

Committee: House Appropriations Committee

Legislation: HB 0778 Maryland Regional Rail Transformation Act

Organization: Environmental Justice Ministry Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church

Position: Favorable

Hearing: February 17, 2022

Dear Committee Chair and Committee Members,

The Environmental Justice Ministry strongly supports HB 0778/SB 00514 which will establish investment programs to advance the MARC Cornerstone Plan and Regional Rail Service and require a MARC Cornerstone Plan Implementation Study. The MARC Commuter rail system connects Baltimore and Washington DC but has not been updated for decades. These investment programs are necessary to reliably serve more Maryland communities and to connect to Virginia and Delaware.

As a people of faith, these investments support our justice, equity and compassion in human relations principles by opening more equitable transportation arteries.

Please vote favorably for HB 0778, a significant bill to create better community connectivity and transportation.

Nanci Wilkinson

Environmental Justice Ministry

Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church