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**From:** Harrod, Michelle  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 21, 2025 9:16 AM  
**To:** Respass, Charity; Anderson, Isaiah  
**Subject:** FW: Support for CB4-2025 - Agreement to Extend Flash Service from Montgomery County to Howard County  
**Attachments:** DTCP FLASH Support Letter.pdf

Testimony

Thank you,

*Michelle R. Harrod*

Howard County Government  
Administrator to the County Council

410-313-3111 (office)

443-398-6013 (cell)

[mrharrod@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:mrharrod@howardcountymd.gov)

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**From:** Phillip Dodge <Phillip@dtcpartnership.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 20, 2025 10:13 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail <CouncilMail@howardcountymd.gov>  
**Cc:** Jung, Debra <djung@howardcountymd.gov>; Rigby, Christiana <crigby@howardcountymd.gov>; Yungmann, David <dyungmann@howardcountymd.gov>; Walsh, Elizabeth <ewalsh@howardcountymd.gov>; Jones, Opel <ojones@howardcountymd.gov>  
**Subject:** Support for CB4-2025 - Agreement to Extend Flash Service from Montgomery County to Howard County

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Howard County Council,

Please find the attached letter in support of the extension of Montgomery County's Flash Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) service into Howard County, as proposed through CB4-2025.

Flash represents a transformative step toward providing high-quality regional transit where none currently exists, connecting Howard County to Silver Spring and Washington, DC and the transportation networks that serve the entire National Capital Region.

We urge the Howard County Council to approve CB4-2025, a critical step toward enhancing regional transit infrastructure, fostering economic development, and maintaining the quality of life our community deserves.

Sincerely,

Phillip Dodge  
Executive Director  
Downtown Columbia Partnership



January 21, 2025

Re: Support for CB4-2025 - Agreement to Extend Flash Service from Montgomery County to Howard County

Dear Howard County Council,

The Downtown Columbia Partnership strongly supports the extension of Montgomery County's Flash Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) service into Howard County, as proposed through CB4-2025.

Flash represents an incremental but still transformative step toward providing high-quality regional transit where none currently exists, connecting Downtown Columbia to Maple Lawn, the Applied Physics Lab, and outward to Silver Spring and Washington, DC and the transportation networks that serve the entire National Capital Region.

The Flash Extension project will establish vital transit links to major employment centers and enable 30-minute headway service connecting these areas to White Oak Science Gateway and Downtown Silver Spring, while enhancing connections to WMATA and the Purple Line. These improvements will support car-free commuting options, bolster economic growth, and strengthen Howard County's competitiveness for both employers and employees. Equally important, it will give Howard County residents a transportation option beyond the current MTA commuter bus and MARC train options.

We urge the Howard County Council to approve CB4-2025, a critical step toward enhancing regional transit infrastructure, fostering economic development, and maintaining the quality of life our community deserves.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Phillip Dodge".

Phillip Dodge  
Executive Director  
Downtown Columbia Partnership

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**From:** Harrod, Michelle  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 21, 2025 9:15 AM  
**To:** Respass, Charity; Anderson, Isaiah  
**Subject:** FW: Letter of Support - CB4-2025  
**Attachments:** CB4-2025 Support Letter\_EDA.pdf

Testimony

Thank you,

*Michelle R. Harrod*

Howard County Government  
Administrator to the County Council

410-313-3111 (office)  
443-398-6013 (cell)  
[mrharrod@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:mrharrod@howardcountymd.gov)

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**From:** Jones, Jennifer <jdjones@hceda.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 20, 2025 12:26 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail <CouncilMail@howardcountymd.gov>  
**Subject:** Letter of Support - CB4-2025

Good afternoon,






Please find attached HCEDA's letter in support of the agreement with Montgomery County to move the Flash service extension forward.

Best,

**JENNIFER JONES, CEcD**

**CEO**

Howard County Economic Development Authority

 410-313-6513 (Office)  
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Columbia, MD 21046  
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January 21, 2025

Howard County Council  
George Howard Building  
3430 Court House Drive  
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Re: Support for Council Bill 4--2025 -- Agreement to Extend Flash Service from Montgomery County to Howard County

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to express the Howard County Economic Development Authority's support for the passage of CB4--2025. This legislation would approve a multi-year agreement between Howard County, Maryland and Montgomery County, Maryland for the extension of the Flash bus rapid transit (BRT) to Downtown Columbia from Burtonsville, Montgomery County.

As Howard County's eminent public-private partnership working to promote economic development, HCEDA understands that quality economic development is critical to Howard County's future to ensure an adequate tax base that will maintain and sustain the high quality of life that its residents have come to expect and deserve. Transportation is an essential component to achieving those goals and the extension of the Flash system is the next step forward.

The Flash Extension project with Montgomery County will serve major employment hubs of Maple Lawn, the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory campus, and Downtown Columbia. This would make possible 30-minute headway service between major commercial and residential clusters in these areas, but also points south at the White Oak Science Center and Silver Spring, as well as leverage connections to the WMATA system and the MTA Purple Line. The chosen Howard County locations are employment hubs and will greatly benefit the employers in those areas by creating a commute option for employees who would prefer to be car-free or car-lite. Furthering this effort would make Howard County more competitive to both employers and employees and support economic growth overall.

Sincerely,

Jennifer D. Jones  
CEO  
Howard County Economic Development Authority