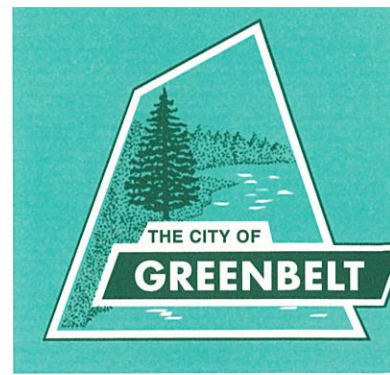


CITY OF GREENBELT

25 CRESCENT ROAD, GREENBELT, MD. 20770-1886



October 29, 2019

Pete K. Rahn, Secretary
Maryland Department of Transportation
7201 Corporate Center
Hanover, MD 21076

CITY COUNCIL
Emmett V. Jordan, Mayor
Judith F. Davis, Mayor Pro Tem
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Leta M. Mach
Silke I. Pope
Edward V.J. Putens
Rodney M. Roberts

RE: 2020-2025 Draft Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP)

Dear Secretary Rahn:

The Greenbelt City Council has had the opportunity to review the *State's Draft Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP) for fiscal years 2020-2025*. The City Council offers the following comments.

The City continues to be disappointed that the MD-193 – Greenbelt Road Streetscape project, which was placed on hold in 2002, remains excluded from the CTP. Greenbelt Road is a major east-west roadway that serves as a major gateway to our Community and represents Prince George's County to many who travel along it. The City requests that this very important project for the State, County and local communities be **added** to the CTP and funding allocated to planning.

In addition, the City strongly **opposes**:

- The removal of funding from the **I-95/I-495 Capital Beltway** (Full Interchange at Greenbelt Metro Station) project and the City requests that funding is restored to this important project. The existing partial interchange is designed so that it is largely capturing traffic from the north (heading south) and therefore inadvertently appearing to be designed for neighboring counties to the north as well as tourists and not specifically for the benefit of Prince George's county residents. Also, if a full interchange is constructed more local traffic would go through the interchange reducing the impact of current and future developments on local streets. In addition, if the State, County and City are to be successful at attracting a large tenant and high quality transit oriented development to the Station, a full interchange must be constructed. We need to be proactive in attracting economic development to the region, not take a wait and see approach.
- The **I-270 Eisenhower Memorial Highway, and I-495, Capital Beltway** Planning Study (Traffic Relief Plan) and the **Baltimore-Washington Superconducting Maglev** (SCMAGLEV) project. The impacts these projects will have on the natural, socioeconomic, cultural and built environment are unacceptable. These projects will do little to address the region's congestion, but have high environmental, human and financial costs.

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- The **MD 201 Extended (Edmonston Road) / US 1 (Baltimore Avenue)** project. This project will have significant environmental impacts on wetlands to the north of the City as well as on Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC) property. The BARC property is one of the last remaining gems of uninterrupted open space in this urbanized region.


The City deems these projects it opposes to be in direct conflict with the State's priorities outlined in the CTP to include the following: Use resources wisely; Deliver transportation solutions and services of great value; Be a good neighbor; Be a good steward of our environment; and Be fair and reasonable to our partners. The CTP should support the State's transportation priorities, not be in conflict with them.

The City, on the other hand, appreciates and remains **supportive** of:

- The state's continued support for the construction of the **Purple Line**, investment in the **WMATA Metrorail** system and for funding locally operated transit systems capital procurement projects through the **Prince Georges County Local Bus Program**.
- The **US 1, Baltimore Avenue** reconstruction project and the City also supports College Park's request to have funding programed for design, engineering and construction of Segments 2 and 3 (US 1 from MD-193 to I-95) of this project.
- The allocation of funding to **Bicycle and Pedestrian Related Projects**. The City shares the State's and Prince George's County's concern for pedestrian and bicycle safety and strongly urges that projects continue to be added that support this State and local priority.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the CTP. If you have any questions please contact Judith Howerton, Community Planner at 301-345-5417.

Sincerely,


Emmett V. Jordan
Mayor

cc: City Council
 Senator Paul G. Pinsky
 Delegate Anne Healey
 Delegate Alonzo Washington
 County Council Chair Todd Turner
 Four Cities Coalition
 Victor Weissberg, Prince George's County DPW&T
 Nicole Ard, City Manager
 Terri Hruby, Director of Planning and Community Development