

**Statement by County Executive Isiah Leggett Regarding Council  
Approval of Funds to Build a  
New Silver Spring Music & Community Use Venue**

March 2008

“I congratulate the County Council on approving the funding necessary to bolster economic revitalization in Silver Spring through the construction of a new live music, entertainment, and community use venue on Colesville Road in downtown Silver Spring.

“The Fillmore will provide a world-class array of musical choices that can appeal to the diversity that is Silver Spring and the County as a whole – rock, jazz, country & western, folk, rhythm and blues, comedy, pop, children’s programming, salsa, and more. It will have the flexibility to host stand-up, theatre seating, and events with tables and chairs. We’ll have free and discounted uses for the community available when it is not otherwise programmed. And Fillmore is already talking with the American Film Institute and Discovery Communications about creating an exciting synergy.

“Best of all, it will benefit our bottom line from the start through more business for Silver Spring restaurants and shops. An economic impact analysis done by the County’s Department of Finance shows an annual profit to the public of \$712,000.

“When the value of Live Nation’s improvements to the County-owned building and Live Nation’s ongoing and structural maintenance work are included – as well as the value of community use and Live Nation community contributions – the net benefit to the public increases by another \$951,000 to a total net public benefit annually of about \$1,663,000.

“As we move forward with the next steps of the project, I want to thank the County Council for their support and thanks also to the Silver Spring community, whose input in our open process helped shape a project that will enrich our County’s live music scene and help complete Silver Spring revitalization.

“We will continue to work closely with the Council, the community, and our County delegation in the state legislature to be sure the Fillmore opens as scheduled in 2010.”