



# TOWN OF COLMAR MANOR

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November 1, 2023

**Mayor Monica Casañas**

**Town Council**

Maliek Harding, Ward 1  
Irina Hobbs, Ward 2  
Keith Brooks, Ward 3  
Melinda Mendoza, Ward 4

**Clerk-Treasurer**

Dan Baden

**Town Administrator**

Greg Holcomb

**Chief of Police**

Tracy Stone

**Public Works Supervisor**

Al Niemann

Maryland Department of the Environment  
Attn: Danielle A. Spendiff  
Chief, Regulatory & Customer Service Division  
Water and Science Administration  
1800 Washington Boulevard  
Baltimore, MD 21230

Dear Danielle A. Spendiff,

RE: Maryland Department of the Environment Baltimore-Washington Rapid Rail (BWRR)  
Clean Water Act, Section 401 Water Quality Certification (WQC) for building of the Baltimore-Washington Superconducting Magnetic Levitation (SCMaglev) train.

As the mayor of a town who would be directly impacted by the construction of the MAGLEV project, I am writing to express my strong opposition to the recent application for a water quality permit submitted for the MAGLEV project. While I understand the potential benefits of modernizing our transportation infrastructure, I believe that the drawbacks and concerns associated with this project far outweigh any advantages.

My opposition to this maglev project is based on several key concerns:

1. **Cost and Funding:** The immense cost of developing and implementing a maglev system, as well as the uncertainty surrounding funding sources, raises concerns about the financial burden this project will place on taxpayers.
2. **Environmental Impact:** The construction of dedicated maglev tracks and the potential disruption of local ecosystems and communities raise environmental concerns that must be carefully considered and addressed.
3. **Energy Consumption:** The energy requirements of maglev systems are substantial, and we should be focusing on sustainable and energy-efficient transportation solutions in an era of climate change and environmental conservation.
4. **Community Disruption:** The disruption caused by the construction of maglev tracks and the potential impact on property values and the quality of life for local residents cannot be ignored.
5. **Lack of Compatibility:** The inability of maglev trains to integrate with existing rail infrastructure limits their utility and compatibility with our existing transportation networks.

*“The Little Town that Can”*

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I strongly believe that alternative transportation solutions, which may offer a more cost-effective and environmentally friendly approach, should be explored before proceeding with the maglev project.

I kindly request that our concerns be taken into consideration during the decision-making process, and that a transparent and open dialogue is initiated with the community to address our worries and questions.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I urge you to reconsider the proposed maglev project and explore alternative options that align with the best interests of our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Monica Casañas".

Monica Casañas  
Mayor, Town of Colmar Manor

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