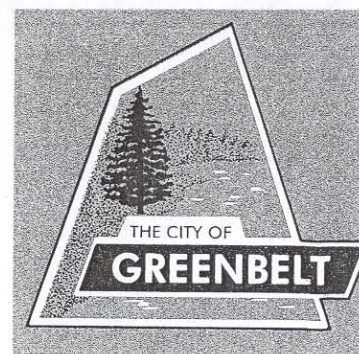


# CITY OF GREENBELT, MARYLAND

25 CRESCENT ROAD, GREENBELT, MD. 20770 - 1886



October 26, 2004

National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board  
Metropolitan Washington COG  
Suite 300  
777 North Capitol Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20002

**CITY COUNCIL**  
Judith F. Davis, Mayor  
Rodney M. Roberts, Mayor Pro Tem  
Konrad E. Herling  
Leta M. Mach  
Edward V.J. Putens

Dear Transportation Planning Board Members:

On behalf of the Council and citizens of the City of Greenbelt, I am writing to request that the October 31 deadline for public comment on the addition of the Intercounty Connector (ICC) to the proposed regional transportation plan be extended to give adequate time for review of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the ICC, which is not scheduled for release by the Federal Highway Administration until late November. Since the draft EIS will provide information necessary to inform the recommendation of citizens and local elected officials, setting the deadline for public comment to precede the release of that document is not appropriate.

The City of Greenbelt's opposition to the ICC is both long-standing and well-known. The minimal benefit the road would provide to a limited number of people does not justify the project's high price tag and significant environmental impacts. For more than a generation, studies have continued to find that the ICC would have:

- A minimal impact in reducing traffic on the Beltway, I-95, or I-270, coupled with an increase in sprawl and a possible increase of congestion on local roads.
- A high price—currently up to \$3 billion with financing if GARVEE bonds are used—that would better be spent on existing road upgrades and mass transportation projects, such as the Purple Line.
- Devastating impacts on cultural and natural resources, including wetlands, streams, flood plains, woodlands, parklands, animal habitats, and residential areas, ultimately affecting efforts to restore the Chesapeake Bay and improve the region's air quality.

**A NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK**

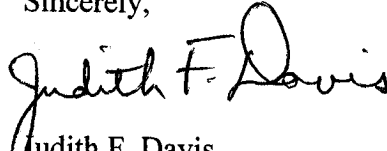
(301) 474-8000 FAX: (301) 441-8248

[www.ci.greenbelt.md.us](http://www.ci.greenbelt.md.us)



Construction of the ICC would do irreparable damage to Montgomery and Prince George's Counties, the State of Maryland, and the region. We strongly urge you to extend the period of public comment and delay the TPB's vote on the issue to allow for a thorough review and evaluation of the EIS by citizens and elected officials and to permit fair and adequate time for people to communicate their views based on the facts presented in the EIS.

Sincerely,

  
Judith F. Davis  
Mayor

cc: City Council  
COG Air Quality Committee ✓  
State Senator Paul Pinsky  
State Delegate Anne Healey  
State Delegate Tawanna Gaines  
State Delegate Justin Ross  
County Executive Jack B. Johnson  
County Council Chair Tony Knotts  
County Councilmember Douglas J. J. Peters  
County Councilmember Thomas E. Dernoga