

current plan for the

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May 5, 1997

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Governor Parris N. Glendening
State House
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

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GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

Dear Governor Glendening:

I am writing to you to voice my opposition to the current plans for the "Intercountry Connector" (ICC). As I am sure you are aware, the ICC is under study to construct a transportation route that would connect Montgomery and Prince George's County. I write not because I do not realize the transportation needs of our region, but because I believe that the current plan for the ICC is misguided.

As a as a resident of Rockville and a trained policy analyst, I oppose the current plan for the ICC for the following reasons:

- The current Major Investment Study dismisses mass transit alternatives too easily. Only four road-building alternatives are seriously considered.
- The planned road alternatives would run directly through Rock Creek Park. Last month, I hiked through the area of the park where surveying stakes were being placed for the road alternatives. I was astonished at the amount of beautiful forest and wetland areas that would be destroyed by construction of this road. I cannot believe that this transportation project is so important that a highway would be allowed to be built through a natural areas the state has protected by making it a parkland.
- Construction of a road would very likely lead to residential and commercial development along the road, leading to further destruction of greenspace in Maryland.

Governor, I strongly urge you not to support the construction of a road alternative for the ICC. Please do not let the state highway administration force upon us a road that would have many harmful future repercussions in the form of increased sprawl and loss of natural areas.

Thank you very much for your time.

Sincerely,

Ethan E. Haase
12121 Village Square Terrace
Apt. 201
Rockville MD 20852

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