville

State : MD

Zip Code : 20833

Email Address : jotdowling@gmail.com

Submission Content/Notes : The purple line seems to be environmentally sound! I support this project as a way of further protecting the environment by reducing congestion and pollution.

A.1

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #36 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/12/2013
First Name : Carla and Morton
Last Name : Klevan
Address : 8711 Brierly Court
City : Chevy Chase
State : MD
Zip Code : 20815
Email Address : cklevan@verizon.net

Submission Content/Notes : My husband and I are homeowners for 40 years on Brierly Court, close to the Purple Line tracks, and frequent users of the trail where we walk several times a weeks between Jones Mill Road and downtown Bethesda. We are most concerned about the noise and vibration levels of the Purple Line, and how they will effect our daily lives. We would hope that this project will not be built until there are sufficient funds to incorporate state-of-the-art noise and vibration reduction controls in the design. We also question the need for loudspeaker announcements of trains at the various stations. This is a quiet suburban neighborhood, as you know, and the Purple Line and concomitant development represent a major change for those of us living here. We think it is incumbent on the FTA and MTA to take all available measures to insure that the impact of the rail line will be as positive as possible.

E.9

E.10

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #37 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/12/2013
First Name : Karen
Last Name : Cooper
Address : 416 Pershing Drive
City : Silver Sping
State : MD
Zip Code : 20910
Email Address : coolcoops@verizon.net

Submission Content/Notes : Ringing bells and PA announcements in the middle of residential neighborhoods 70 times a day is terrible. Try again to come up with a system that makes sense to those that are stuck living near the line. Electromic Reader boards are one idea. I can not support the FEIS as it stands now and am even considering withdrawing my long standing support of the whole line.

E.9

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #38 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/13/2013

First Name : Meg

Last Name : VanDeWeghe

State : MD

Email Address : meg.vandeweghe@gmail.com

Submission Content/Notes : The Purple Line will ruin too many neighborhoods with the destruction of trees, and with noise and vibrations. It also will cause significant traffic problems. If it is built, I will actively campaign against Martin O'Mally in any election!!!

D.2

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Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #39 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/13/2013
First Name : Jeff
Last Name : Rule
Address : 3906 Laird Place
City : Chevy Chase
State : MD
Zip Code : 20815
Email Address : jeffsrule@gmail.com

Submission Content/Notes : Noise: The Purple Line will be traveling through existing residential neighborhoods. The recent article in the Post sited that the trains, which come every 5 minutes, will be blowing a horn. How is this possibly compatible with residential neighborhoods and a service that runs until midnight?

E.9

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #40 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/13/2013

First Name : Jeff

Last Name : Rule

Address : 3906 Laird Place

City : Chevy Chase

State : MD

Zip Code : 20815

Email Address : jeffsrule@gmail.com

Submission Content/Notes : Electrical Substations: I've been unable to find any information on the 18 electrical substations that will need to be built. Will they be near neighborhoods? How loud will the "hum" be?

C.4

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #41 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/13/2013
First Name : Kristi
Last Name : Miller
Address : 8503 Lynwood Place
City : Chevy Chase
State : MD
Zip Code : 20815
Email Address : kristi.bigos@gmail.com

Submission Content/Notes : I'm really sad that the purple line is going to destroy the trail that runs along my neighborhood. I wish you could find a way to go down Jones Bridge Rd. instead of the trail. I can imagine that the environmental impact of this development is far worse than any impact evaluation results suggest. Having a train run past peoples' houses, and along a trail, which runs through a beautiful country club, is not ideal in any environment.

C.3

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #42 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/13/2013
First Name : Gurujeet
Last Name : Khalsa
Address : 2631 Colston Dr
City : Chevy Chase
State : MD
Zip Code : 20815
Email Address : gurujeet@live.com

Submission Content/Notes : I'm a regular user of the Georgetown Branch Trail. I enjoy it in all seasons walking and biking the 3 1/2 miles from my house to the heart of Bethesda. It is a treasure that cannot be replaced. My 'personal' environmental impact once the tree canopy is down is huge. Myself and thousands of others using the trail regularly on our bikes will no longer be able to go through the tunnel and will have to negotiate our bikes in traffic from Woodmont up to and across Wisconsin Avenue. This is an area that already has serious safety issues with pedestrians and automobiles. The Chevy Chase Lake station and the proposed redevelopment plan is going to bring way too much density to a current pleasant and settled residential neighborhood. The traffic along the major commuter corridors of E-W Hwy and Connecticut Ave which is already bad is going to get far worse with a station and redevelopment at Chevy Chase Lake. If this is the economic development being cited as a benefit, that is an idiotic justification. We are already well served in this area with shopping, entertainment, and recreation at Bethesda and Silver Spring and a major development around a station between the two is unneeded. So with a beautiful urban park destroyed, increased congestion, noise, vibration, safety issues, and overdevelopment I would say the environmental impact at the Bethesda end is highly negative. I sincerely hope that our elected representatives get the message and stop this foolish project.

- B.1
- C.3
- D.2
- D.3
- D.5
- E.2
- E.3
- E.4
- E.9
- E.10
- E.11

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #43 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/13/2013

First Name : Tom

Last Name : Forhan

Address : 7001 Westmoreland Ave

City : Takoma Park

State : MD

Zip Code : 20912

Email Address : tom.forhan@gmail.com

Submission Content/Notes : This is a very complex project, but overall believe a very serious and comprehensive analysis has been done, and I have no disagreements with the EIS.

A.1

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #44 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/13/2013

First Name : James

Last Name : Barnes

Address : 4611 Drexel Road

City : College Park

State : MD

Zip Code : 20740

Submission Content/Notes : I strongly support the Purple Line as proposed. I appreciate the efforts of the designers to respond to previous public comments. I look forward to construction actually starting.

A.1

J.1

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #45 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/13/2013
First Name : Janis
Last Name : Alcorn
Address : 3508 Woodbine St
City : Chevy Chase
State : MD
Zip Code : 20815
Email Address : janisalcorn@yahoo.com

Submission Content/Notes : I disagree with the need for this project. It will reduce the canopy of trees and other environmental services-- a cost that is not included in the assessment. It will increase noise pollution. Buses already carry people efficiently on this route, and they are not overcrowded. The major benefits will accrue to the property developers who will use this as an opportunity to profit from this federal investment.

B.1

E.4

E.9

E.11

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #46 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/14/2013

First Name : Vivian

Last Name : Ehrlich

State : MD

Email Address : ehrlichvivian@aol.com

Submission Content/Notes : I vote for the NO BUILD option. Projected ridership is overstated, noise disruption to neighborhoods is HUGE. (warning bells, vibration noises)

A.2

B.1

E.9

E.10

K.5

There are other reasonable alternatives for east-west transport in lower Montgomery County.

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #47 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/14/2013
First Name : Maureen
Last Name : Donnelly
Address : 5225 Pooks Hill Road
Apt./Suite No. : Ste 4A
City : Bethesda
State : MD
Zip Code : 20814
Email Address : Mldonnellymd@aol.com

Submission Content/Notes : This line is a terrible idea. It will ruin neighborhoods and lives. It hurts far more people than it will help. I believe that greed is the driving force. As a small child, growing up in a small town, my civic-minded parents would comment on projects such as this one ("Someone is going to get rich on this at the expense of others."; since it was a small town, they usually knew who.) I'm waiting to see (I'm also waiting in the the traffic of the mess that will be created!!!)

- A.2
- D.2
- E.2

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #48 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/14/2013
First Name : Mindy
Last Name : Flax
Address : 915 Glazewood Avenue
City : Takoma Park
State : MD
Zip Code : 20912
Email Address : czmichal@yahoo.com

Submission Content/Notes : I hope I've misunderstood the literature I received today. Are you seriously proposing to NARROW University Blvd from 3 lanes in each direction to 2??? The purple line may be great for people who already ride the metro, but I doubt it will reduce the cars on University Blvd during morning or evening commute. Please tell me I've misunderstood!

D.2

F.2

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #49 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/14/2013
First Name : Ken
Last Name : Woodard
Address : 3018 Ferndale St.
City : Kensington
State : MD
Zip Code : 20895
Email Address : woodard.ken@gmail.com

Submission Content/Notes : Destruction of the bike/pedestrian path between Bethesda and Silver Spring plus the absurd cost of construction outweigh whatever benefits this may offer. I oppose this project as a degradation of much needed bicycle and foot routes.

C.3

K.2

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #50 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/14/2013
First Name : Terri
Last Name : Woodard
Address : 3018 Ferndale Street
City : Kensington
State : MD
Zip Code : 20895
Email Address : twoodard@norwoodschool.org
Submission Content/Notes : With the destruction of the bike path from Silver Spring to Bethesda and the building of power stations in neighborhoods along the route the proposed plan has too many negative consequences.

C.3

C.4

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #51 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/14/2013
First Name : Jean
Last Name : Cavanaugh
Address : 9207 Worth Avenue
City : Silver Spring
State : MD
Zip Code : 20901
Email Address : jeancavanaugh@fastmail.fm

Submission Content/Notes : Just a quick note on an error: 7.2.6 on Dale Drive Station. This is actually located in the North and West Silver Spring Master Plan. Did staff actually read that plan in relation to the future station?
http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/community/plan_areas/silver_spring_takoma_park/master_plans/nw_ss/nw_ss_toc.shtm

E.2

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #52 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/15/2013
First Name : Mario
Last Name : Pascalev
State : MD
Email Address : Mario_Pascalev@yahoo.com

Submission Content/Notes : The FEIS revealed the falsehood of the initial claims about the low environmental impact of the Purple Line. It will be a lot noisier, will require the destruction of a lot more homes, businesses and mature trees. Additionally, it will save less time to commuters. Cyclists will need to carry their bikes across Wisconsin Ave and the walkers will need to forget about their beloved trail. The public discussion around FEIS also demonstrates that the communities (Takoma Park, Silver Spring and Bethesda) along the route oppose overwhelmingly the project. The only group that clearly benefits are the developers, who can't wait to build and profit from expensive multi-story condominium buildings around the stations. The politicians should hear the wake-up call of the FEIS and go back to express bus or No build alternatives. The resources that would be saved from hurting the communities and the environment could be used much better to repair the aging Red Line tunnels.

B.2

C.1

E.4

E.9

E.11

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #53 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/15/2013

First Name : Brian

Last Name : Stagg

City : Silver Spring

State : MD

Zip Code : 20910

Email Address : brian.stagg@gmail.com

Submission Content/Notes : The benefits of the Purple Line greatly outweigh the minimal environmental impacts. The reduction of automobile traffic and the possibility of infill development will improve air quality and make the quality of life in the region much better.

A.1

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #54 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/15/2013
First Name : Roger
Last Name : Paden
Address : 2209 Richland PL
City : Silver Spring
State : MD
Zip Code : 20910
Email Address : Rpaden@verizon.net

Submission Content/Notes : All these comments concern the area around the proposed Lyttonsville Station

C.3

(1) The area south of the Purple Line and west of Albert Stewart Ave. is listed as being acquired during the construction process, but I could not find any information on its ultimate fate. An open green space or a landscaped water retention area would make a nice amenity for the community and trail users.

F.4

(2) The Traction Power Station near Kansas Ave. is very close to three houses. Moving it to the other side of the Purple Line tracks would put it at a distance from those residences.

(3) The retaining walls along the south side of the line from Lyttonsville Place to the park could be designed to display art and information about the park. Landscaping should be used to help shield the parking structure/ rail yard from the trail.

(4) If vehicular access to the rail yard were to be changed to the west side the yard from the north side of the Lyttonsville station that area north of the station could be made into a useful public and commercial space.

(5) The trail from Bethesda to downtown Silver Spring needs to be continuous and uninterrupted.

(6) One maps show a new road running to the south of the trail from Albert Stewart Avenue to the present day landscaping supply yard. As there is currently very little traffic to the yard, rather than build that road, allow an at-grade access to that yard or make the road a dirt road (similar to the current access road. If that area is re-zoned for residential structures, the developer could gain access to it with a bridge over the Purple Line at no cost to the public.

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #55 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/15/2013
First Name : Angel
Last Name : Scott
Address : 6025 64th Avenue
City : Riverdale
State : MD
Zip Code : 20737
Email Address : arscot08@gmail.com

Submission Content/Notes : I think the purple line is great idea. There are two bus stop across from my home. If the bus stops will be displaced then a purple line stop should be added. The bus stops are used by multitudes of people from my condo/townhome complex and the apartment complex behind my condo/townhome complex. As a member of the Board of Directors of the Riverpark Condo Association, if you need our assistance or would like to provide details to our Condo Association please let me know. I will give you the contact info of our President.

A.1

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #56 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/16/2013

First Name : Ehrlich

Last Name : Vivian

State : MD

Email Address : ehrlichvivian@aol.com

Submission Content/Notes : Please, do not build the Purple Line. We, in Silver Spring, do not want to see electrical substations in our neighborhoods, nor do we want to hear bells, horns and wheel squeaks sounding.

A.2

C.4

E.9

What are you all thinking of?
There are alternative ways to improve the east-west transportation system in lower Mont. County.

But the Purple Line is NOT the way.

LEAVE SILVER SPRING ALONE!

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #57 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/16/2013
First Name : David
Last Name : Saltzman
Address : 4414 Maple Avenue
City : Bethesda
State : MD
Zip Code : 20814
Email Address : dsaltzman@turklaw.net

Submission Content/Notes : I have begun reviewing the FEIS and believe that while the report properly summarizes the support and opposition to the plan in the AA/DEIS section, the FEIS tends to dismiss the opposition and and validate the support.

C.3

K.3

K.4

Further, though the FEIS addresses bicycle and pedestrian impacts, the destruction of the existing, tree-lined Capital Crescent Trail GBT extension with a degraded trail hard up against a concrete wall is no substitution at all. Further, there is no funding for even this proposed trail.

I reserve the right to make further comment as I continue to review the DEIS.

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #58 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/16/2013
First Name : Stephen
Last Name : Bergman
Address : 701 Bonifant Street
City : Silver Spring
State : MD
Zip Code : 20910
Email Address : bluenoterecords@mac.com

Submission Content/Notes :

C.4

J.2

I am very concerned about the proposal to put a 60-foot humming electrical power substation on Wayne Avenue right in the middle of a residential neighborhood. Mr. Madden was recently quoted as saying this will have no health effects. That is very easy to say. I have no reason to believe that statement or that Mr. Madden cares one way or another. He wants to get this thing built. Furthermore, there was absolutely no mention of this power substation during any of the "community outreach" meetings where the project managers allegedly took into account concerns from the community. Councilmember Ervin said that she only became aware of the planned power substation in June. It is hard to believe that the planners were not aware of the need for these giant humming boxes when they initially met with us. Yet there was no mention of them. Sure seems like they wanted to get the project rolling, pretend to listen to our concerns and then drop this little bit of news on us once the project was a fait accompli. I am very upset about this. Mr. Madden has not been an honest broker throughout this process. He has never taken community outreach with us seriously. It was a means to an end. It appears to me that he simply wanted to check the community outreach box and move on. I will not forget how this was done. And I always vote.

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #59 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/16/2013
First Name : Adam
Last Name : Kuszak
Address : 2208 Washington Ave
Apt./Suite No. : 301
City : Silver Spring
State : MD
Zip Code : 20910
Email Address : akuszak@gmail.com

Submission Content/Notes : Although I support the idea of creating the purple line, I cannot support the planned route which will destroy considerable sections of the capital crescent and georgetown trails, displace residents and alter properties, and evict businesses. I will not support the completion of the purple line with the current mapping.

C.2

C.3

E.3

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #60 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/16/2013
First Name : Cynthia
Last Name : Green
Address : 5512 Westbard Avenue
City : Bethesda
State : MD
Zip Code : 20816
Email Address : cpgreen@verizon.net

Submission Content/Notes : I don't understand why the Purple Line is not designed to connect with Jones Bridge Road and to the Medical Center Metro. The Medical Center area has thousands of workers and insufficient parking. It just doesn't make sense to decimate the Capital Crescent Trail for a noisy, slow electric train that does not actually connect with the Bethesda Metro. The environment impact is very serious. And the Purple Line is likely to cost much more than the current estimate.

C.1

C.2

C.3

E.9

K.2

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #61 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/16/2013
First Name : Pierre
Last Name : MICHEL
Address : 8805 Altimont lane
City : Chevy Chase
State : MD
Zip Code : 20815
Email Address : pierre.michel@verizon.net

Submission Content/Notes : We are concerned about the noise made by the purpleline.

E.9

Are they studies evaluating the noise level (dB) at various distances and at different locations.
What measures will be taken to reduce the noise transmitted (special walls, speed limits in certain zones...)

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #62 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/16/2013
First Name : Ethan
Last Name : Goffman
Business/Agency/Association Name : Sierra Club Montgomery County Group
Address : 523 N Horners Ln
City : Rockville
State : MD
Zip Code : 20850
Email Address : ethan.goffman@maryland.sierraclub.org

Submission Content/Notes : The Montgomery County Sierra Club Group continues to support the preferred alternative to the Purple Line. We believe it will greatly reduce sprawl, reduce the number of car trips in the area, benefit the local and global environment, and help heal the regional east-west divide. We would particularly like to see development in the Langley Park area, including high quality jobs, to help support balanced growth.

A.1

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #63 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/16/2013

First Name : Sara

Last Name : Mazie

State : MD

Email Address : saramazie@aol.com

Submission Content/Notes : Plant new trees along the new bicycle path from Bethesda east.

E.11

I basically agree with the Purple Line using the old railroad bed from Bethesda to Lytonville. However, my understanding is that trees will need to be taken down during construction (seems reasonable) but that there are no plans to plant new ones. That seems wrong and very environmentally unfriendly. . I am already on the mailing list.

C.3

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #64 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/17/2013
First Name : Joanne
Last Name : Wall
State : MD
Email Address : Joanne.Wall@fcc.gov

Submission Content/Notes : I am writing against the Purple Line project particularly with respect to its extension along the Georgetown Branch Trail in Chevy Chase, MD. The project will cause an enormous negative impact on one of the few green areas remaining in the Chevy Chase area. Not only will the Purple Line cause the destruction of trees, introduce noise and vibration (from the movement of the trains), but it will undoubtedly dissuade people from biking and hiking along the trail in that area. Further, the Purple Line is sure to cause injuries to hikers and bikers. Rather than ease congestion, in the long run it is more than certain to create greater congestion. Whenever and wherever a subway station and line has been introduced in the metropolitan area, development and congestion have increased. The people who profit are the developers.

C.3

D.2

D.5

E.4

E.11

E.9

E.10

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #65 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/17/2013
First Name : Mark
Last Name : Clauss
Address : 7917 Sleaford Place
City : Bethesda
State : MD
Zip Code : 20814
Email Address : markclauss@yahoo.com

Submission Content/Notes : The public space that is being proposed for the new purple line is better served as green space for the community to enjoy. more and more people are walking or biking as commuters and taking away this safe trail option to put in more mass transit (when we have plenty of buses and other modes of public transit) will only make the problem worse.

C.3

furthermore, there is so little green space left in Montgomery county, that taking away the hiking trail will be quite detrimental to the quality of life in our area.

My son and daughter learned to ride their bikes on the trail that will be destroyed by the purple line, and use the trail to today to ride to school. I use the trail to ride to work 3 days out of 5.

We are firmly opposed to this project and feel that other options should be considered.

Thank you for your consideration. Mark, Sarah, Alexa and Jack Clauss

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #66 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/17/2013
First Name : Ana Maria
Last Name : Balfour
Address : 9802 Hill Street
City : Kensington
State : MD
Zip Code : 20895
Email Address : abal1550@aol.com

Submission Content/Notes : We are extremely concerned with the environmental impact that the Purple Line will create and the loss of the Trail that we use and enjoy so much. We are absolutely against it. Thank you.

A.2

C.3

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #68 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/17/2013

First Name : Thomas

Last Name : Flammia

Address : 604 Cloverfield Place

City : Silver Spring

State : MD

Zip Code : 20910

Email Address : tomeboy@gmail.com

Submission Content/Notes : Either bury the rail line, or bury the substations, preferably both. Don't kill my property value with your ridiculous plan.

C.4

E.4

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #69 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/17/2013
First Name : Janice
Last Name : Browne
Address : 809 Islington Street
City : Silver Spring
State : MD
Zip Code : 20910
Email Address : janicebro2@comcast.net

Submission Content/Notes : I've followed this project from the beginning and consider myself well informed and objective. My conclusion is that the costs simply outweigh the benefits. Costs and benefits in every sense of those words. Let's do the responsible and courageous thing for the citizens of Maryland and abandon it. It's not too late.

A.2

K.2

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #70 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/17/2013
First Name : Michael R.
Last Name : Marsh
City : Chevy Chase
State : MD
Email Address : mrmjersey@gmail.com

Submission Content/Notes : My family and I live in the Chevy Chase Hill's neighborhood to the west of Conn. Ave. and Manor Road – we were and are still against the Purple Line being construction on the Capital Crescent Trail. Our rational - not only will the Purple Line construction destroy the character of our current urban neighborhood (e.g., destroy all mature trees, wild animal sanctuaries, constant noise, potential damage to home foundations per vibrations, increased traffic and population in an already environmentally saturated and fragile neighborhood etc. ...) it will also take away the “only green space” for recreation that we have close to our neighborhood!

C.1

C.2

C.3

E.2

E.9

E.10

E.11

J.2

I was the President of our neighborhood association at the outset of the MTA's Purple Line “community input” stage some 8 years ago. I attended these meeting with great enthusiasm per representing my neighborhood, but soon came to the realization that these meeting were simply for the MTA and Governor to “check a box” before forcing this unwanted project down our neighborhood's main artery. I am very disillusioned by this entire process and lack of concern by the MTA senior representatives and our “elected” politicians. Indeed, I am especially disappointed by the incumbent County Counsel members that voted in favor of the Purple Line construction on the CC Trail (all) and for their overt lack of concern for the quality of life and environmental concerns of our neighborhood - their voters. My neighbors, family and I still wish that the Purple Line not be constructed on the Capital Crescent Trail! Alternatively, we ask you once again to please reconsider MTA's original alternative – by dedicating more buses on the existing roads.

Save a neighborhood, the trees and your re-elections!

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #73 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/17/2013
First Name : Sarah
Last Name : New
State : MD
Zip Code : 20814
Email Address : sarnew34@gmail.com

Submission Content/Notes : We need the purple line but DO NOT build it through the middle of downtown Bethesda (past the Landmark movie theater) on a portion of the Capitol Crescent Trail. It's dangerous for all pedestrians and will take away a much used and needed walking/bike path.

C.3

D.3

D.5

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #74 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/17/2013

First Name : Terri

Last Name : Andersen

State : MD

Email Address : terriand2000@yahoo.com

Submission Content/Notes : I vote do NOT do it, although my vote does not count and you all will do what you want to do no matter what I or my neighbors want.

A.2

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #75 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/17/2013
First Name : Sandy
Last Name : Barsky
State : MD
Email Address : Ganibar@hotmail.com

Submission Content/Notes : Costs seem to rise to those along all if not most of the by way. It seems the environment will suffer most, both through noise pollution and unseemly structures filling green spaces. Until I took a look at the Baltimore trolley I was not aware of how industrial and bereft of trees the right of way will be left after these lines are in place.

A.2

E.2

E.7

E.9

K.2

We need better mass transportation and realistic routes that help move drivers from cars to buses and trains, neither of which the purple line seems designed to achieve. Therefore given the cost to the many neighborhoods along its designed path I do not see this as a wise choice for how we improve our transportation model. The environmental cost is too great!

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #76 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/17/2013
First Name : Donald
Last Name : Tatum
Address : 1206 Clement Place
City : Silver Spring
State : MD
Zip Code : 20910
Email Address : donald.tatum@dc.gov
Submission Content/Notes : Good work to address legitimate concerns! Not everyone will be happy but that's true of any project of this size.

A.1

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #78 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/17/2013
First Name : Jordi
Last Name : Yeh
Address : 5219 BELVOIR DR
City : BETHESDA
State : MD
Zip Code : 20816
Email Address : jordiyeh@gmail.com

Submission Content/Notes : I believe that a successful implementation of the purple line needs to link the Bethesda metro (red) line with the purple line at the same level. I believe that building an underground station would provide more density to downtown Bethesda in the long run and more importantly keeping the tunnel open for runners, kids, and bicycle users.

C.2

The concept is simple, keep the section of the purple line underground where the dollar amount per sq/ft could potentially be highest for commercial / residential usage.

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #79 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/17/2013
First Name : Julia
Last Name : White
Address : 7705 Brookville Road
City : Chevy Chase
State : MD
Zip Code : 20815
Email Address : whitejs10s@gmail.com

Submission Content/Notes : The fact that Connecticut Avenue is not considered a key intersection is ridiculous. You need to take into account development anticipated due to the transit station and resulting traffic. That area is already at capacity. Also, the fact that your marketers had to resort to a child-targeted promotional brochure for the Purple Line is emblematic of how far out of control this project is already. If it were worth doing WMATA would be pushing it, and WMATA wants nothing to do with it. That should tell you something.

D.2

J.2

F.3

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #80 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/17/2013
First Name : Gregory
Last Name : Grinc
Address : 4117 Dannel Lane
City : Kensington
State : MD
Zip Code : 20895
Email Address : ggrinc@gmail.com

Submission Content/Notes : I believe the Purple Line is wasteful and ill-advised. It will involve massive cost over-runs and ruin beautiful green space currently enjoyed by county residents. The plan to run a light rail line in conjunction with a jogging/biking/walking trail is absurd and a political ploy by O'Malley and his developer contributors.

A.2

B.1

C.3

E.4

K.2

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #81 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/18/2013
First Name : Sharon
Last Name : Willig
Address : 4242 East West Hwy.
Apt./Suite No. : #303
City : Chevy Chase
State : MD
Zip Code : 20815
Email Address : swillig2@yahoo.com

Submission Content/Notes : I am against the Purple Line using the Crescent Trail as a link between Silver Spring and Bethesda. That trail boasts a green canopy, quiet oasis and recreation outlet for the neighboring communities. It is shameful that Montgomery County plans to sacrifice it. Existing roadways should be used for this project.

C.2

C.3

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #82 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/18/2013

First Name : Casey

Last Name : Brennan

Address : 1118 Lancaster Rd

City : Takoma Park

State : MD

Email Address : casey420brennan@yahoo.com

Submission Content/Notes : The purple line is a wonderful plan with my full backing. The need for smart development and alternatives to single car based transportation is well documented. I fully support the plan to build the Purple Line!

A.1

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #83 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/18/2013
First Name : J
Last Name : Bergal
State : MD
Email Address : jbspring1@yahoo.com

Submission Content/Notes : I live in the Seven Oaks area - only a block from Wayne Avenue. I - and many in my community - am completely opposed to running the trains above ground on Wayne. As you know, our neighborhood associations voted overwhelmingly against an above-ground train down Wayne, to no avail. It not only will change the character of our quiet, residential single-family home neighborhood, but it will create horrendous traffic problems and congestion, as well as continuous noise disturbance from the trains running down the tracks, the on-board announcements, the brakes squealing, the rumbling, etc. Can you imagine living in a house right on a street or near a street in which huge trains will be passing by that closely 70+ times a day? This is not a commercial area, it's a residential street. I also am totally opposed to putting the transformer station on Wayne - and to creating a stop at Dale Drive, which is totally unnecessary, given the number of people who will use it, and will only create more noise and traffic problems for the neighborhood.

C.2

C.4

D.2

E.2

E.9

E.10

F.1

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #84 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/18/2013
First Name : Karen
Last Name : Donahue
State : MD
Zip Code : 20901
Email Address : willsyandme@gmail.com

Submission Content/Notes : Quality of life in Montgomery County has been steadily deteriorating in the 23 years my family and I have lived here. Farmland and forests have been dicimated in order to build more and more housing/ housing complexes until the county is ready to explode with a population it can not handle. The state and county solution has consistently been to decimate more farmland and forest to build more roads or enlarge roads, which has not improved the situation much at all. The latest fiasco is the ICC which paved over 17 more miles of forest but has done nothing to relieve congestion, mainly because few people use it. Now the state and county want to destroy the one part of the county noted for its mature trees and bucolic neighborhoods, as if the devastation Pepco left behind wasn't enough. The Purple Line is just one more futile attempt to fix an unfixable problem. It won't work, so don't pave paradise to put up another pointless parking lot.

A.2

E.2

E.11

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #85 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/18/2013

First Name : Margaret

Last Name : Wang

State : MD

Email Address : margwang@aol.com

Submission Content/Notes : I would like to express general support for much-needed development of the Purple Line. It just makes so much sense for the future of this area.

A.1

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #86 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/18/2013
First Name : Dario
Last Name : Orellana
Business/Agency/Association Name : El Aguila Restaurant
Address : 8649 16th Street
City : Silver Spring
State : MD
Zip Code : 20910
Email Address : darioorellana@aol.com

Submission Content/Notes : I remain very concerned about the disruption the Purple Line will be causing to me personally, and to my business. I own a Salvadorian and tex-mex restaurant located in the Silver Spring Center which has been serving families in the community for over 14 years. I am convinced the construction of the Purple Line will permanently cause significant damage to my ability to stay in business. I would have to close my restaurant after 14 years of operations, my only source of income, and potentially relocate somewhere, and basically start over again. This will not be easy in this difficult economy. Not to mention my employees. I am not certain my employees would be able to follow me to a potential new location. I am not sure if my long-time customers would follow me to my new location. I am very concerned about the job losses in the shopping center as a whole, where there are 30 businesses, which are in the majority minority owned businesses that will be affected, resulting in a significant job loss, which will impact the employees and their families. To this day, I have not been told what the benefit of this project is for our community. For these reasons, I remain opposed to this project, and I remain opposed to the taking and closing of this large number of successful minority-owned businesses.

B.1

E.3

E.14

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #87 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/18/2013
First Name : May
Last Name : Breslow
Address : 8828 Brierly road
City : Chevy Chase
State : MD
Zip Code : 20815
Email Address : keslerpt@gmail.com

Submission Content/Notes : NONONONONONONO NO NO NO NO NO
5000 times NO for all the trees the purple line will destroy
5000 times NO for all the trees too small to be called trees that the purple line will destroy
200, 000 times NO for all the decibels of noise created by the power stations the screeching trains and the announcement
16 times NO for every mile of light rail used to deceive the public into thinking the light rail will take cars off the road BUT INSTEAD WILL CROWD THE STATIONS WITH CITIES AND TALL BUILDINGS and the roads with the cars of the 200 people per acre at every station they plan to house and
countless NO for all the money CC Land company has wasted on trying to make more money from destroying our beautiful peaceful neighborhood
2 billion NO s for the money being wasted on this deceitful project that has politicians believing they are doing something about traffic and noise and the environment
and
so many times NO saying loudly and clearly that I wont ever vote for anyone that has anything to do with promoting the purple line

Listen to us, the people who live here, who want to continue living here, who make the money that pays for our schools our children our roads ..
WE DONT WANT THE PURPLE LINE
NO!!!!

A.2

E.4

E.2

E.9

E.11

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #88 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/19/2013
First Name : Leonard
Last Name : Breslow
Address : 8828 Brierly Rd.
City : Chevy Chase
State : MD
Zip Code : 20815
Email Address : breslow@starpower.net
Submission Content/Notes : Don't build the Purple Line. It will destroy the community, cause congestion, destroy 5,000 trees.

A.2

D.2

E.2

E.11

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #89 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/19/2013

First Name : Peter

Last Name : Fendrick

State : MD

Email Address : p.sf@verizon.net

Submission Content/Notes : In densely settled urban and suburban areas, with streets, buildings, and cars packed together, the most valuable use of land is that given over to nature. Currently the trail stretching east from Bethesda toward Silver Spring has such a use. Here you can walk on the earth without looked left or right for oncoming traffic. You can hear the wind pulling at the trees above. You can enjoy the birds swooping from branch to branch. As a concept, the Purple Line is a good idea. But it should be built properly. Either spend the money to bury the Line under the trail. Or reroute the Line so it doesn't interfere with the trail.

C.2

C.3

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #90 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/19/2013

First Name : margaret

Last Name : scarff

State : MD

Email Address : mrscarff1@aol.com

Submission Content/Notes : I have lived in Bethesda for over 70 year's. This will not solve any problems. we need north/south, not east/west. that is were are traffic is.This will not help.look into who is making money off this project.ch ch land co. It will ruin the houses along Lynn Dr.as a realtor I am already seeing what is to come.

B.1

E.2

E.3

E.4

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #91 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/21/2013
First Name : Sasha
Last Name : Wyrick
Address : 9003 Linton street
City : Silver Spring
State : MD
Zip Code : 20901
Email Address : Sashawyrick@yahoo.com
Submission Content/Notes : This is an idea that will greatly benefit our entire metro area. Its good for people and it is good for the environment. Please make this happen.

A.1

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #92 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/21/2013
First Name : James
Last Name : Werner
Address : 1316 Leegate Road, NW
City : Washington
State : DC
Zip Code : 20012
Email Address : jim@wernerbird.com

Submission Content/Notes : This is an important project to complete, and will pose many challenges despite all of the efforts, hard work and challenges already addressed. Please continue to work through the details so it get built. My particular issue is the integration of bike trails (especially the MBT - Metropolitan branch Trail) along the purple line so one does not preempt the other. I can see you have already done a lot of good troubleshooting to try to minimize impacts and have addressed the significant issues. Keep up the good work so this gets done despite local NIMBY opposition.

A.1

D.3

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #93 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/23/2013

First Name : Helen

Last Name : DuPont

State : MD

Submission Content/Notes : September 17, 2013

Mr. Daniel Koenig
Federal Transit Administration
1990 K Street, NW, Suite 510
Washington, DC 20006-1178

Dear Mr. Koenig:

A.2

C.3

I am writing to you with regard to the impact on my community of the proposed Purple Line in Maryland. My husband and I moved to Susanna Lane in Chevy Chase in 1969. If you look at a map you will see it is a very short street of tract homes built in the 50's that dead ends into Rock Creek Park. What you may not see is that it is a vibrant, close multigenerational and multicultural community of supportive, engaged neighbors and friends. The street serves as the connector between the Capital Crescent and Rock Creek hiker biker trails, and this contributes to its being a particularly busy, lively and interactive place. The quality of life and sense of community on the street is very high and yet at night it remains a quiet place. When our windows are open we hear the chirp of insects, the bark of an occasional fox or the hoot of an owl.

Because the proposed Purple Line so obviously will affect my immediate neighborhood and neighbors, I have made a considerable effort to read both the environmental impact statement and the materials in the two books available at the library that contain the engineering drawings and plans for the entire project. I am not an engineer, environmental planner or construction manager and going through them and trying to cross reference the information from these three documents presented a huge challenge for me. I believe that the documents are not consistent in many details, but it is not my intention to comment on that. I now have a perspective on the whole project that the many neighborhood meetings I attended did not give me. I can see that the magnitude of disruption over the course of five, six or more years could be overwhelming all along the Line. However I spent most of my study time looking at the impact in my specific home area which is the location near Jones Mill Road. I believe the impact on this small area will be extraordinary.

D.3

D.2

G.1

Jones Mill Road already is a fragile traffic artery that backs up at rush hour and other times. The intersection with Jones Bridge Road involving the Capital Crescent Trail Susanna Lane and East and West Coquelin Terrace is the site of many accidents and near misses with heavy use by vehicles, commuter and recreational bikers and pedestrians. As a north south commuter alternative to Connecticut Avenue, when one road is congested the congestion increases on the other. Jones Mill also bears the burden of traffic resulting from east-west back ups on Jones Bridge Road. That has markedly increased since the relocation of Walter Reed to the Naval Medical Center under BRAC. The Jones Mill Road intersections will be directly impacted by the tunneling of the Purple line tracks. The grade and configuration adjustments to the intersections in that area could last as long as 5-6 years. Not only will the impact of the construction of the underpass affect Jones Mill Road, but so will the significant reduction in height of the large berm that

carries the trail across Rock Creek Park, the removal of the current large trestle and then the rebuilding of the berm and new construction of the bridge or bridges to carry the Purple Line trains and the trail across it.

That is a lot of construction over a long time.

G

G.1

G.2

A staging area for heavy equipment activities is planned just to the east of Jones Mill Road that also will increase the burden on that stretch of roadway. Beyond the impact of travel on Jones Mill Road, I shutter to think of the impact on the homes that border on the Purple Line during the construction process. There is mention of cranes, bulldozers, pile drivers, dump trucks and associated equipment that will be working 24/7 or 15/6 depending on what paragraph I read. There is no discussion of how the extreme dust, noise, and disruption of that activity will be mitigated for a period of many years. One can assume, however, that the quality of life in and the value of the adjacent properties will be very low during that time. This will extend not only to those properties that are directly contiguous, but also to those that are quite some distance away. The adjacent properties then will be left with raw land and perhaps an unsightly retaining wall. I do not find mention of any small landscaping to correct this problem.

C.3

With regard to the Capital Crescent Trail, I do not understand where the trail will be located or if it will exist at all during the construction process. I could not find any mention of the fate of that wonderful community resource during this time. I also have questions about its proposed design. There are discrepancies in the various documents regarding the access ramp at Jones Bridge Road. What is its design expected to be and how much private land will it require? Who is it for? The impact of this ramp on three adjacent homes will be considerable. I understand that locating it in Rock Creek Park has been considered and rejected because of environmental considerations, but I would argue that there also are considerations of the impact on the human environment with the current proposed location that should be considered. Is the MTA responsible only for the recommended design and the County responsible for its actual construction as Mr. Madden affirmed at one meeting I attended? Will Susanna Lane continue to be the connector between the Rock Creek and Capital Crescent Trails? Will the trail descend with the train under Jones Mill Road? What would such a configuration actually be like? Would it be safe? Unpleasant? I don't see those questions addressed in the documents.

E.9

Once the Purple Line finally is completed, I have further concerns. There is a persistent question of noise from the metal wheels on the metal tracks. At one community meeting Mr. Madden suggested that the noise might be heard easily and at an unpleasant level up to four blocks away. This would occur whenever the trains are ascending or descending from grade level, and whenever they go around a curve. At the Jones Mill Road crossing the trains will be ascending and descending from grade level on a very frequent basis. Just how bad will that noise be? Will outdoor living be unpleasant in the homes adjacent to or near the Purple Line? What about the noise level for those using the trail? There is mention of a train skirt that would mitigate this noise but little discussion of how much it would help. The trains are projected to run frequently; I would assume in some locations the noise would be particularly intrusive in what are now quiet residential settings.

C.3

I do not find any discussion of light pollution in these documents, though I recall some discussion about that subject during one of the community meetings. Will there be lights along the Capital Crescent Trail? On the Jones Mill Road access ramp to the trail? If so how bright will they be and how intrusive? What are the safety implications of a trail that is lighted or not? Will lights from the Purple line train be intrusive? I also do not find specific discussion of storm water amelioration at the Jones Mill Intersection or related to the new berm and trail. There has

been considerable run off behind the houses adjacent to the existing berm in the past that has been corrected to a large extent, but it its likely to recur with new construction.

D.3

With regard to the county's desire to become more pedestrian and bike friendly, with less dependence on the automobile with an increasingly younger population, the last has not happened yet. We still have an aging population, and older people are not as able to walk or bike to a destination that may be reached easily by younger people, nor are they as able to carry groceries, dry cleaning or other retail items home from the stores that no longer will have convenient, inexpensive parking. The catchment area for walkers around the stations and associated shopping with limited parking does not seem reasonable in a neighborhood such as ours which remains largely residential.

And fmally in the discussion of this project, there is no consideration of the current massive water problems on the Metro Red Line extending from Naval Medical to Bethesda requiring a projected major disruption of service for an extended period of time. Undoubtedly this will impact not only on traffic congestion, but also perhaps on the construction timeline of the Purple Line itself. Between the aging, failing, underfunded Metro, the questionable value of the Silver Line, the vastly underutilized and costly Intercounty Connector, and the mess at the Silver Spring Transit Center, one does not have much faith in the plans and projections related to yet another large and expensive transportation project in this region.

B.1

In conclusion, I do not think that the project benefits and the extraordinary cost of the Purple Line justify in any way the tremendous and potentially permanent disruption to the quality of life in my neighborhood and extrapolating from that, in locations all along the Purple Line, either during construction or after the project is complete. There is a great potential for urban blight to occur all along the line as residents and small

E.4

businesses that are unwilling to endure the years of noise and chaos choose instead to flee. Alternative routes to this plan were suggested at the beginning of this process, but never received serious consideration. At the time it was said this was because the alternatives did not meet the needs of the developers who would so clearly profit from the project.

E.2

Thank you for reading this very long letter and for your consideration of the concerns that I have raised.

Sincerely, Helen DuPont
Helen DuPont.pdf (2 mb)

Attachments :

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #94 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/23/2013
First Name : Stephen
Last Name : Potts
Address : 8501 Gavin Manor Court
City : Chevy Chase
State : MD
Zip Code : 20815

Submission Content/Notes : Our entire neighborhood is totally opposed to the Purple Line. We live in Chevy Chase Mews. Twelve townhouses in a development on Manor Rd. - the traffic on Conn. Ave is already terrible! Our nice small shopping center will be ruined - we all enjoy walking and bike riding on the path. We need quiet, peace and shade in our neighborhood. I believe an article in the paper recently proved we don't need a Purple Line - a cross town bus could achieve the same traffic without damage and expense. Please don't build it.

A.2

B.1

C.1

E.2

Mr. & Mrs. Stephen D. Potts

Attachments : Stephen Potts.pdf (55 kb)

8501 Gavin Manor Court
Cherry Chase, Maryland 20815

Rip

Sept

Our entire neighborhood is totally
opposed to the Purple Line.
We live in Cherry Chase Meadows -
12 townhouses in a development
on Manor Rd. - The traffic on Conn.
Ave is already terrible! - Our nice
small shopping center will be
ruined - We all enjoy walking
& Bike riding on the Path

We need quiet, peace and
shade in our neighborhoods
I believe an article in the
paper recently proved we don't
need a purple line - a cross town
Bus could achieve the same
traffic without damage &
expense. Please don't build
it - Mr. & Mrs. Stephen D. Potts

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #95 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/24/2013
First Name : Sandra
Last Name : Fair
Address : 411 Schuyler Road
City : Silver Spring
State : MD
Zip Code : 20910
Email Address : sandrarosefair@gmail.com

Submission Content/Notes : While I understand the need for the connectivity and increased public transportation options in our community, I feel strongly that there is no good way to put light rail through a residential neighborhood on a small road like Wayne Ave. In live a block away from Wayne and Dale, very near the downtown Silver Spring. In my opinion, the high cost, both financial and environmental, far outweigh the benefits for this route as planned. In cities to which I have travelled that have light rail, it runs down busy, wide main roads that are otherwise noisy and surrounded by commercial development. I would totally support light rail in my neighborhood on a main road, but cannot support turning Wayne Ave into a main road because of the impact to the otherwise quiet, residential neighborhood and to Sligo Creek. I know that a lot of time and money has been spent on this by MTA and I appreciate those efforts. I will need to move if this project goes forward on Wayne Ave as presently planned, because of the noise and long term impact to Sligo Creek.

C.2

E.2

E.9

E.12

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #96 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/26/2013
First Name : karen
Last Name : mathura
Address : Maple Ave.
City : Bethesda
State : MD
Zip Code : 20814
Email Address : kbyank@gmail.com

Submission Content/Notes : As a mother of 3 young kids (2, 5 & 7 years), we are on the Capital Crescent Trail EVERY DAY! We frequently ride our bikes or walk and explore the nature (we actually saw 2 young deer right behind the Bethesda Sport & Health Racket Club last week) that we come across. Although I support the vision of the connection b/t Montgomery & PG counties, I am vigorously opposed to running the Purple Line down the Capital Crescent Trail! This is a highly populated, nature-dense "sanctuary" that is truly cherished by my family and many others like me. I cringe at the thought of the deer, rabbits, squirrels and birds being "run out" and am terribly saddened by the devastation that the Purple Line will cause to the mature canopy of gorgeous, old trees and bushes. PLEASE reconsider demolishing this absolutely gorgeous sanctuary! I propose rapid metro transit along Jones Bridge or other route. PLEASE SAVE THE TRAIL and say NO to the PURPLE LINE.
Highest regards,

C.2

C.3

E.11

Karen Byank Mathura, RN, JD, CPHRM (& a proud mother of 3!!)

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #97 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/26/2013
First Name : Dottie
Last Name : Faust
Address : 7700 Old Georgetown Rd.,
Apt./Suite No. : 120
City : Bethesda
State : MD
Zip Code : 20814
Email Address : dottie.faust@longandfoster.com

Submission Content/Notes : We need the Purple Line, but not as planned. It should be delayed until a budget to build it underground as once proposed can be done. The noise and visual impact this will have is nothing short of ridiculous. This will cut through some densely populated neighborhoods and divide them in ways that make no sense. I would ask that the state review its budget priorities and make it a priority to make this an underground line. Thank you.

C.2

C.1

E.2

E.7

E.9

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #98 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/26/2013
First Name : Sharon
Last Name : Putterman
Address : 6603 Glenbrook Rd.
City : Chevy Chase
State : MD
Zip Code : 20815
Email Address : sputterman@comcast.net

Submission Content/Notes : This purple line saddens me, to take the trail and pave it and raise it and re route it all for a system that will take an hour to get to New Carrollton, it is faster to drive on the beltway to the Amtrak, I wish there was some possible way to STOP THIS!

A.2

B.1

C.3

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #99 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/26/2013
First Name : Jason
Last Name : Luttrell
City : Rockville
State : MD
Zip Code : 20850
Email Address : jasonluttrell@yahoo.com

Submission Content/Notes : I'm not completely opposed to the Purple Line, I just strongly disagree with the plans.

C.1

Maryland is on the "fast track" to becoming one of the ugliest states in the U.S. Just take a look around. There are cobwebs of wires hanging over every road, few of which are getting buried. Now, Maryland wants to create a large light rail system that adds more miles of overhead wires???

E.7

D.1

Not to mention it will mean that the Purple Line is incompatible with the rest of the Metrorail system. Who's idea was that???

E.3

And why take away hundreds of homes when you could just go underground, as it happens to run in DC? That way, you don't section off portions of towns or inhibit travel further? Why not just build onto the success of the Metro system instead?

J.2

It's just another example of how the people in power no longer represent the citizens of this state. In the end, you'll end up doing what you and the corporations you represent wanted to do all along, and this whole "citizen input" is merely a facade. God bless the United Corporations of America.

Jason Luttrell

Purple Line FEIS - RECORD #100 DETAIL

Comment Date : 9/27/2013
First Name : Michael
Last Name : Figueroa
Address : 2010 Hanover St.
City : Silver Spring
State : MD
Zip Code : 20910
Email Address : duneshack@gmail.com

Submission Content/Notes :

B.2

C.1

D.2

E.9

K.2

E.11

E.12

E.8

C.3

E.4

The Purple Line has been marketed to the public as an extension of MetroRail. This has been a greatly misleading marketing ploy which obscures the fact that riders will need to pay separate fares when connecting to and from MetroRail and the Purple Line. In addition most people who use public transportation are probably not aware that the Purple Line stations will not even physically connect to the Red, Blue or Orange Lines at any point, that it is not a part of MetroRail and will not be funded in any way, now or in the future, by the tri-state area's funding allocation for the Metro system. Another point is that development of the Purple Line concept has largely been driven by commercial development interests, not rational mass transit planning priorities. The large-scale commercial and residential developments which are being planned to cluster around Purple Line stations will result in more car traffic on already seriously congested roads, resulting in tens of thousands of additional cars accessing malls, offices and residences inside the Beltway. In addition, 80% of riders on the Purple Line are expected to be drawn from existing mass transit -- how does this fact justify the initial estimated price tag of \$2 billion, which is just that -- an initial estimate based on early designs, that will certainly balloon enormously as realistic project costs start to be factored in. This does not even consider the massive added costs of operation, maintenance, repairs, and possible added projects for noise abatement which affected communities certainly will push for. It is not at all clear from the FEIS that bus rapid transit (BRT) was given serious consideration as a much more flexible and cost-effective alternative. The FEIS even mentions that BRT offers much more flexibility than light rail, for example in maneuvering around unforeseen obstacles. BRT has been developed in a number of American and European cities with great success and minimal impact on the environment. It can offer all of the ease of use, comfort and even amenities such as wi-fi that will probably be more common in future public transit planning. With regard to environmental impact, the huge cost of destroying a long-standing urban forest (Georgetown Branch Trail) which is actually an extension of Rock Creek Park, has obviously not been calculated in to the impact assessment. The clear-cutting of over 5,000 mature trees over 20 acres would be an appalling environmental travesty for the DC area. The adverse impacts would include pollution of Rock Creek and the Chesapeake Bay due to erosion and the loss of stormwater runoff capture now provided by these trees, which also capture greenhouse gases; increased noise and air pollution (light rail runs on electricity which is generated by burning coal), and the loss of a hugely popular urban park which is also one of the country's busiest urban bicycle commuter routes and recreational areas. This urban park and hiker-biker trail which runs into the District of Columbia would be lost forever, a real tragedy in this age of ever-growing urban sprawl.

Please do not fund this boondoggle brainchild of commercial and real estate interests, masquerading as a viable mass transit solution. It is not a solution to getting more cars off the road, improving environmental quality, nor providing the mass-transit-using public with a cost-effective mode of transportation. Far better for the FTA to fund the Silver Line Project in Virginia, which is in fact a real part of the MetroRail system and which will result in less congestion over time along the presently traffic-choked I-66 corridor, and optimizes use of the existing road system. The MTA should go back to the drawing board and figure out how to rationally incorporate environmentally-friendly BRT into their mass transit plans instead of allowing the undue influence of commercial real estate developers to dictate Montgomery and Prince George's Counties' mass-transit priorities. Modernizing our MetroRail and MetroBus systems with increased funding support and oversight, extending Metro's operating hours for both buses and trains, and seriously committing to bus rapid transit solutions using hybrid and natural gas-powered vehicles is a much smarter, greener, time-saving

and cost-effective alternative for our transit future.
We want real mass transit solutions and a commitment to investing in and modernizing our existing mass transit system, not gimmicky proposals advanced by commercial interests that disregard the environment and the real needs of this metropolitan area.