



THE IDI GROUP COMPANIES

GIUSEPPE CECCHI, PRESIDENT

23

April 28, 1997

Mr. Alan H. Straus
Maryland State Highway Administration
707 Calvert St.
Baltimore, MD 21202

Dear Mr. Straus:

After decades of study and discussion, Maryland has a chance to make significant improvements for a large number of its residents in the Suburban Maryland area near the nation's capital. This includes the thousands of residents of Leisure World of Maryland in Silver Spring where we have been developing a retirement community for 15 years.

Over the past several decades the population of Suburban Maryland has, literally, grown by leaps and bounds. All to the economic good of Maryland. But, a much needed InterCounty Connector has been "talked to death" to the point that it is now critical to move on this matter.

I support construction of the InterCounty Connector along the master plan alignment and urge your Department to commence construction as soon as possible. Why? Traffic congestion will be relieved; Maryland's transportation system will be safer and more efficient; access to BWI will be enhanced; a direct--and much needed link--will be established between I-270 and I-95; opportunities for increased economic development will materialize; and, access to employment opportunities and services for all residents within the region will be broadened.

I urge you not to let a few dissenting voices (compared to the many who will benefit) stop this progress!

Sincerely,


Giuseppe Cecchi