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Letter

01/31/08

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Trolley would be good idea for landlord and his tenants

I think you should hear from at least one property owner very likely to be assessed, who supports the proposed 7.5-mile trolley line. I own two properties in the area, so I can only imagine I will have to shell out an extra \$100 a year. Nevertheless, the trolley is a good idea from a business standpoint, since I usually rent these properties out to students, who cannot always afford the upkeep of an automobile while engrossed in labor-intensive academic pursuits.

The trolley would be a win/win for both landlord and tenant, because the value of these rental properties will be enhanced. Plus, I can only imagine the trolley will be fruitful for academic institutions nearby. The schools wouldn't have to waste more money building parking lots. Students and young couples should be able to avoid owning cars in an academic, urban community.

That being said, I think the trolley line should be given the right of way in traffic (like it is done everywhere else in the world except for the Baltimore light rail). Also it should intersect with other transit modalities, such as the light rail and Penn Station. A functional trolley linked to the metro would enable Johns Hopkins to jettison their expensive shuttles to Peabody and Johns Hopkins Hospital.

Paul R. Schlitz Jr.

Mt. Washington



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