



MARYLAND DEPARTMENT of TRANSPORTATION

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SECRETARY FLANAGAN APPOINTS SAMUEL K. RAKER TO HEAD COMMUNITY OUTREACH FOR MARYLAND'S INTERCOUNTY CONNECTOR

(HANOVER, MD) – Transportation Secretary Robert L. Flanagan today announced Montgomery County community advocate Samuel K. Raker has been appointed Special Assistant to the Secretary for Community Outreach on the Intercounty Connector (ICC) project. In this capacity, Mr. Raker will coordinate public education and community support efforts for the ICC. Construction of the ICC is the top transportation priority of Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. As envisioned, the ICC will be a highway facility providing a much needed transportation link between the two major economic development corridors of I-270/370 in Montgomery County and I-95/US 1 in Prince George's County.

"Governor Ehrlich is putting an end to four decades of political gridlock over the Intercounty Connector," said Secretary Flanagan. "It is time to build the ICC and Sam Raker is uniquely qualified to help us reach that goal. Sam's mission is to be an advocate for the ICC project as a whole, not any particular alignment. His strong ties in the community and his skill as a facilitator will allow him to reach out to a diverse cross section of groups and individuals. He will help define the positive impact the ICC will have on the economic future and quality of life of Montgomery and Prince George's counties and the entire state."

Since 1996 Mr. Raker has served as Executive Director for the Committee for Montgomery, a broad-based organization of community leaders representing labor, business, educational, civic and community-diversity groups. From 2000 to 2001, he also served as Co-Chair of the Transportation Policy Report Task Force in Montgomery County. The task force was charged by the Montgomery County Planning Board with recommending long-range transportation and land use solutions for the county.

"Through my years working on transportation issues in the region, there is one thing that I have learned: the need for the Intercounty Connector," said Mr. Raker. "I am looking forward to working with Governor Ehrlich and his team to help finally get the ICC off the drawing board and under construction for the citizens of Maryland."

Prior to assuming a leadership role with the Committee for Montgomery, Mr. Raker spent 37 years as both an active duty naval officer and a civilian working in the United States Navy's Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program. He is a resident of Montgomery County.

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