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BILL NO.: House Bill 632

TITLE: Baltimore East-West Corridor – Transit Study – Requirements

SPONSOR: Delegate Rosenberg

COMMITTEE: Budget and Taxation

POSITION: **SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS**

DATE: March 29, 2022

Baltimore County **SUPPORTS WITH AMENDMENTS** House Bill 632 – Baltimore East-West Corridor – Transit Study – Requirements. This legislation would secure a record of decision for the Red line transit project and a MARC rail extension and require a plan for funding and financing the construction.

The Maryland Red Line would provide residents with efficient, low-cost transportation by connecting parts of Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Fells Point, Canton, and Johns Hopkins Bayview. The Red Line would also create a more comprehensive rail system by linking its transit line to the MARC Train, which would create a more comprehensive transit system. This would allow for all members of these communities and all commuters to navigate the Baltimore region with ease.

Baltimore County has always prioritized accessible and equitable transportation, and feels this legislation could be strengthened by an amendment that would expand the Red Line beyond Johns Hopkins Bayview, by following Dundalk Avenue to Turner station. This would allow for broader access to the Red Line, and ensure that the Line's route falls in line with its purpose of bringing the region's communities closer together.

Accordingly, Baltimore County requests a **FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENTS** report on House Bill 632. For more information, please contact Joel Beller, Acting Director of Government Affairs at jbeller@baltimorecountymd.gov.