

## **Response to The Banner**

1 message

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To: Lutherville GOOGLE GROUPS <lutherville@googlegroups.com>

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On February 1, 2023 The Banner published two commentaries regarding Lutherville Station. The LCA responded February 7th but The Banner has chosen not to publish our response.

## Just the Facts, PLEASE

The Banner on February 1, 2023 published two commentaries from "readers" who live and/or work 15 - 55 miles from Lutherville Station.

There are a number of inaccuracies in their statements, and one has to wonder why one would be motivated to write to the Banner about this, at all.

So, let's focus on the facts.

This property is next to the Light Rail line. Yes, just as it has been next to the same North Central train gauge tracks since 1858. That's correct, 1858.

This property and all of Lutherville is within the URDL as defined in 1967. It's not so much a development line, but a line defining where public water and sewer is provided. Lutherville was settled in 1852, and most of the homes in the Lutherville Community Association if not from the "historic" period date to the 1950's, long before the URDL even contemplated. In 1852, it was built has a summer retreat, a hamlet away from Baltimore City. Lutherville has a Community Conservation Plan approved by the Baltimore County Council and a National Historic District designation.

As for transit, this area already has a significant transit infrastructure, but there is no level of ridership that justifies pairing another Light Rail system, ONE BLOCK away, with the one currently in place, going virtually unused.

What is warranted are numerous transit technology improvements and smaller infrastructure improvements along the existing Light Rail line to provide express service to key destinations. We support that as well as many specific improvements to the existing transportation systems in our area.

As for supporting "walkability" this supports our concern that these writers are completely unfamiliar with our neighborhood. Build in the 1850's there are NO sidewalks. In fact, even sections of York Road, a State road, don't have sidewalks. There is no access to York Rd without walking down the middle of the existing streets.

As for apartments, we as a community embrace apartments. We have several apartments complexes within our borders; they are our neighbors and our friends. But what is different here at Lutherville Station is that it is zoned Commercial and has been since before 1950. Our parents and our families bought and built here with that understanding.

So those arguing against apartments are doing so because this a commercial property. It is not zoned for anything remotely residential. The developer has not been suggesting anything in line with the current zoning.

So before you judge us, please consider the facts.

Pamela K. Shaw President Lutherville Community Association