

# THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT

**(301) 952-3887**

Chairman  
**THOMAS E. DERNOGA**  
Council Member, 1st District

**MAR 31 2007**

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

Dear Governor O'Malley:

We write to voice our growing concern about the looming budget shortfall facing the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA). In particular, we are concerned about potential service cuts to routes that, if implemented, would affect thousands of county residents and others who rely on Metrobus and Metrorail service to commute to work, shopping, recreation and church activities. Prince George's County has and continues to strongly oppose any and all service cuts.

Much of our transit oriented development depends on a reliable rail and bus system for economic viability. The service reductions proposed in WMATA's budget would potentially reduce peak and off peak capacity, service hours and truncate lines on the Metrorail system. Two of the three stations proposed to be closed on weekends are in our County. The potential impact on bus service in our County is of an unimaginable magnitude and is twice that proposed for Montgomery County.

WMATA is a vital economic engine in our region and we cannot afford to reduce its service and strangle recovery in our region.

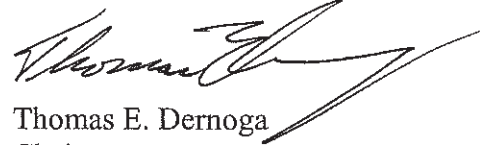
WMATA is also proposing fare increases that total near \$90 million. Despite the proposed fare increase, WMATA still has a \$40 million gap even after proposing \$34 million in service reductions.

Closing this gap without service reductions would require an additional contribution from Maryland to WMATA's FY 11 operating budget of approximately \$29 million. In Prince George's County, we are well aware that these are challenging budgetary times, but this is one expense we believe the state cannot forego.

**County Administration Building  
14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive, Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772**

Thank you for your consideration of this request and of the plight of our transit dependent residents who cannot face service cuts.

Sincerely,



Thomas E. Dernoga  
Chair

cc: Ms. Elizabeth M. Hewlett, WMATA Board Member  
Mr. Marcell Solomon, WMATA Alternate Board Member  
Hon. Barbara Mikulski, U.S. Senate  
Hon. Ben Cardin, U.S. Senate  
Hon. Steny Hoyer, Majority Leader, U.S. Congress – 5<sup>th</sup> District  
Hon. Donna Edwards, U.S. Congress – 4<sup>th</sup> District  
Hon. Chris Van Hollen, U.S. Congress – 8<sup>th</sup> District  
Hon. Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor  
Hon. Beverly K. Swaim-Staley, Secretary, Maryland Department of  
Transportation  
Hon. Jack B. Johnson, County Executive  
Dr. Haitham Hijazi, Director, County DPWT  
Mr. Peter Benjamin, Ph.D., WSTC Commission Member  
Mr. Gordon J. Linton, WSTC Commission Member  
Mr. Mark Winston, WSTC Commission Member  
Hon. Camille A. Exum, Prince George's County Council Member and WSTC  
Commission Member  
Ms. Beverly K. Swain-Staley, WSTC Commission Member

# PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

## AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

2010 Legislative Session

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**Meeting Date:** March 30, 2010

**Reference No.:**

**Draft No.:** 2

**Proposer(s):** Council Members Dernoga and Olson

**Sponsor(s):**

**Item Title:** Transmittal letter to the Hon. Martin O'Malley, Governor, State of Maryland, expressing the position of the County Council on the proposed FY 2011 Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA), budget, fare and service adjustments.

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**Drafter:** Todd M. Turner, Legislative Officer

**Resource:** James Raszewski, Department of Public Works & Transportation

**Personnel:** Susan Hubbard, Department of Public Works & Transportation

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### LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

**Date Presented:** \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_      **Executive Action:** \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

**Committee Referral:** \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_      **Effective Date:** \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

**Committee Action:** \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

**Date Introduced:** \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

**Public Hearing:** \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ :\_\_ \_\_

**Council Action:** 3/30/2010      CHAIRMAN AUTHORIZED TO SIGN

**Council Votes:** TD:A, MB:A, WC:A, SHD:A, CE:A, AH:A, TK:A, EO:A, IT:A

**Pass/Fail:** P

**Remarks:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**AFFECTED CODE SECTIONS:**

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**BACKGROUND INFORMATION/FISCAL IMPACT:**

**(Includes reason for proposal, as well as any unique statutory requirements)**

Letters approving the position of the Prince George's County Council to Governor Martin O'Malley on the proposed Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) FY 2011 budget, fare and service adjustments.

3/30/2010 – Amended on the floor.

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**CODE INDEX TOPICS:**

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**INCLUSION FILES/ZONING FIGURES:**

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Gov. O'Malley WMATA Council Letter AIS