



CONGRESS FOR THE NEW URBANISM

May 28, 2013

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Jay J. Hellman, Ph.D.
The Hellman Company, Inc.
1828 L Street NW
Washington, DC 20036

John Tabori, Mayor
Town of University Park
6724 Baltimore Ave
University Park, MD 20782

Terry Wendt, AICP, RA
Wendt Consulting Group
912 West Lake St
Chicago, IL 60607

Re: SRSOD ToolKit: Research to Create, Test & Implement a New Land-Use Regulatory System

Dear Dr. Hellman, Mayor Tabori, and Mr. Wendt:

The Congress for the New Urbanism is the nation's leading not-for-profit organization advocating for the creation of sustainable, walkable, mixed-use neighborhoods that achieve economic efficiency, environmental sustainability, social diversity, improved public health and safety, and physical beauty. CNU members are planners, developers, architects, engineers, public officials, investors and community activists who create and influence our built environment. CNU has collaborated with the American Planning Association, Green Building Council, Institute for Transportation Engineers and other entities to develop design standards, codes and models of urban development that are implemented by municipalities, landowners, and real estate developers nationwide.

I reviewed the proposed Maryland State Rail Station Overlay District (SRSOD) model and your research proposal to create an SRSOD ToolKit, which will enable local communities to implement this development and regulation model. CNU recognizes the nationwide applicability of SRSOD to transit-oriented districts and agrees that it is a necessary long-sought solution to transform existing automobile-based land plans around suburban rail stations to pedestrian-fabric public realms making it feasible for the private sector to effectively develop transit-oriented buildings.

This work aligns with CNU's Mission and Strategic Plan, and I strongly endorse your proposed research project. I appreciate the practical and powerful significance of the SRSOD not just as President & CEO of the CNU, but as a former four term mayor of Milwaukee, WI, a prospective beneficiary.

Please advise prospective SRSOD ToolKit contributors that I am available to discuss the project and answer questions about CNU's support. We are enthusiastic about the project's vision and the opportunity to facilitate high-quality TOD-growth within Maryland's Metro Station Districts. It will be an applicable model for America.

Sincerely,

John Norquist,
President & CEO