



MARYLAND TRANSIT CAUCUS

marylandtransitcaucus.org • @CaucusTransit
transitcaucus@gmail.com

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Dear Members of the Maryland General Assembly,

On behalf of the Transit Caucus, we are writing to express our endorsement of **SB 59/ HB 437: Transportation – Major Highway Capacity Expansion Projects and Impact Assessments (Transportation and Climate Alignments Act of 2026)**. As advocates for transportation-related legislation before the General Assembly, we believe this bill is essential to our mission of ensuring a more sustainable, efficient, and accessible transit system for all residents. We are confident that its passage will have a positive impact on our communities, economy, and environment.

The goal SB 59/ HB 437 is to require MDOT to assess and offset the greenhouse gas emissions from major highway expansion projects costing over \$100 million. For these projects, the Department must perform an impact assessment and develop a corresponding multimodal transportation program that completely offsets the project's greenhouse gas emissions through investments in public transit, as well as bike and pedestrian infrastructure, with priority given to developments in overburdened and underserved communities.

Under the bill, the Department must evaluate all major capital projects in its consolidated transportation program for their climate impact and align the overall program with Maryland's climate pollution reduction goals, funding offsetting activities as needed to meet declining annual greenhouse gas emission reduction targets. The bill is needed as it encourages better investment in multimodal transit. This results in Marylanders having more affordable and accessible transportation options and spending less time in traffic.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this bill. Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. We look forward to working with you as we build a better Maryland transportation system for all.
Thank you,

Senator Cory McCray, Co-Chair

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