

**HB 527**  
**Purple Line Free Ridership and Advertising**

Once built, the Purple Line will bring many benefits to the communities through which it travels.

However, the Purple Line construction itself has been a years-long debacle, especially for the residents and businesses who live along and near the construction site. They have endured daily disruptions of all kinds: road closures, traffic detours, rough roads, construction noises, etc. Frustrations for residents continue to mount as the finish line is delayed and repairs aren't made as construction progresses<sup>1</sup>. Local businesses along the route have seen significant declines in customers as construction diverts traffic, blocks off roads, and generally gives the appearance of the area being closed. Some are barely hanging on, hoping to make it to the opening of the line<sup>2</sup>. Residents and businesses deserve some acknowledgement for the toils suffered as the line is being built. The state can provide that and develop excitement for the line with this legislation.

**This bill will:**

- ✓ Provide a very modest gesture of gratitude to the residents and businesses along the route who have been harmed by the construction.
- Residents within a ¼ of a mile of the line will receive a pass to ride the Purple Line for free for three months.
- Businesses will receive free advertising on the Purple Line for the first 3 months of its operation.

For more information please contact:  
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<sup>1</sup> Broom, Scott. "Pressure on Purple Line to Speed up Road Repairs While Construction Is in Progress." *WUSA9*, 27 Sept. 2023, [www.wusa9.com/article/traffic/mission-metro/purple-line-construction-frustration-for-maryland-suburb-residents/65-dd22ed98-61dd-452c-8090-847fa1021869](http://www.wusa9.com/article/traffic/mission-metro/purple-line-construction-frustration-for-maryland-suburb-residents/65-dd22ed98-61dd-452c-8090-847fa1021869).

<sup>2</sup> Ryan, Kate. "'We're Still Hanging on!': Businesses and Residents in Silver Spring on the Continued Purple Line Construction." *WTOP News*, 16 Mar. 2024, [wtop.com/montgomery-county/2024/03/were-still-hanging-on-businesses-and-residents-in-silver-spring-on-the-continued-purple-line-construction/](http://wtop.com/montgomery-county/2024/03/were-still-hanging-on-businesses-and-residents-in-silver-spring-on-the-continued-purple-line-construction/).