



January 30, 2008

Mr. Michael Knapp, President  
& Members of the Montgomery County Council  
Montgomery County Council  
Stella B. Werner County Office Building  
100 Maryland Avenue  
Rockville, MD 20850

Dear Council President Knapp and Members of the Council:

On behalf of the Board Directors of the Greater Silver Spring Chamber of Commerce, I am writing in support of the County Executive's signed agreement with Live Nation to bring the Fillmore to downtown Silver Spring. The Chamber believes that this important economic development initiative will enhance the ongoing revitalization efforts already undertaken by the state and county in downtown Silver Spring.

The successful redevelopment of Silver Spring has created a renaissance in our community that is nothing short of amazing. Today there are more businesses, more jobs, more places to live, and more reasons for people to visit Silver Spring and spend their money than anyone could have imagined even a few years ago. All this economic activity means not only a better way of life for the citizens and businesses of Silver Spring, but an expanding flow of dollars into the County and State.

At the same time, as the Chamber has often said, we're only half-way there. Much work remains to complete the dream of Silver Spring and assure a vibrant and robust business climate that will support the quality of life we enjoy today. Bringing the Fillmore to Silver Spring is a huge step in that direction.

Key to the success that is Silver Spring has been its emergence as an "Arts & Entertainment" destination. Bringing the Fillmore to downtown Silver Spring will enhance and strengthen the successful entertainment venues already here – The AFI Silver Theatre and Roundhouse Theatres across the street and the Majestic, just a block away. Adding the nationally-renowned Fillmore to the mix will provide a huge economic boost to the much-needed redevelopment effort along Colesville Road and will further expand the flow of tax revenue to the local and state government. According to "Arts & Economic Prosperity III," a study conducted in 2005 by Americans for the Arts, every \$1 of government investment in the arts yields a whopping return of \$7. That comes not only from the jobs created in the community, but by the dollars spent in the community by the patrons of those arts – transportation, food, even lodging.

We applaud the County Executive for making this important commitment to the future of Silver Spring. We support the process that the County Executive has undertaken to negotiate in good faith with Live Nation. We look forward to the music and the economic success that it will bring.

Sincerely,

**Jane Redicker**

Jane Redicker  
President