

Dear Members of the Appropriations Committee,

I am a resident of **District 46**. I am a workforce development professional, organizational psychology practitioner, community association board member, and proud resident of Baltimore City. I commute by bus whenever I commute to work downtown, and wish I could rely more easily on the bus on evenings and weekends when I mostly choose to walk or – if that isn't possible – take a car. **I am testifying in support of HB0932, Maryland Transit Administration - Fifth Bus Division Facility - Construction.**

I don't have expert knowledge about this specific facility. I trust my D46 Delegates Lewis, Clippinger, and Edelson, who have signed on to this bill unanimously, to have access to that expert knowledge. What I can contribute is my experience. It takes 40 minutes sometimes, during rush hour, with a bus lane, to board a bus going from Pratt Street downtown to one of the largest residential neighborhoods in the city. It is infeasible for a person with other means to be expected to wait an hour between buses if they want to return home from an evening out by bus. Busing in Baltimore City has been broken by the State, because the State spends too much money on wealthy exurban highways. More resources, more facilities, more drivers, and more buses are necessary to have a modern thriving metropolis driving the economy of Maryland.

It is for these reasons that I am encouraging you to vote **in support of HB0932, Maryland Transit Administration - Fifth Bus Division Facility - Construction.**

Thank you for your time, service, and consideration.

Sincerely,

**John Preston Ford**  
**529 S East Ave, Baltimore, MD 21224**