



September 19, 2011

Mr. Nicholas Ramfos
Chief, Alternative Commuter Programs
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
777 North Capital Street, NE, Suite 300
Washington, DC 20002

Dear Mr. Ramfos:

I am writing to let you know that we are very excited about the expansion of the Commuter Connections Pool Rewards program to include vanpools. We are very supportive of the efforts to implement this program. To have a financial incentive available to vanpool groups through the Pool Rewards program should have a very positive impact on the formation of new vanpool groups.

In turn, this would have a valuable contribution to our efforts and the efforts of all of us throughout the region to ease traffic congestion and reduce air pollution.

Vanpools are a particularly viable option in many suburban employment centers where transit options may be somewhat limited. We anticipate a vanpool incentive program under the Pool Rewards approach will increase the number of vanpools serving worksites in North Bethesda as well as throughout Montgomery County and the region.

Along with County, we look forward to working with COG and Commuter Connections to make this program successful.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peggy Schwartz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being particularly prominent.

Peggy Schwartz
Executive Director

c. Sandra L. Brecher, Montgomery County DOT
Travis Johnston, MTA
Keith Bounds, MDOT

