

June 9, 2015

Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake  
100 Holliday Street, Room 250  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Dear Mayor Rawlings-Blake,

As residents, families, investors, and other stakeholders in South Baltimore, we are gravely concerned by the proposal to eliminate the Charm City Circulator's Banner Route. The Banner Route is crucial for connecting city residents and tourists to the Inner Harbor, South Baltimore businesses, sporting events, cultural attractions, and historic sites. This bus service helps make downtown Baltimore accessible and is a critical component to attracting and retaining young professionals, families, and businesses in urban areas faced with chronic parking and traffic issues. Its loss would have a profound impact on important quality of life factors for our residents, and stands in direct opposition to the stated goal of bringing 10,000 new families into Baltimore.

The Banner Route helps support local businesses, allowing employers to attract larger workforces and clientele; frames our city as eco-friendly by providing public transportation; and provides Baltimore with the freedom and opportunity to make the most out of our city. Additionally:

- Residents have come to depend on the reliability of the Circulator to commute to work.
- Students from Francis Scott Key use it to get home from school safely, and to take field trips to area attractions that would otherwise be cost-prohibitive.
- Seniors depend on the Circulator to access grocery stores and medical care.
- Area cultural attractions rely on the Circulator to bring tourists to their sites.
- Local business owners are reliant on the bus to get tourists and residents alike to their locations in order to patronize their restaurants and shops.

As the peninsula continues to undergo a rapid expansion in residential and commercial development, there will be even more increased demand for reliable public transportation to and from the city center. This year, Locust Point alone has seen nearly 400 announced new

residential units underway and 500 new professional jobs being added, not to mention significant development in the rest of the peninsula. Furthermore, the geographic nature of the peninsula itself imposes hard constraints on ingress/egress points, road capacity, and parking availability that most of the city grid doesn't experience. The peninsula has also been historically underserved by public transportation relative to other areas of the city that are not at risk of losing Circulator routes. This is not the time to cut transportation services to this growing area.

We respectfully ask that you please reconsider taking action that will reduce public transportation to South Baltimore and Locust Point. Per the Department of Transportation report, changes to the Banner Route were not modeled. We believe that there are several alternatives to the current proposal and we request an opportunity to discuss them with you further.

Sincerely,



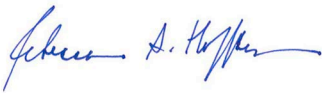
Greg Sileo  
Locust Point Civic Assoc.



John G. Paré Jr.  
Riverside Community Assoc.



Janan Broadbent  
Key Highway Community Assoc.



Rebecca A. Hoffberger  
American Visionary  
Art Museum



Anita Kassof  
Baltimore Museum of Industry



Lisa Hansen  
Friends of Fort Mchenry



Marina Anglim  
Francis Scott Key PTO



Mark Sapperstein  
MCS Fort Ave



Scott Plank  
War Horse Development



Eric Turner  
Turner Development



Thomas S. Bozzuto Jr.  
The Bozzuto Group



Daniel Goodier  
Goodier Property Group



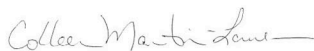
Brad Dickerson  
Under Armour



Peter O'Malley  
ASR Group / Domino Sugar



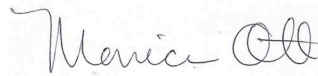
Kent Krabbe  
Maryland Auto Insurance Fund



Colleen Martin-Lauer  
Martin-Lauer Associates



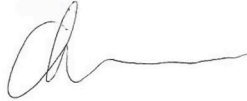
Nick Karvounis  
Southside Diner



Monica Ott  
BambooMoves Yoga



Veronica Flynn  
In Like Flynn Tavern



Chris Allison  
JR's Bar & Grill



Kim Gardner  
LP Steamers



Mike Wainwright  
Silo.5%



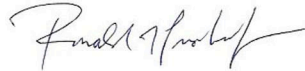
Matthew Earl  
World of Beer



Daniel Macater  
Hull Street Blues Cafe



Billy Hughes  
Barracudas Tavern



Ronald Prochoren  
City Limits Sports Bar

cc: William M. Johnson  
Kaliopé Parthemos  
Andrew Smullian  
William H. Cole  
Council President Jack Young  
Councilman Eric Costello