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Prince George's League of Environmental Voters  
2604 Cool Spring Rd.  
Adelphi, MD 20783

April 25, 1997

Parker Williams  
State Highway Administration  
707 North Calvert St  
Baltimore, MD 21202

Dear Mr. Williams,

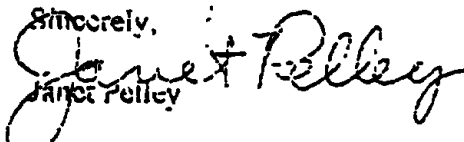
I am writing to express my opposition to the \$1.3 billion ICC, which makes no fiscal or common sense. Its cheerleaders say we need it to reduce congestion. But a recent study of State Highway Administration data, by Frank Vrataric, shows that the ICC will increase congestion at all intersections along its route, and do nothing to relieve congestion on the Beltway. In addition, history shows us that we can't continue to pave our way out of our problems. In the 1950s, residents were assured that the Beltway would solve all our traffic problems. Now we're being told to swallow yet another hugely expensive outer Beltway.

There is a better way. The \$1.3 billion earmarked for the ICC could be invested in our communities to make them better places to live. We can revitalize our inner ring of suburbs. We can encourage pedestrian-friendly development around our metro stations so that people can walk to work, schools, shops and parks.

As the planning for the ICC progresses, it is crucial that the citizens get the best information about the project and are encouraged to participate in making decisions. But because of the short comment period, inaccessibility of the DEIS, and obstacles to testifying at the hearings, I feel that the SHA is doing everything possible to prevent public involvement. To correct this situation, I would like you to:

1. Extend the comment period to at least 120 days.
2. Make one public hearing accessible by public transit.
3. Post the Draft EIS on your World Wide Web site.

Sincerely,

  
Janet Pelley

cc: Governor Glendening