



COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
THE JOHN A. WILSON BUILDING
1350 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, NW
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20004

David Grosso
Councilmember At-Large
Chairperson, Committee on Education

Committee Member
Health
Human Services
Judiciary and Public Safety

January 16, 2018

Jeffrey Marootian, Director
District Department of Transportation
55 M Street SE, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20003

Director Marootian,

I am pleased to see that DDOT is continuing to advance on plans to increase rail capacity on the Long Bridge. This essential connection between the District and Virginia carries freight and passenger rail for CSX, Amtrak, and VRE. Its two tracks are insufficient and this project will increase capacity for all of these services.

This project also provides an incredible opportunity to make it easier to bicycle across the Potomac River. However, I'm concerned that the currently proposed plans do not provide a strong enough connection between important commercial and residential corridors.

The rail tracks cross over George Washington Parkway, the Washington Channel, and I-395 for a good reason: these are substantial barriers. These are also difficult for bicyclists to cross. The bicycle paths should connect from Long Bridge Park in Arlington to Maine Avenue SW or even Maryland Avenue SW at L'Enfant Plaza to ensure that residents and commuters have a safe and convenient way to travel through the region.

For any questions, please contact my Chief of Staff, Tony Goodman by phone at 202-724-8105 or by email at tgoodman@dccouncil.us.

Sincerely,

David Grosso
Council of the District of Columbia
Chairperson, Committee on Education

cc: Councilmember Mary Cheh, Chair of the Committee on Transportation and the Environment

