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The Central Maryland
Transportation Alliance

Follow Us to the Future

June 1, 2011

The Honorable Martin O'Malley
Governor
State of Maryland
100 State Circle
Annapolis, MD 21401

The Honorable Stephanie Rawlings-Blake
Mayor
City of Baltimore
City Hall, Room 250
100 North Holliday Street
Baltimore, MD 21202

Dear Governor O'Malley & Mayor Rawlings-Blake:

I am writing to voice the strong support of the Central Maryland Transportation Alliance for the State Center project. The successful redevelopment of State Center will help establish the State of Maryland and Baltimore City as leaders in using Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) as an effective tool for creating economically vibrant and sustainable communities

No project in Maryland will go further toward achieving this goal than the realization of the State Center redevelopment plan. The developer and representatives of the neighborhoods surrounding State Center have helped create a plan for the project that will encourage greater use of public transportation, bicycles and walking.

By creating a visually appealing and pedestrian-relevant connection between the Light Rail and Metro Stops, the redevelopment will encourage citizens to walk from one to the other to make necessary connections. Connecting the Jones Falls and Gwynn's Falls bicycle trails will make a safe and user-friendly path through the city for those who wish to bike to work or for leisure. And, placing mixed income, inclusionary housing on the most transit-rich site in the State will mean more affordable transportation options and less traffic.

Moving forward with State Center is moving Maryland forward. The project has been recognized as one of the best projects in the world by

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the Congress for the New Urbanism, and the development plan is being hailed throughout the country as shining example of citizen inclusion, transparency and vision.

We encourage each of you to continue pressing forward with this important project that will set Baltimore apart as a leader in urban development and housing.

Sincerely,



Michele Whelley
CEO and President

Cc: James L. Shea