



Rushern L. Baker, III  
County Executive

# PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT

## OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

January 6, 2017

The Honorable C. Anthony Muse  
Chairman  
Prince George's County Local Development Council  
Miller Senate Office Building, Room 420  
11 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Chairman Muse:

Thank you for your November 14, 2016, correspondence regarding the Prince George's County Local Development Council's comments to the County's MGM Traffic Management Plan. Our formal submission to the Maryland Department of Transportation incorporated language that referenced your thoughtful suggestions. The State has responded with its formal acceptance and approval of the MGM Traffic Management Plan.

The County will work with the Prince George's County Local Development Council (PGCLDC) to provide briefings as to the status of MGM National Harbor transportation related activities, as well as the County's overall traffic management operations. In addition, with regard to the specific suggestions proffered by the PGCLDC, the County will ask the State to respond to the suggestion to create an additional access point to Maryland Route 210 from Tanger Outlets. However, considering the current traffic volume issues we are experiencing on Route 210, additional access points could in theory exacerbate those problems.

Prince George's County strongly agrees that Metrorail access to National Harbor and MGM is the ultimate solution, as is evidenced by inclusion of the expansion of the Yellow Line from Northern Virginia to Branch Avenue (via National Harbor), as well as advocacy of a Purple Line extended from New Carrollton to Virginia as priorities in the November 2, 2016, joint signature letter with the County Council to Maryland Transportation Secretary Rahm. However, we also know that the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) is engaged in an aggressive program exclusively focused on improving safety and restoring confidence in the existing system. In the short term, this means that they are not likely to be receptive to a serious discussion about expansion. Although there may be delay, it is necessary as we recognize that restoring reliability and quality to the service will significantly improve the chances of getting rail to National Harbor. We will continue to advocate for this project and our support is referenced in the annual transportation priorities letter that has been submitted to the State.

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While the County's interagency MGM Traffic Management Plan working group has now completed its primary task, we will work with the PGCLDC to ensure you are engaged and kept informed of our local traffic management operations and equally that we benefit from the perspective afforded by the membership. Thank you again for your time, service and our recommendations specifically, on the County's MGM Traffic Management Plan.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rushern L. Baker, III". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and a long horizontal stroke.

Rushern L. Baker, III  
County Executive

cc: PGCLDC Members