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United States Senate

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January 6, 2020

Honorable Guy Guzzone Chairman Budget and Taxation Committee Maryland General Assembly 3 West Miller Senate Office Building Annapolis, MD 21401

Honorable James C. Rosapepe Vice Chairman Budget and Taxation Committee Maryland General Assembly 3 West Miller Senate Office Bulding Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chairman Guzzone and Vice Chairman Rosapepe:

I write again to share my support for Senate Bill 105 – Southern Maryland Rapid Transit Project – Requirements and Funding. I appreciate the opportunity to continue to advocate on behalf of my constituents in Southern Maryland and request that this letter be included in the record.

Support and the need for a rapid transit solution continues to grow in Southern Maryland. The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments' 2045 forecast for Charles County anticipates a 58% increase in the population between 2015 and 2045 and the Maryland Department of Transportation stated in 2017 that, "The current commuter bus system along MD5/US301 is nearing capacity...".

I support the on-going efforts of community leaders in Charles and Prince George's Counties and in other parts of the state who seek to find real solutions to increased congestion and pollution through transit oriented development and regional rapid transit. I support the passage of SB 105 and request that the Committee give it full consideration.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my views.

Singerely,

Chris Van Hollen United States Senate

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