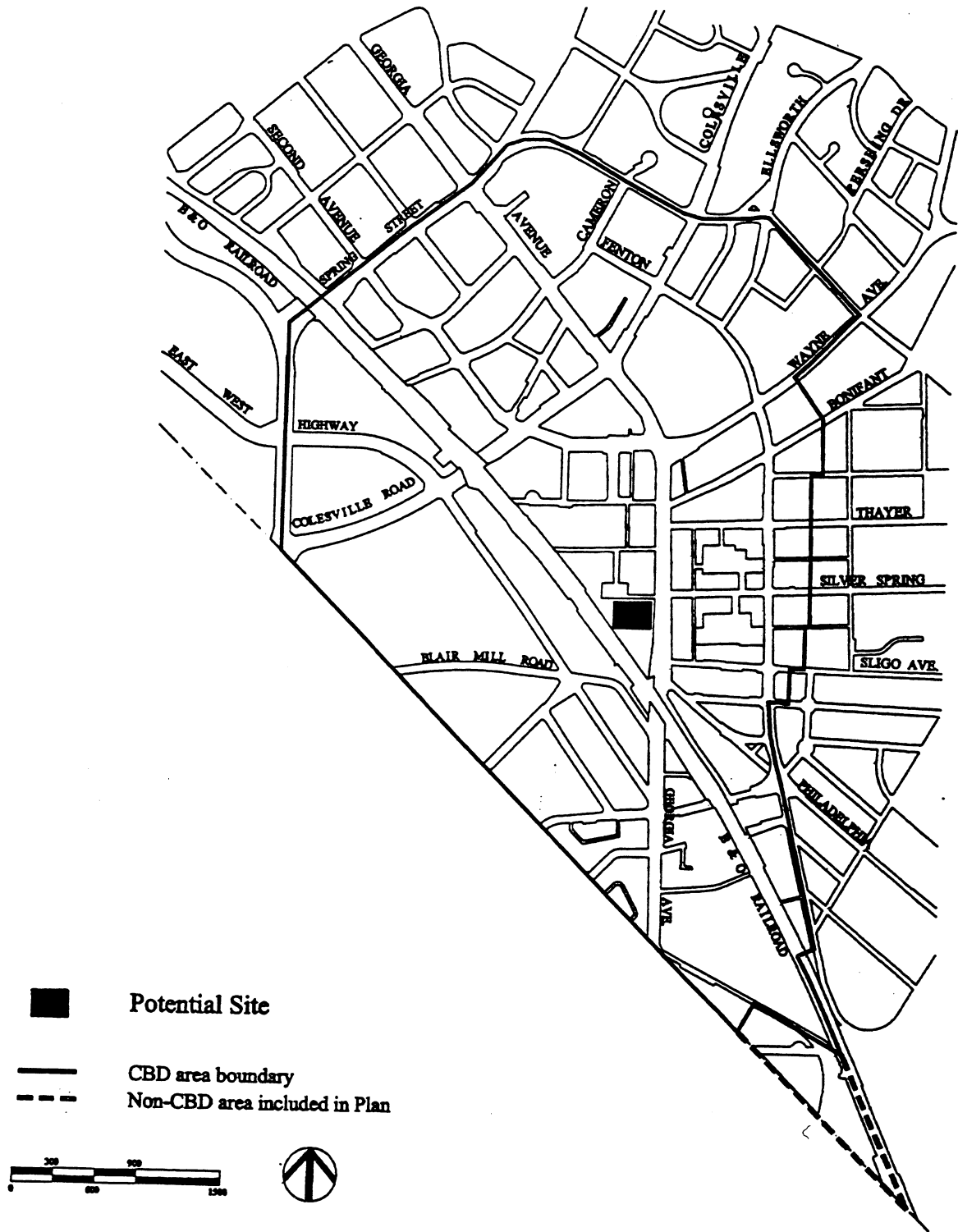


Silver Spring Fire Station

ATTACHMENT 8

Map 38 Potential Siting Opportunities for an Urban Fire Station





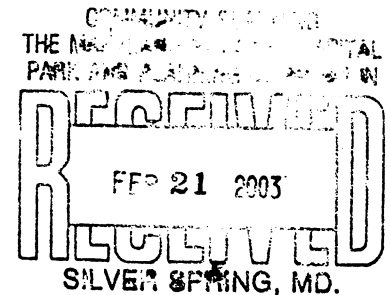
MARYLAND TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Governor • Michael S. Steele, Lt. Governor
Robert L. Flanagan, Secretary-designate • Trent M. Kittleman, Acting Secretary • Robert L. Smith, Administrator

February 14, 2003

Mr. Glenn Kreger
Team Leader
Community-Based Planning
Montgomery County Department of Park & Planning
8787 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3760



Dear Mr. Kreger:

The purpose of this letter is to provide comments of the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) regarding the Mandatory Referral application from the Montgomery County Department of Public Works and Transportation (DPW&T) for the proposed Silver Spring Fire Station. We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the current design plans for the new fire station facility relative to the proposed Purple Line project.

The MTA, working closely with the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA), Montgomery County and M-NCPPC, is continuing to develop design plans and the Final Environmental Impact Statement on the Bethesda to Silver Spring light rail line and trail. At the same time, work is just underway on General Plans and the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Silver Spring to New Carrollton segment of the Purple Line. As part of this effort, the MTA has coordinated through several meetings with DPW&T and their consultants to identify and resolve potential conflicts between the two projects.

Modifications to the design of each project have been agreed upon so that both the new Fire Station and the Purple Line can proceed on different timelines without future conflicts between them. These design modifications are summarized below and reflected in the latest plans for the Fire Station and the light rail line/trail (see attached plans):

Silver Spring Fire Station

- Relocation of storm drain and other facilities near the project interface and along the proposed parking lot 10' farther away from the proposed light rail tracks.
- Relocation of the storm drain pipes to the interior of the parking lot.

Bethesda to Silver Spring Segment

- Revision of design plans for the track crossover, tail track, profile and terminus so that the existing storm drain outlet pipe can be maintained. This will allow the Fire Station project to maintain their proposed grading plan, and will also provide the opportunity to maintain the easement planned for the Metropolitan Branch Trail adjacent to the fire station parking lot.
- The proposed Metropolitan Branch Trail parallel to this segment of the Purple Line will be at-grade at the beginning of the trail easement on the Fire Station property, since the tracks will be below grade, and will terminate near the northern edge of the property.
- The construction of the tail tracks below grade and associated retaining walls for the tail tracks will be carried out so as to avoid or at least minimize to the greatest extent possible any temporary impact to the northwest corner of the Fire Station parking lot.

Silver Spring to New Carrollton Segment

- Design plans for the underground future extension of the Purple Line east of Silver Spring will be developed such that the Fire Station structure will not be impacted.
- The proposed underground Purple Line extension to the east through the Fire Station site will be designed so as to minimize impact to the planned parking facilities. Although limits of cut-and-cover construction are not known at this time, efforts will be made to begin the tunnel section as close as possible towards the Transit Center in order to minimize impact on the Fire Station site. However, any temporary impact associated with cut-and-cover construction in this area will be limited to those parking spaces planned for the south and west end of the site.

In addition, plans for the Purple line project will not have any impacts to the Historic B & O Train Station.

Please contact me at 410-767-3694, if you have any questions or need additional information regarding this matter.

Sincerely,



Michael D. Madden
Project Manager
Office of Planning

Enclosures

cc: John Magarelli, WMATA
Greg Benz, PB
Scott Rose, RK&K

Ernie Baisden, MTA
Al R. Roshdieh, DPWT
Gary Erenrich, DPWT
James Stiles, DPWT



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DOWNTOWN SILVER SPRING URBAN DISTRICT

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Douglas M. Duncan
County Executive

Gary Stith
Director

December 19, 2002

Mr. Derick Berlage, Chairman
Montgomery County Planning Board
8787 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Mr. Berlage:

On November 21, 2002 the plans for the new Silver Spring Fire Station to be located on the former CSX property on Georgia Avenue next to the historic Silver Spring train station were presented to the Silver Spring Urban District Advisory Board. The Urban District staff will occupy one floor of this four-story building.

We note that the site plan is sensitive to the historic train station and will accommodate an area for a future park and right of way for a bike trail. The design of the building is compatible with the train station and will become an important part of built environment of downtown.

The combination of the fire station, police substation, and Silver Spring Urban District offices in a location with high visibility on Georgia Avenue will add to the feeling of security in Downtown.

The Silver Spring Urban District Advisory Board is in unanimous support of the plans for this facility which will be so important to the future of Downtown Silver Spring.

Sincerely

Bruce Lee
Chair

Happy Holidays!

Fire Station Resolution
Submitted by the Silver Spring Citizens Advisory Board CBD Committee
January 13, 2003

Whereas, the construction of a new fire station and police substation within the Silver Spring CBD will enhance the safety of the CBD;

Whereas, the Board considers the former B&O Railroad yard to be an appropriate location for the fire station/police sub-station;

Whereas, the current design of the station building is consistent with the revitalization of Silver Spring with the exception of current plans to gate the property;

Therefore, the Silver Spring Citizens Advisory Board recommends that the plan for the Silver Spring Fire-station and police substation be approved except for that part of the plan involving gating the property.

Motion (Sribnick, Meyer) The Silver Spring Citizens Advisory Board unanimously approved the plan for the Silver Spring Fire-station and police substation be approved except for that part of the plan involving gating the property.