

NOTE Oppose the Inter County Connector

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GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

Arthur Meister  
13708 Beauwick Ct.  
Silver Spring, MD 20906

Governor Parris Glendening  
State House  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Gov. Glendening,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Inter County Connector proposed for Montgomery county. As a resident of the of Montgomery county and a concerned citizen, I am writing you to urge you to reconsider your position on the ICC. As I'm sure you are well aware, the highway has been studied many times over the past 30 years, and each time it's been concluded that it's negative impacts far out weigh any benefit it might bring.

First consider the environmental impact. The ICC would destroy some of our region's best remaining natural habitat. It would cut across numerous stream valleys & destroy large tracts of forests, wetlands and parklands. And it would undermine our chances of improving regional air quality to meet federal standard. Secondly, it would pass through or near many residential communities, degrading quality of life and devaluing homes. Thirdly, the ICC would cost about one billion dollars to build, wasting resources that could otherwise be invested to improve public transit, improve pedestrian and bicyclist access in our communities, and support other, worthier projects. And finally, the ICC would not significantly relieve traffic congestion on the Beltway or at area intersections. Analyses conducted by the ICC Study Team in 1996 indicate that we will face area-wide congestion in the year 2020 even if the ICC and all other roads called for in county master plans are built. The study also concluded that congestion at several major intersections will worsen if the ICC is built.

I hope that as you reconsider your position on the ICC you will seriously rethink the public transportation alternatives options that have been developed. Such as a light rail system which utilizes abandoned rail tracks & existing metro stations. Remember, building more roads to relieve traffic congestion is like trying to lose weight by punching another hole in your belt.

Thank you for time, and chance to contact you on an issue that I feel is important to Montgomery county and to the state.

Sincerely,

Arthur Meister

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