## Prince George's County Local Development Council pgcldc@co.pg.md.us

November 10, 2016

The Honorable Rushern L. Baker, III Prince George's County Executive 14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

Dear County Executive Baker:

The Prince George's County Local Development Council (LDC) recently reviewed the draft MGM Traffic Management Plan. Traffic impacts remain the principal concern to residents in the communities surrounding this project. We are pleased to provide the following comments in accordance with our consultation role on the draft plan.

In the short term, we find the draft plan has been thoroughly thought out, coordinated and incorporates the flexibility to quickly adjust to changing conditions. We are pleased that the proposed plan is nimble and designed to accommodate varying traffic conditions associated with visitors to MGM as well as other events in and around National Harbor. We are also pleased that the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) is instituting bus service between National Harbor and Alexandria, Virginia, to accommodate an anticipated need for such service. In order to evaluate whether the plan is working to expeditiously move traffic in and out of National Harbor, as well as to examine impacts on the surrounding residential communities, we suggest a sixty-day and six month report on traffic management be provided to the LDC. The reports should include all costs incurred by Prince George's County to implement and operate the traffic management plan, particularly with regard to police overtime costs. The LDC's independent assessment of the reports will be submitted to the County Executive for review.

In the mid- and long-term, we believe the County and state should immediately undertake efforts to relieve traffic congestion in and around National Harbor by considering the following three recommendations.

- Consider options for road infrastructure improvements that will allow traffic to Tanger Outlets to directly enter or exit from Indian Head Hwy (Rt. 210). This potentially will relieve some of the congestion on Oxon Hill Rd.
- 2. Begin the process for extending WMATA's Yellow Metrorail line across the Woodrow Wilson Bridge (WWB), stopping at National Harbor and Joint Base Andrews, and connecting with the Green Metrorail line at Branch Ave. WMATA proposed a draft plan almost 20 years ago and the WWB was built to accommodate

The Hon. Rushern Baker November 10, 2016 Page 2

heavy rail in anticipation of eventually instituting Metrorail services. When completed, this service will benefit workers and patrons to MGM and National Harbor, as well as residents of the surrounding communities and Prince George's County, as a whole.

3. Appoint one or two members of the LDC's Public Safety and Transportation Subcommittee to serve as liaisons to the County's interagency MGM Traffic Management Plan working group. This will allow the LDC to be more proactive, rather than reactive, in its consultative role on MGM transportation matters.

The LDC appreciates the opportunity to comment on the draft MGM Traffic Management Plan. We are available at your convenience should you wish to further discuss these recommendations.

Sincerely,

Prince George's County Local Development Council (PGCLDC)

cc: LDC Members

Honorable C. Anthony Muse, Chairman