

CHERYL C. KAGAN
Legislative District 17
Montgomery County

Education, Health, and
Environmental Affairs Committee

Joint Audit Committee



Annapolis Office
James Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street, Room 303
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
301-858-3134 • 410-841-3134
800-492-7122 Ext. 3134
Fax 301-858-3665 • 410-841-3665
Cheryl.Kagan@senate.state.md.us

THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

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Senator Cheryl C. Kagan
District 17 (Rockville & Gaithersburg)
Cheryl.Kagan@senate.state.md.us
(301) 858-3134

Senator Kagan Urges Governor Hogan to Fund Added Transportation During *SafeTrack* Delays & Closures: Costs Could Reach \$1,000,000

Annapolis, MD: In order to ensure sufficient, reliable transit alternatives during Metro's *SafeTrack* maintenance to the Red Line, Senator Cheryl Kagan sent a letter to Governor Larry Hogan to pressure his Administration to cover the costs for needed supplemental bus transportation. The Red Line will be single-tracking in Montgomery County for a significant part of August, and a segment will be completely closed in Prince George's County through much of October.

For just the Montgomery County portion of the Red Line, the estimated expense of increased bus service for up to 50,000 people who commute Down-County and into Washington, DC could be as much as \$1,000,000.

In her letter, Kagan wrote:

"Because it is the State of Maryland that is a member of the WMATA compact, I believe it should be the State — and not the County — that provides funding for this emergency transportation issue... It is vital that frequent, reliable, and comfortable buses replace Metro to meet the transit needs for those commuting to work."

"I often describe my Senate District as 'up the Red Line,' so I am always concerned about any impending challenges to my constituents and to the rest of Montgomery and Frederick County commuters who choose WMATA."

According to Kagan, "Our State government shouldn't assume that Montgomery County will open its checkbook to pay for services that should be covered by the State."

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About Senator Cheryl C. Kagan: Senator Kagan (D) represents District 17, Rockville and Gaithersburg, in the Maryland General Assembly. First elected in 1994 to the House of Delegates, Kagan served two terms before stepping down to work in the non-profit sector. In 2014, Kagan returned to elected office, winning her first term to the Maryland State Senate. Senator Kagan serves on the Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee and Joint Audit Committee.