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**MARYLAND ASPHALT ASSOCIATION**



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Tim Smith

February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Delegate Ben Barnes, Chair  
House Appropriations Committee  
121 House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

**RE: HB 950 – UNFAVORABLE – Maryland Transit Administration – Locally Operated Transit Systems – Mandatory Funding**

Dear Chair Barnes and Members of the Committee:

The Maryland Asphalt Association (MAA) is comprised of 19 producer members representing more than 48 production facilities, 25 contractor members, 25 consulting engineer firms, and 41 other associate members. MAA works proactively with regulatory agencies to represent the interests of the asphalt industry both in the writing and interpretation of state and federal regulations that may affect our members. We also advocate for adequate state and federal funding for Maryland's multimodal transportation system.

House Bill 950 would require the Governor to allocate \$80 Million annually from the Transportation Trust Fund (TTF) into the Locally Operated Transit System Grant Program. MAA strongly opposes this bill because it simply sets up a significant ear mark in the TTF without providing any other funding source. This will negatively impact all other forms of transportation, jeopardizing jobs, and economic stability within our industry. The transportation sector is a significant contributor to Maryland's economy and a shift in funding priorities at the sacrifice of another does not move Maryland forward. At a time when Maryland's transportation budget has been severely cut combined with great needs across all modes, we must look to addressing the entire system with improved and sustainable funding sources and not simply carve outs that leave others behind.

We recognize the significance of supporting sustainable and efficient public transportation systems. However, we propose a more balanced and collaborative approach that considers the interests of all transportation modes and the Maryland construction industry.

We appreciate you taking the time to consider our request for an **UNFAVORABLE** report on HB 950.

Sincerely,

Tim E. Smith, P.E.  
President  
Maryland Asphalt Association