MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCIL
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

MEMORANDUM

May 13, 2016

TO: Councilmembers

FROM: Sidney Katz SK
George Leventhal GL
Marc Elrich ME

SUBJECT: Relocation of the MCPS Shady Grove Transportation Depot

As you may be aware, MCPS held a community meeting yesterday evening to discuss initial project planning to park school buses on the parking lot at the Carver Educational Services Center (CESC). We attended this meeting and heard the numerous concerns from the community. At this time, it is our view that further work on this proposal should stop immediately.

By way of background, in November 2015, the County Council approved Resolution 18-320, to extend until December 2016 our time to consider the Declaration of No Further Need (DNFN) for Montgomery County Service Park East, known as Jeremiah Park, the current site of the Montgomery County Public Schools' Shady Grove bus depot. At that time, the Council stated that it had extended time for consideration of the DNFN "in order to make sure there are interim and permanent plans for relocation of the MCPS bus depot functions." (*emphasis added*)

In recent weeks, it has become increasingly clear that there is neither an interim nor a permanent plan for the relocation of more than 400 buses currently located at the Shady Grove depot. Further, lack of clarity over the complicated practical and timing elements of the relocation process has many County residents—especially those in the impacted neighborhoods—feeling angry and confused.

Given the lack of a comprehensive plan for the relocation of all buses at the Jeremiah Park facility, we believe further careful, deliberate consideration of the DNFN for Jeremiah Park by the full Council is warranted. For this reason, we would like to request that the Council President schedule consideration of the DNFN in June, at a time when the issue can be thoroughly discussed.

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Until that time, we would also respectfully request that the Council ask the MCPS Board of Education to cease any and all activity related to the proposed Carver site, until further notice from the Council.

We appreciate your consideration.

CC: Isiah Leggett, County Executive
Mr. Michael A. Durso, President
Board of Education
Larry A. Bowers, Interim Superintendent
Montgomery County Public Schools