

January 30, 2025,

OPPOSE

Delegate Marc Korman, Chair House Environment and Transportation Committee 250 Taylor House Office Building Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: HB 48- UNFAVORABLE- Railroad Companies- Condemnation Authority- Application.

Dear Delegate Korman,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to House Bill 48, which would hinder the development of the Baltimore-Washington Superconducting Maglev (SCMAGLEV) project. As a senior pastor and advocate for the citizens of the Greater Baltimore-Washington Area, I am deeply invested in initiatives that promote economic growth, environmental sustainability, and equitable access to transportation. The SCMAGLEV project represents a transformative opportunity for our region, and I urge you and the committee to reject HB 48 in favor of progress that benefits all Marylanders.

The Baltimore-Washington corridor is one of the most congested and economically vital regions in the United States. Our communities face daily struggles with traffic congestion, long commutes, and limited access to efficient public transit. The SCMAGLEV system would revolutionize transportation by providing a high-speed, environmentally friendly alternative that reduces commute times, alleviates road congestion, and decreases carbon emissions. As a faith leader, I am particularly concerned about ensuring that all citizens, regardless of socioeconomic background, have access to reliable, safe, and modern transportation. The SCMAGLEV project aligns with the need for forward-thinking infrastructure that prioritizes sustainability, efficiency, and equity. House Bill 48 threatens to stall this progress, keeping our region locked in outdated transportation models that disproportionately burden working families and underserved communities.

I respectfully urge you and your colleagues on the House Environment and Transportation Committee to oppose House Bill 48 and support the advancement of the SCMAGLEV project. By doing so, you will be endorsing a bold vision for Maryland's future—one that prioritizes economic opportunity, environmental responsibility, and quality of life for all residents.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

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