



Patricia Burda, *Mayor*
Kathy Strom, *Vice Mayor*
Al Lang, *Secretary*
David Lublin, *Treasurer*
John Bickerman, *Community Liaison*

January 29, 2014

Mr. Michael Madden, Project Manager
Maryland Transit Administration
6 Saint Paul Street
Baltimore, MD 21202

Dear Mr. Madden: *Mike*

I write today on behalf of the Chevy Chase Town Council about three Purple Line issues of importance to our community.

As Mary Anne Hoffman, Chair of the Town's Mitigation Advisory Group (MAG), has conveyed to you, the Town would like to continue discussion of grade-separated crossing options at Lynn Drive. Toward that end, MAG asks:

- that MTA develop design options for a grade-separated crossing beneath the transitway *and the trail* that would not raise the tracks at all, or, at the very least, raise them substantially less than in MTA's previously proposed Pedestrian Underpass Options 1 and 2;
- that MTA lower the trail by seven or more feet inside the adjacent retaining wall to allow for a lower-elevation pedestrian underpass; and
- that MTA use the proposed underpasses at Sleaford Drive and Columbia Country Club as models for designing a tunnel-type underpass option, which the Town has long preferred.

As you know, we also are participating with 16 other Montgomery County communities on mitigation efforts, and we look forward to working with MTA to address the following concerns identified by the Coalition of Purple Line Neighbors.

- **Evergreen plantings/other measures to minimize visual intrusion** on residences adjacent to the transitway and where the elevated trail crosses over the transitway east of Elm Street Park.
- **Noise abatement for residences near Elm Street Park** that will be exposed to horn soundings required as trains approach the Bethesda station.

- **Containment of noise and pollutants from the ventilation tower** that will exhaust into or near Elm Street Park.
- **Undergrounding or sound-muffling the traction power substation** to be located near Pearl Street.
- **Timely notification to all property owners** to be affected by property takings, easements and temporary easements due to construction.
- **Community review** of contractors' plans for mitigating construction impact.

Finally, the Town of Chevy Chase seeks MTA's assurance that the 6' noise walls along the full length of the Town's border -- promised in months of discussion with MAG and shown on the "Typical Section of Georgetown Branch" in your March 18, 2013 Lynn Drive Connection presentation to the Town -- will be built. We ask that wall heights be clarified and specified in binding documents.

Sincerely,



Patricia Burda
Mayor

cc: Henry Kay