



Maryland Department of Transportation
The Secretary's Office

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James T. Smith, Jr.
Secretary

April 11, 2014

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

Ms. Francoise M. Carrier
Chair
Montgomery County Planning Board
8787 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring MD 20910

Dear Ms. Carrier:

Thank you for your April 1, 2014 letter that forwarded the comments of the Montgomery County Planning Board regarding the Maryland National Capital Purple Line. Over the years, the Board has been a consistent supporter of the Purple Line and provided thoughtful comments to the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) at every stage of project development. With the Federal Transit Administration's recommendation of a Full Funding Grant Agreement for the Purple Line, we are on the threshold of seeing this long-sought project under construction.

Many of the detailed recommendations included in your letter are consistent with the efforts of the MTA and State Highway Administration (SHA) to ensure the Purple Line is well integrated with communities along the route. The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) agencies understand they must carefully consider all modes of travel, including the safe passage of pedestrians and bicyclists to and from Purple Line stations, in the final design and construction of the project. Similarly, the MTA well understands the State's goal of a healthy Chesapeake Bay and will meet or exceed storm water management requirements for the project. It is my expectation that the MTA and Concessionaire will work closely with Planning Board staff to identify suitable on- and off-site locations for runoff treatment.

As you correctly note, the recommendations of the Planning Board require close coordination among State and local agencies. It is my understanding the MTA committed to establish a multi-agency working group to address many of the Board's specific recommendations during final design and construction, and once a Concessionaire is selected. I am confident this close coordination will result in a high-quality Purple Line of which we can all be proud.

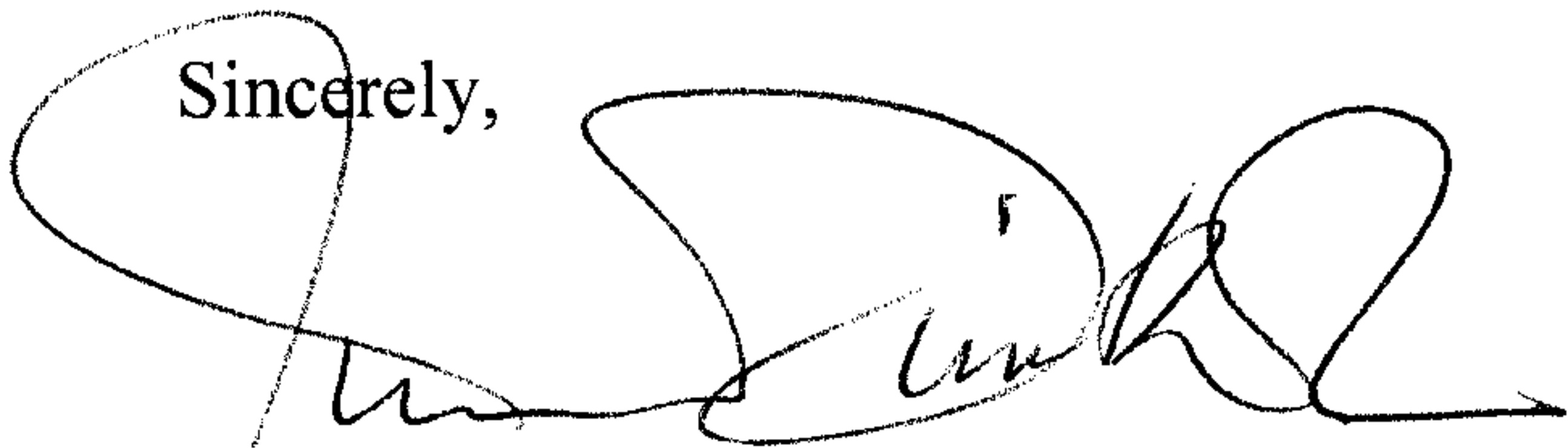
Direct coordination with Planning Board staff should continue to occur through Mr. Michael Madden, MTA Purple Line Planning Manager (mmadden@mta.maryland.gov), and Mr. Jeff Folden, Purple Line Liaison for the SHA (jfolden@sha.state.md.us). You are welcome to continue sharing the Planning Board's comments and recommendations with my office as well.

My telephone number is 410-865-1000
Toll Free Number 1-888-713-1414 TTY Users Call Via MD Relay
7201 Corporate Center Drive, Hanover, Maryland 21076

Ms. Francoise M. Carrier
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Thank you, again, for your letter and your continued support for the Purple Line project. If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Henry Kay, MTA Executive Director for Transit Development and Delivery, at hkay@mta.maryland.gov or by phone at 443-451-3721. Mr. Kay will be happy to assist you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James T. Smith, Jr.", written over a large, loopy flourish.

James T. Smith, Jr.
Secretary

cc: Mr. Henry Kay, Executive Director, Transit Development and Delivery, MTA
Mr. Jamie Kendrick, Deputy Executive Director, Transit Development
and Delivery, MTA
Mr. Robert L. Smith, Administrator, MTA