

GSGA26-R6**Support for the Bi-County Transitway or Purple Line Light Rail Project**

Summary: A resolution that calls upon the Maryland General Assembly, Governor Martin O'Malley, and the Maryland Transit Administration to expeditiously move forward with the development and construction of the Purple Line using light rail technology.

WHEREAS, there is a great need for enhanced public transportation between Prince George's County and Montgomery County; and

WHEREAS, the Maryland Transit Administration is moving forward with a detailed study of a new transit line between Bethesda and New Carrollton which would include stops in College Park; and

WHEREAS, light rail technology provides the most cost-effective, efficient, environmentally friendly, and high quality service, as has been proven in dozens of U.S. cities including Dallas, St. Louis, Salt Lake City, and many others; and

WHEREAS, light rail technology has a strong record of promoting compact, pedestrian-oriented revitalization; and

WHEREAS, the proposed alignments include several stops on or adjacent to campus and would greatly enhance the campus' accessibility for students, faculty, and staff; and

WHEREAS, there is an acute housing shortage in College Park forcing many students, faculty, and staff to commute long distances to campus; and

WHEREAS, the Purple Line would encourage investment in the University's East Campus Redevelopment Initiative, providing needed housing, retail, and entertainment amenities to the University and surrounding community; and

WHEREAS, the University administration, the College Park City Council, the majority of the Prince George's County Council, and a wide range of local elected leaders strongly support the Purple Line,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Graduate Student Government calls upon the Maryland General Assembly, the Maryland Transit Administration, and Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley to fully fund and accelerate the required studies and construction of the Bi-County Transitway, and directs the Executive Committee to convey this Resolution to the aforementioned parties at its earliest convenience.

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Sponsor(s): Laura Moore, GSG President (ENTM)
Aaron Tobiason, GSG Vice President for Legislative Affairs (THPF)

Date and Time of Submission: 1 February 2007

Date of Presentation: 9 February 2007

Action(s) Taken:
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Decision of GSG President

Signature of GSG President

Date