



UPCOUNTY CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

August 23, 2013

The Honorable Isiah Leggett
Montgomery County Executive
101 Monroe Street
Rockville, Maryland 20850

Dear Mr. Leggett:

Thank you for attending and speaking at the Upcounty County Citizens Advisory Board's Capital Budget Forum held in Germantown on July 31, 2013, along with representatives of various county agencies for receiving input for on the FY 2015–2020 Capital Improvement Program (CIP). As usual, the forum was well attended by local residents who provided valuable input on into capital investments that are essential and critical to the Upcounty.

Based on information we received at the meeting and via email, and the Board's deliberations that followed, we submit the following CIP Priority recommendations for your consideration in the FY 2015–2020 CIP.

Transportation and Infrastructure

- Fund final design and construction of the MD 355 Frederick Road Bike Path bikeway project (CIP #501118)., The bikeway which will provide a much needed off-road connection between Clarksburg and Germantown and safe walk/bicycle access to schools as well as transit along MD 355. As a way to advance this important project, the County DOT must may also identify this project for the new Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funding, a federal program under MAP-21 that provides funding for projects considered as "alternatives" to traditional highway construction.
- Fund upgrades to the County's traffic management system to ensure that the latest technology is implemented and signals are optimized for a coordinated traffic flow. The Board requests urges that the County DOT coordinate this effort with local municipalities as well.

Schools

- Accelerate funding or at a minimum the County must not further delay much needed funding to modernize both Seneca Valley High School in Germantown and Damascus High School in Damascus.

Libraries

- Fund repairs and upgrades to the Germantown Library to expand restroom facilities at the library. With the expected completion of the Germantown Urban Park to the rear of the library, it is expected that the library will experience additional foot traffic for usage of its restrooms and other facilities. and it is therefore important that the library facility is physically capable to handle the expected additional crowd/patrons.

Community Facilities

- Accelerate/identify funding for capital improvements at the Avery Road Treatment Center.

Parks and Recreation

- Fund a feasibility/site selection study for a community center/indoor pool/aquatic center in the Poolesville Clarksburg area. This is a priority for the Clarksburg area since most eligible sites in Clarksburg are currently being purchased by private entities for commercial development.
- Fund a feasibility/site selection study for a community/senior center in the Poolesville area.

As matters of continued interest to the Upcounty area, the County must also champion the following initiatives:

- Assess the need/ and funding for enhanced mass transit and public transportation options such as the proposed Rapid Transit Vehicle (or RTV) System (CIP #501318) in the Upcounty area along MD 355 and continue to lobby urge MTA for to accelerate funding for the Corridor Cities Transitway (CCT) between Shady Grove and Clarksburg.
- Provide funding for community education on the CCT and the proposed RTV System.
- Explore options to extend the functionality of Metro's Red Line from Shady Grove to Frederick and beyond.
- Enhance/expand MARC service along the Brunswick line.
- Initiate a traffic assessment for the Shady Grove/Washingtonian/Rio area with expected additional residential/commercial/office density coming online.
- Ensure continued coordination between Snuffer School Road (CIP #501109) and Goshen Road south South (CIP# 501107) projects.
- Ensure Clarksburg infrastructure projects such as Stringtown Road and both ends of Snowden Farm Parkway are being built in a timely fashion.
- Complete the Midcounty Corridor Study.

The Upcounty Citizens Advisory Board and the citizens of the Upcounty region appreciate this opportunity to offer these recommendations.

Sincerely,



Cherian Eapen
Chair