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Contact:

Danyell Diggs

Red Line Planning Coordinator

443-984-4097

Mayor Cites Red Line as Blueprint for Stronger Neighborhoods and a Competitive Edge

BALTIMORE (February 10, 2009) - In yesterday's State of the City address Mayor Sheila Dixon pushed for more public transportation and cited the development of the Baltimore Red Line Transit Project as an opportunity to showcase the "great potential of Baltimore's competitive strengths."

"In the past year, we have seen neighbors come together with City government in partnership with the State to define success for the Red Line – not just as a transportation project, but to serve as a blueprint to strengthen neighborhoods, restore our environment, and put Baltimore to work," the Mayor said. She acknowledged the more than 60 community associations and advocacy groups that have signed on to the Red Line Community Compact to date.

Developed in collaboration between the City and community partners, the Compact sets forth goals and strategies to the guide planning, design and construction of the Red Line. Emphasis is placed on the creation of jobs, economic opportunities and housing options, while preserving Baltimore's unique urban environment, its neighborhoods and its historic districts.

"As questions and concerns about the final Red Line route still exist; we know that through the Community Compact, every community along the proposed route will benefit." Mayor Dixon and County Executive Jim Smith publicly support Red Line Alternative 4C as the preferred alignment solution for Baltimore.

For the latest information on the Baltimore City Red Line Transit Project log onto www.gobaltimoreredline.com.

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