Fast Facts on the Purple Line Project
March 2016

Purple Line Basics

- The Purple Line is a 16.2-mile light rail line between Bethesda in Montgomery County and New Carrollton in Prince George’s county.
- The Purple Line will have 21 stations with stops in Silver Spring, Takoma/Langley Park and the University of Maryland at College Park.
- It will connect with 4 branches of the Metrorail system at Bethesda, Silver Spring, College Park, and New Carrollton; as well as all three MARC commuter rail lines, and Amtrak.
- Modern light rail is a safe, quiet, electrically-powered transit vehicle that can operate in existing streets or its own right-of-way.
- At opening, trains will operate every 7 ½ minutes during peak periods, 10-15 minutes off peak.
- Daily ridership on the Purple Line is projected to reach 74,000 by 2040.
- Construction begins in late 2016.
- Service will begin in Spring 2022.

Economic Benefits

- Over 6,300 jobs will be created over the course of Purple Line construction
- Job center in Prince George’s County
- Bonding program support for DBEs
- Purple Line DBE goals of 22% for construction and 26% for design are more than double the federal requirements of 10%
- MTA will connect the Concessionaire with local DBEs for contracting opportunities
- Rail transit investments are typically catalysts for revitalization and development
- Improved access to the regional rail system means access to more jobs for local residents

Environmental Benefits

- The Purple Line will take 17,000 cars off the road every day, saving 1 million gallons of gas annually
- Electric power means no air emissions into the immediate environment
- Purple Line’s use of existing roadways minimizes effects on land and water resources