

Jeffrey A. Cline, *President*
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BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND

March 2, 2021

Senator Delores G. Kelley, Chair
Finance Committee
3 East
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Support of SB 869 – Statewide Transit Plan –
Western Maryland MARC Rail Extension Study

Dear Senator Kelley:

The Board of County Commissioners of Washington County, Maryland, by a vote of 4-0, supports Senate Bill 869.

Washington County is the home of many individuals who commute to the Washington Metro area for employment - some daily, many on flex schedules. Commuter traffic on Interstate 70 and Interstate 270 is notoriously heavy, causing delay, increased risk of accidents, and generally poor quality of life for commuters. Some of that commuter burden is averted with carpooling and ride sharing, as well as home commuting and flex schedules. Rail service, however, presents a potential alternative to several of the detrimental effects that the automobile commute places on the health and quality of life of our citizens. If feasible, it could reduce pollution production, damage to the environment, and fossil fuel consumption that is required by commuters.

For the foregoing reasons, the Board of County Commissioners of Washington County respectfully and without reservation urges the Committee to approve SB 869.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: 
Jeffrey A. Cline, President

cc (via email): Senator Paul D. Corderman