

QUESTION Did you consistently support the Purple Line over the years before it started construction? (If you are running for office for the first time, documentation of past positions is welcome.)

Candidate		Party	Verbatim response
County Executive			
Robin	Ficker	R	I support the Purple line and was present for the groundbreaking. When Governor Hogan and Secretary Chao supported it, it was a fait accompli.
Roger	Berliner	D	Yes, I am proud to say that I was the first District 1 councilmember to ever support the Purple Line despite some strong pockets of resistance among my constituency. I am a strong, consistent champion of transit evidenced in my strong support for the Purple Line, a complete BRT network with dedicated lanes, Metro Express, Ride On Extra on MD 355, the Corridor Cities Transitway, and the emerging microtransit concept for helping people make those difficult first-mile/last-mile connections to more traditional transit services.
Marc	Elrich	D	Yes. In 2002 and 2006, I argued for a transit-first policy to build the Purple Line BEFORE the Intercounty Connector (ICC).
Rose	Krasnow	D	Yes. As a Rockville elected official, I served on WASHCog’s Transportation Planning Board, where I strongly advocated for multi-modal transportation alternatives to the single occupancy vehicle. At the Montgomery Planning Department, I actively participated in many aspects of planning for the Purple Line. Our Mandatory Referral recommendations sought to assure compatibility of the Purple Line with communities and businesses along the right of way. Our recommendations set forth ways to improve station access for pedestrians and bicyclists, enhance urban design along the corridor, reduce environmental impacts, mitigate impacts to parkland, and improve transitions along the Capital Crescent Trail. I also worked on a series of Master Plans for areas along the Purple Line route, including the Apex Building Minor Master Plan, Chevy Chase Lake, Greater Lyttonsville and Longbranch.
George L.	Leventhal	D	Yes. I have been an active, consistent supporter of the Purple Line. I co-founded Purple Line Now! in 2002 and have served as an ex officio board member ever since.

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Council At-Large			
Robert	Dyer	R	No. I was very supportive from the beginning, when it was a single-track project, and still as a candidate in 2006 and 2010. By the time I ran in 2014, the project had become too wide. Chevy Chase & Long Branch segments should have been underground.
Marilyn	Balcombe	D	Yes, I have consistently supported the Purple Line.
Hoan	Dang	D	The Purple Line was first conceived in 1994 as a "ring" around the Beltway; but the idea was abandoned in 2001 as too costly. In 2008, Governor O'Malley proposed a shorter Purple Line connecting Bethesda and New Carrollton. I have supported the Purple Line as proposed in 2008, and do so today.
Lorna Phillips	Forde	D	Yes, I consistently supported the Purple Line before it started construction.
Jill Ortman	Fouse	D	Yes. As a school board member, I have not taken votes on the Purple Line, but the school system is providing easements for it. I am - and have been - a strong supporter of public transit, and I strongly support the Purple Line as well as the CCT and the county's plans for a high-quality Bus Rapid Transit network. Reliable, affordable and efficient public transit is critical to supporting our families so can get to job and higher education opportunities. We need our students and their families to have the services they need accessible for best outcomes. I also strongly support bicycling and pedestrian infrastructure. I think it is important to work closely with both the school system and community so that transit best meets the community's needs and doesn't have unintended consequences that can displace community.
Evan	Glass	D	Yes. I have a long and public track record of supporting the Purple Line.
Richard	Gottfried	D	I have not been involved in the Purple Line discussion nor have I taken a position on the Purple Line in previous years. I have not researched this but was it every discussed to build the Purple line in the middle of the ICC road?

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Council At-Large (cont)			
Seth	Grimes	D	<p>Yes. I've tried to find documentation. Here's the best I can do: [see below] Otherwise, on the public record, I voted in 2013 in favor of Takoma Park City Council Resolution 2013-64, comment based on implicit Purple Line support: https://documents.takomaparkmd.gov/government/city-council/resolutions/2013/resolution-2013-64.pdf</p> <pre> Date: Sun, 19 Oct 2008 06:34:27 -0400 From: Webb Smedley <purplelinenow@gmail.com> To: Seth Grimes <grimes@altaplana.com> Subject: Purple Line and Takoma Park Parts/Attachments: 1 Shown 15 lines Text (charset: ISO-8859-1) 2 OK 3 lines Text (charset: ISO-8859-1) </pre> <p>Seth -</p> <p>Thanks for helping us get the word out about the Purple Line hearings. On a day when the Post came out with an absurdly negative article, seeing our grassroots campaign spread is a great feeling.</p> <p>We hope you will join PLN and our other supporters at one of the hearings.</p> <p>Now to write that letter to the editor....</p> <p>All the best-</p> <p>Webb Smedley Chair - PLN</p>
Will	Jawando	D	Yes
Danielle	Meitiv	D	Yes. I have always supported the Purple Line, marched with Purple Line Now in the Silver Spring Thanksgiving parade, and attended actions in support.
Hans	Riemer	D	Yes. In fact I pledged in 2006 to "Build the Purple Line or Die Trying."
Michele	Riley	D	I support the Purple Line as an important east-west transportation connection.
Steve	Solomon	D	I am running for office for the first time, I have no documentation of any past positions. But yes, I support the Purple Line.

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Pete	Fosselman	D	<p>I have not always supported the Purple Line. Years ago, while attending an event for then Delegate Chris Van Hollen in Chevy Chase, I was accosted by an angry resident about my consideration of support for the Purple Line. This person was very influential and convinced me to change my view. It wasn't until a few years ago, after a conversation with County Council Member George Leventhal, that I "saw the light" and began to support the Line.</p> <p>The Purple Line will lend itself to transit-oriented development along its route between New Carrollton and Bethesda, offering citizens of both counties more opportunities for walkable sustainable neighborhoods, not totally dependent on the automobile. I also believe it will create opportunities for more mobility for lower-wage workers to get around the region and fill jobs in College Park, Silver Spring and Bethesda. Its link to the University of Maryland, of course requires no explanation to reasonable folks.</p>
Andrew	Friedson	D	<p>Yes. I have been a longstanding advocate of the Purple Line as a critical social and environmental justice issue and economic development opportunity, from my time as an activist and student body president at University of Maryland, as an advisor at the BPW that approved the historic design-bid-build agreement, and as a candidate for County Council.</p>
Ana Sol	Gutierrez	D	<p>Yes. I have been a long, long time supporter and advocate for the Purple Line, even before it was called the "Purple Line"! In 1989, I supported the original offer by then Gov. Schaefer to build a Bethesda-Silver Spring light rail aka Georgetown Branch trolley line! Since 2003, when elected state delegate representing legislative District 18, I have been the ONLY D-18 representative who has consistently stood up in support of the Purple Line—against the opposition by Columbia Country Club and others. This long-awaited transit project will finally bring high-quality, reliable transit service to hundreds of workers as they travel from where they live to where they work.</p>
Jim	McGee	D	<p>We moved here 20 years ago. My wife and I have been bicyclist for almost twice that long. It was perhaps that long ago that we were first confronted by bicycle groups on the Georgetown Branch trail asking us to sign petitions protesting the proposed rail line (was it purple back then?). My position then and now is that the phrase "Share the Road" is a two-way process. That was originally a rail line and returning it to that use is not unreasonable. Unfortunately, I did not envision running for office back then, so I can't document my position.</p> <p>Additionally, as METRO ages, it becomes increasingly important that we build redundancy into the system so that there are alternative rapid transit routes to get from point A to point B. We need to be planning for a vision of METRO on its 100th birthday, and get passed this bumbling from one budget cycle to the next.</p>

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Regina "Regg	Oldak	D	Yes. When I ran for D16 Delegate in 2006, I signed the Purple Line Pledge.
Meredith	Wellington	D	While on the Planning Board, I supported a heavy rail underground route proposal that ran from Silver Spring to Medical Center and north. I supported the County's Purple Line proposal and said so on the record when I applied for Planning Board Chair in 2014.
Council District 2			
Craig L.	Rice	D	Yes
Council District 3			
Sidney A.	Katz	D	Yes, I have consistently supported the Purple Line.
Ben	Shnider	D	Yes. I have been organizing in support of the Purple Line since I was a student, when I helped then Delegate Bill Bronrott pull together a rally at the Silver Spring Metro with the Purple Line Caucus to build public support for the project. Also, I'm a proud former member of the ACT Board.