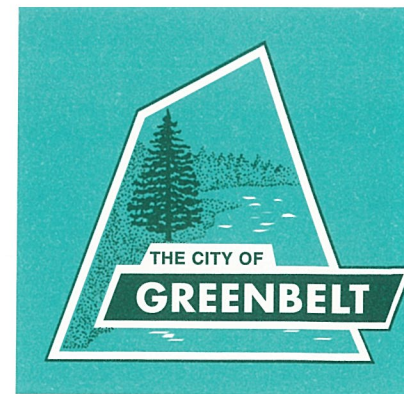


CITY OF GREENBELT, MARYLAND

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

25 CRESCENT ROAD, GREENBELT, MD. 20770

November 4, 2013



Mr. James T. Smith, Jr., Secretary
Maryland Department of Transportation
7201 Corporate Center
Hanover, MD 21076

Michael P. McLaughlin
City Manager

RE: 2014-2019 Draft Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP)

Dear Secretary Smith:

The Greenbelt City Council has had the opportunity to review the *Draft State's Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP) for fiscal years 2014-2019*. The City would like to offer the following comments on some of the items included in the program that most affect Greenbelt.

The Greenbelt City Council was pleased to learn that monies have been added to the CTP as a result of the Transportation Infrastructure Investment Act of 2013, and that these monies have been allocated to moving Prince George's County priority transportation projects forward. The City continues to support the following projects: Full Interchange at Greenbelt Metro Station, US 1 Improvement project, Purple Line and Bus Stop Improvements in Prince George's County. These projects play an important role in positioning Prince George's County to attract high quality development, and to provide safe multi-modal corridors. The City is pleased that the Maryland Route 201 Extended project remains on hold, and urges the State to remove this project from the CTP. While the City understands that the I-95/I-495 Capital Beltway Project has been placed on hold, the City wants to convey its opposition to widening of the Capital Beltway. The City shares the City of College Park's concerns about the impact such a project would have on the established neighborhoods along the Beltway corridor.

The City strongly supports the allocation of almost \$195 million for bicycle and pedestrian projects, and believes more funding should be targeted to these types of projects, as well as to transit related projects. The City continues to advocate for expanding transit service in Prince George's County, and remains interested in the establishment of a municipal transit funding program. The City feels additional monies should be allocated to capital funding for TheBus which remains flat at \$500,000.

While the City understands that funding is limited, it believes the MD 193 corridor is a critical corridor for Prince George's County and the region, and therefore requests that funding be allocated to the Greenbelt Road: US 1 to Soil Conservation Road – Streetscape Improvement project which was placed on hold in 2002. Greenbelt Road is a major east-west roadway and serves as a major gateway to our community and represents Prince George's County to many



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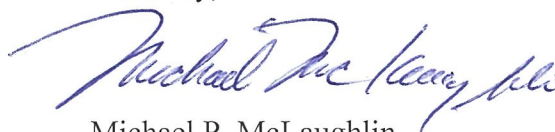
who travel along it. Currently too many curb cuts, intersections, signs, power poles and wiring create an unsafe and unattractive roadway for all users. Safety improvements, especially for pedestrians and bicyclists, are desperately needed in this highly travelled and highly developed corridor.

The City is in the process of adopting its first pedestrian and bicycle master plan and just completed a bus stop safety and accessibility study. The City would welcome an opportunity to sit down with State Highway Administration (SHA) staff and review these plans which contain numerous recommendations for improving safety and enhancing multi-modal facilities, and to discuss potential funding opportunities.

In closing, the City is supportive of SHA's Sound Barrier Program but believes program policy changes are needed. The City requests that the State work with the Federal government to revise the eligibility requirements related to the Type II Sound Barrier Program so that communities like Greenbelt, who constantly struggle with the adverse impacts associated with highway noise in its residential neighborhoods, are eligible for funding under the sound barrier program.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the CTP. If you have any questions please contact Terri Hruby, Assistant Planning Director at 301-474-0569.

Sincerely,



Michael P. McLaughlin
City Manager

/th

cc: City Council
Senator Paul G. Pinsky
Delegate Tawanna P. Gaines
Delegate Anne Healey
Delegate Alonzo Washington
County Council Chair Andrea Harrison
County Council Member Ingrid M. Turner
Mayor Cheye Calvo, Berwyn Heights
Mayor Andrew Fellows, College Park
Mayor Andrew Hanko, New Carrollton
Ron Kirby, COG Transportation Planning Director
Brian Young, SHA District 3 Engineer
Celia W. Craze, Director of Planning and Community Development