



MARYLAND ASPHALT ASSOCIATION



Delegate Kumar Barve, Chair  
Environment and Transportation Committee  
251 House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Delegate Maggie McIntosh, Chair  
Appropriations Committee  
121 House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

February 12, 2021

**RE: HB 703 – UNFAVORABLE – Transportation – I-270 and I-495 – Prohibition on Adding New Lanes**

Dear Members from Environment and Transportation and Appropriations Committees:

The Maryland Transportation Builders and Materials Association (“MTBMA”) and the Maryland Asphalt Association (“MAA”) collectively represent tens of thousands of Marylanders who operate in the areas of transportation construction, production and engineering. Together, for nearly 100 years these organizations have served as the voice of the transportation construction industry. The mission of both MTBMA and MAA is to encourage, develop, and protect the prestige of the transportation construction and materials industry in Maryland by establishing and maintaining respected relationships with federal, state, and local public officials. We proactively work with regulatory agencies and governing bodies to represent the interests of the transportation industry, and also advocate for adequate state and federal funding for Maryland’s multimodal transportation system.

HB 703 prohibits the State Highway Administration from adding any additional lanes to I-495 and I-270, which will shut down the Public-Private Partnership (P3) Managed Lanes project currently underway. This project will revolutionize these roadways by alleviating highway congestion resulting in decreased emissions and pollution, while trying to address and improve a decaying infrastructure system. Furthermore, it will add jobs and boost the economy, which are indispensable during a time when both our industry and the State are suffering from the economic hardships of COVID-19.

The Governor and his administration have worked tirelessly to craft a program aimed at traffic relief in the most congested region of our State by using a P3, which were authorize by this governing body. For these reasons, we ask for an UNFAVORABLE report on House Bill 703.

Sincerely,

Michael Sakata  
President & CEO, MTBMA

Marshall Klinefelter  
President, MAA