February 12, 2020

Senator Guy Guzzone, Chair Budget and Taxation Committee 3 West, Miller Senate Office Building 11 Bladen Street Annapolis, Maryland 21401 **OPPOSE** 

Re: SENATE BILL 424 – MARYLAND TRANSIT ADIMINSTARATION – FUNDING (TRANSIT SAFETY AND INVESTMENT ACT)

Dear Chairman Guzzone and Committee Members:

The Maryland Transportation Builders and Materials Association ("MTBMA") has been and continues to serve as the voice for Maryland's construction transportation industry since 1932. Our association is comprised of 200 members. MTBMA encourages, develops, and protects the prestige of the transportation construction and materials industry in Maryland by establishing and maintaining respected relationships with federal, state, and local public officials.

SB 424 would require the Governor to mandate appropriations each year from the Transportation Trust Fund to the Maryland Transit Administration. We strongly believe in the Governor's power to choose when and where funds should be allocated in regards to the transportation industry. Giving the Governor the discretionary power to distribute funds will allow more flexibility and support to needed projects like road repair. Mandating funds, and increasing the amount of mandated funds, may take away from impactful developments that would positively effect the greater good of Maryland.

We appreciate you taking the time to address this important issue and we urge an unfavorable report on Senate Bill 424.

Thank you,

Michael A Salala

Michael Sakata
President and CEO
Maryland Transportation Builders and Materials Association