



Destination DC  
901 7<sup>th</sup> Street NW, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, DC 20001  
[washington.org](http://www.washington.org)

April 8, 2021  
Wayne Rogers  
Chairman & CEO  
Baltimore Washington Rapid Rail  
6 South Gay Street  
Baltimore, MD 21202

Dear Mr. Rogers,

I am writing on behalf of Destination DC, the official destination marketing organization for Washington, DC, to offer support for the development of the SCMaglev Project from Baltimore to Washington, DC. Baltimore Washington Rapid Rail's project is an exciting opportunity for our region to be home to one of the fastest, safest trains in the world. The SCMaglev project has great potential to encourage economic development in Washington, DC and create crucial jobs.

As a long-standing community partner, Destination DC serves as the lead organization to successfully manage and market Washington, DC as a premier global convention, tourism, and special events destination, with special emphasis on the arts, cultural and historical communities. The SCMaglev project will help our community achieve these goals in the District of Columbia and the Baltimore-Washington region, and further our goal to create local economic development through tourism.

It is important that we are working in collaboration to find solutions to problems that affect our competitiveness and viability as a region. There are concerns with our area's current transportation system and outdated infrastructure. The Northeast Corridor is the nation's densest and most economically productive, and the trip between Baltimore and Washington, DC is congested and one of the most frequently traveled segments of the NEC. Without addressing the infrastructure, the problem will only get worse.

The SCMaglev project will be a game-changer for the region. With only a 15-minute train ride standing between Baltimore and Washington DC, businesses and employees will have more options. Residents of both cities will have more opportunities to visit for leisure or attend a conference or event. When the SCMaglev service is ultimately extended to New York, one of DC's top domestic visitor markets, the opportunities for locals and businesses could be life-changing, redefining the possibilities for business and leisure travel and supporting the local economy through tourism. And unlike other passenger rail systems, the SCMaglev project will require no taxpayer subsidies -- a win-win for the District and the surrounding communities. I urge you to support this project and bring about this much needed change to our region. Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Elliott L. Ferguson, II".

Elliott L. Ferguson, II  
President and CEO  
Destination DC