



JAN H. GARDNER

**Frederick County
Executive**

HB 116

**Transportation – I-270
Commuter Bus Route
Study**

County Position: SUPPORT

Date: January 19, 2021

Committee: Environment & Transportation

Frederick County Executive Jan Gardner urges your **SUPPORT** for House Bill 116 – Transportation – I-270 Commuter Bus Route Study.

We have long advocated for the need to connect the City of Frederick and Frederick County to the D.C. region by a more robust transit system, beyond weekday service during peak traffic hours. The I-270 corridor contains the second, third, and fourth largest cities in Maryland, Frederick, Gaithersburg, and Rockville, respectively, yet the cities of Frederick and Gaithersburg remain connected to the D.C. region only by limited train and commuter bus service.

County Executive Gardner supports the provisions in the proposed legislation that:

- Addresses the need for a more robust transit service, especially in combination with Electronic Toll Lanes (ETLs) on I-270 as the least expensive way to provide the much-needed transit connection between Frederick and the D.C. suburbs;
- Builds on the existing work of the Maryland Department of Transportation Secretary's Managed Lanes Transit Work Group, studying the viability of Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) in the I-270 and I-495 corridors; and
- Builds on the existing work of the Montgomery County Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission's (M-NCPPC) functional master plan to study BRT from the City of Frederick to Tysons Corner, VA, and connecting the Metrorail Red and Silver Lines and North Bethesda.

Frederick County Executive Gardner urges favorable **SUPPORT** for House Bill 116.