

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515

June 18, 2014

Tom Downs  
Chairman of the Board  
Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority  
600 Fifth Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20001

RE: Takoma Joint Development Sales Agreement

Dear Chairman Downs,

I am writing on behalf of my constituents in the City of Takoma Park to request that as WMATA considers its plans to sell property adjacent to the Takoma Metro Station, it support the formation of a Neighborhood Design Working Group to consult with the private developer on the project and ensure a mutually-agreeable final plan.

As you know, while the proposed development is located within the District of Columbia, it sits across the street from the City of Takoma Park in Maryland. Residents of Takoma Park will be directly affected by this project but do not currently have party status in the DC Planned Unit Development process that governs the design process. A Neighborhood Design Working Group would provide a formal mechanism for their input and ensure that the developer has the benefit of the views of all stakeholders.

Community input has played a critical role over the years in helping to improve this project's design and to mitigate negative impacts on the affected communities. It should continue to be an integral part of the planning process.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



CHRIS VAN HOLLEN