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LOCAL LEADERS JOIN SUPPORT TO BRING HIGH-SPEED RAIL TO BALTIMORE AND TO THE NORTHEAST CORRIDOR

Advocates from business, clergy, and community press for superconducting maglev in Baltimore

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND – Northeast Maglev, promoter of the proposed Superconducting Maglev Project (SCMAGLEV Project), today held a press conference where ardent community support was expressed for the high-speed rail project. Participating with Northeast Maglev was the Greater Baltimore Chapter of the National Action Network, the Greater Baltimore Black Chamber of Commerce, the Ministers Conference Empowerment Center CDC, and the Baltimore-DC Metro Building and Construction Trades Council.

The SCMAGLEV Project is estimated to create 74,000 job years related to construction efforts in Maryland, increase regional mobility while reducing air emissions due to decreased vehicle miles traveled, and disperse billions in employee earnings. A [Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Plan](#) will ensure the project meets goals for communities of color, women, MBEs and WBEs.

“The developer’s commitment to using union labor on this project will help ensure local residents benefit from this massive undertaking,” said Jermaine Jones, Baltimore Director of the Baltimore-DC Metro Building Trades Council. “Our current and new members are ready to bring the fastest train in the world to the Northeast Corridor – and the good wages and benefits attached to these jobs will empower our members and their families for years to come.”

Anticipated growth to GDP includes \$22.5 billion nationwide from construction and \$594 million annually after opening.

“This project stands to jumpstart economic growth and expand the middle class in this region,” said Larry Young, Chairman of the Greater Baltimore Chapter of the National Action Network. “We cannot overstate the importance of expanding access for Black and brown residents and business owners to participate in this multi-billion-dollar project. As a state-of-the-art infrastructure investment, the SCMAGLEV train will elevate Baltimore to a level on par with other major global metro hubs. Our organization believes that Baltimore needs the Maglev, the sooner the better.”

Baltimore-area leadership has publicly expressed their support for the project. SCMAGLEV will expand Baltimore’s footprint throughout the Northeast Corridor as the project progresses into Philadelphia, New York, and the surrounding region. The SCMAGLEV Project also stands to place Baltimore at the technological forefront within the global high-speed rail industry.

“The effects of the pandemic are apparent in our congregations. We support projects like the SCMAGLEV that will bring stable, well-paying jobs and a brighter future for communities of color,” said President Emeritus of the Ministers Conference of Baltimore and Vicinity Rev. Dr. John Lunn.

NORTHEAST MAGLEV

Recent polling from Lake Research Partners, a leading national public opinion research firm, revealed commanding levels of support for the construction and operation of a high-speed maglev train system between Washington, DC and Baltimore, MD with a stop at BWI Airport.

“We knew that we would need widespread public support – especially in local communities within the region – to bring a project of this scale to fruition. That said, recent polling demonstrated that 72% of Baltimore residents are in favor of the SCMAGLEV Project and only 13% are in opposition – more than a 5 to 1 margin – irrespective of party lines,” said Wayne Rogers, Chairman and CEO of Northeast Maglev. “Furthermore, more than two-thirds of Prince George’s and Anne Arundel County voters support the project. It’s clear that people are realizing the great benefits this project will bring.”

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The SCMAGLEV (superconducting magnetic levitation) Project, is a proposed high-speed rail line between Baltimore, Maryland and Washington, DC, with an intermediate stop at BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport. Ultimately, the system will be extended to New York City. SCMAGLEV is the most advanced high-speed ground transportation system in the world. Traveling at a speed of 500 km/h (311mph) will enable a 15-minute trip between Washington, DC and Baltimore and a 1-hour trip between Washington, DC and New York.

National Action Network is one of the leading civil rights organizations in the Nation with chapters throughout the entire United States. Founded in 1991 by Reverend Al Sharpton, NAN works within the spirit and tradition of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to promote a modern civil rights agenda that includes the fight for one standard of justice, decency and equal opportunities for all people regardless of race, religion, ethnicity, citizenship, criminal record, economic status, gender, gender expression, or sexuality.

The GBBCC is committed to serving as a beacon of strength, integrity, and knowledge for Black-owned businesses operating in the Greater Baltimore Metropolitan area. Serving the Howard County, Baltimore County and Baltimore City area, the GBBCC has members from across central Maryland including members from Anne Arundel County, Montgomery County and Prince Georges County.

The Baltimore-D.C. Building Trades is committed to embracing change and innovation that results in measurable value that is easily perceived by industry, government, and community leaders. Through sustained and collaborative efforts with industry, government, and community leaders – and which are centered upon pre-apprenticeship programs, apprenticeship programs, and the "Helmets to Hardhats" program – the Baltimore-D.C. Building Trades brand is all about a collective effort to move the needle of industry and social change further in the direction of greater employment opportunity and economic advancement: continuing to allow construction to be a viable family-sustaining career.

The Ministers Conference Empowerment CDC (MCEC) is a not-for-profit corporation that has as its mission to address and ultimately eradicate the disparities that inundate marginalized and underserved communities. To accomplish the above, MCEC coalesced 150 churches and their surrounding communities, to develop its “*And the Church Shall Lead Community-based Economic Development Plan.*” The establishment of this plan has enabled MCEC to create its unique faith and community-based hub network throughout Baltimore, Maryland in churches and community facilities to serve as central locations to achieve its mission’s goals and objectives in the areas of public safety, health, education, and workforce and economic development.