

For Release
Wednesday, July 16, 2008

ANTI-PURPLE LINE SPENDING
PASSES MILLION DOLLAR MARK

Documented spending by Columbia Country Club and its allies to oppose the Purple Line passed the million-dollar mark this morning. This benchmark was reached when the Action Committee for Transit added Columbia Country Club's lobbying expenditures in the 2008 Maryland General Assembly, amounting to \$12,720, to the running total posted at:
<http://www.innerpurpleline.org/opposition.htm>.

The documented expenditures reach the enormous sum of \$1,011,918, and the true total is much higher. Only spending whose dollar amount is revealed on the public record is included in ACT's figures. Among the major expenditures not included in the total because the numbers have never been disclosed is the Country Club's current effort to create a phony grassroots movement, which was uncovered in Sunday's Washington Post:
<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/07/12/AR2008071200790.html>

"These numbers leave no doubt about what is at stake in the Purple Line debate," commented ACT president Ben Ross. "This is a choice between the many who travel to work or to school, and a few privileged golfers who want their dollars to count more than our votes."

- end -