

Pathways to Opportunity

A Community Development Agreement for the Purple Line Corridor

WHEREAS, the Maryland Purple Line project—a 16-mile, 21 station, light rail transit system between New Carrollton in Prince George’s County and Bethesda in Montgomery County—represents a historically significant community and economic development investment;

WHEREAS, the Purple Line will create temporary and permanent jobs, stimulate regional economic growth, strengthen communities, provide opportunities for economic empowerment, increase housing options, and produce a healthy and attractive physical environment;

WHEREAS, the Purple Line will provide new transportation options and enhance mobility in a highly congested region;

WHEREAS, the Purple Line presents opportunities to replace aging infrastructure, foster improvements in public health, and address issues of social justice in new and innovative ways;

WHEREAS, the Purple Line has the potential to benefit current and future residents, workers, businesses and property owners in Montgomery County, Prince George’s County, the State of Maryland and the entire Washington metropolitan region;

WHEREAS, the Purple Line runs the risk of adversely displacing existing low and middle income residents and small businesses if policies and programs are not put in place;

WHEREAS, successfully capturing all of these benefits will require local governments, civic, community, business and anchor institutions to collaborate in unprecedented ways;

NOW THEREFORE, although the parties to this Community Development Agreement acknowledge that this Agreement imposes no legally binding obligations on any party, this Agreement represents a strong commitment of the parties to leverage this major transit investment to create a place of opportunity for all who live, work and invest in the corridor through the collective pursuit of the following goals:

- **Diverse, locally established businesses prosper both during and after the construction period.**
- **Workers in the corridor are well-trained, grow in number, and are well-matched with employers in skills and location.**
- **Housing opportunities are available for people of all incomes in communities throughout the corridor, especially current low, middle-income, and transit-dependent residents.**
- **Vibrant and sustainable communities enhance health, culture, and a sense of place.**

Toward these ends, we the undersigned pledge to pursue and annually review progress toward the goals, strategies, action items and indicators set out in the “Pathways to Opportunity: Purple Line Corridor Action Plan” developed by residents, government, business, philanthropic, community and academic organizations along the Purple Line Corridor over a multi-year period.

Signatories to the Agreement

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Rushern Baker, County Executive
Prince George's County, Maryland

Isiah Leggett, County Executive
Montgomery County, Maryland

Wallace Loh, President
University of Maryland

Gerrit Knaap, Executive Director
National Center for Smart Growth
University of Maryland
Host for the Purple Line Corridor Coalition

V. Clarence Joyner, Jr, Chair
Prince George's County Planning Commission
Maryland National-Capital Park and Planning
Commission

Casey Anderson, Chair
Montgomery County Planning Commission
Maryland National-Capital Park and Planning
Commission

Gustavo Torres, President and CEO
CASA
Host for the Fair Development Coalition

David Bowers, Vice President and
Mid-Atlantic Market Leader
Enterprise Community Partners, Inc.

The signatories above represent organizations on the PLCC leadership team that have helped lead the process to create the Community Development Agreement and expect to have a significant implementation role, along with numerous other collaborating organizations.

Endorsements

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Municipalities*

Mayor Patrick Wojahn, City of College Park

City of Takoma Park

Town of University Park

Organizations*

Anacostia Trails Heritage Area Inc.

CKAR (Central Kenilworth Avenue Revitalization Community Development Corporation)

City First Enterprises

Coalition for Smarter Growth

CHEER (Community Health & Empowerment through Education & Research)

Housing Initiative Partnership, Inc.

Maryland Building Industry Association

Maryland Center on Economic Policy

Montgomery Housing Partnership, Inc.

Prince George's Advocates for Community-Based Transit

Purple Line NOW

Purple Rail Alliance

Safe Silver Spring

Social Action Committee of Paint Branch

*Numerous other endorsements are in the works.