



COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
1350 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, SUITE 106
WASHINGTON, DC 20004

January 26, 2018

JACK EVANS
Councilmember, Ward 2
Chair, Committee on Finance and Revenue

Office (202) 724-8058
Fax (202) 724-8023
jackevans@dccouncil.us

Wayne Rogers
Chairman, & CEO
Baltimore Washington Rapid Rail
6 South Gay Street
Baltimore, MD 21202

Dear Mr. Rogers:

I write to reiterate my long-standing support for an SCMaglev project in the Baltimore-Washington Metropolitan Area. As a Washington, DC city council member and the Chairman of the WMATA Board of Directors, this issue is particularly important to me and I believe this project could be the solution to many current concerns in the region.

The Northeast Corridor is already home to 51 million residents, with a projected increase of 7 million by 2040 and an expected 115% increase in intercity rail travel. With the major traffic and congestion issues we already face, leading to exceedingly long commutes and a decreased quality of life for our residents, we need to develop a long-term solution to get cars off the road and bring newer, faster transportation options to our communities.

We are working to update and upgrade the current rail system, but it cannot stand alone. To meet the needs of the public and maintain a competitive edge in the international economy, the region must do something new and different. Baltimore Washington Rapid Rail's plan to bring the world's fastest and safest train to our residents would do just that.

In addition to bringing more people to a wider variety of jobs, the project itself will lead to an estimated 2,500 jobs in Washington, DC alone, even after the construction is complete, as well as a projected increase of \$24 million annually in GDP for Washington, DC.

The benefits of this project cannot be ignored, and we should look at it as a great opportunity to strengthen the connection between Washington, DC and Baltimore and allow our region to shine on the world's stage and bring us to the forefront of transportation in the United States. It's a win-win-win for our businesses, our people and our economy.

Thank you for your consideration and allowing me the opportunity to share my opinion.

Sincerely,

Jack Evans
Councilmember, Ward 2