



March 10, 2022

**House Bill 1336**

**Greater Baltimore Transit Governance and Funding  
Commission**

**House Appropriations Committee**

**Position: FAVORABLE**

Anne Arundel County **SUPPORTS** House Bill 1336 - Greater Baltimore Transit Governance and Funding Commission. This regional commission, comprised of representatives from the greater Baltimore region and appointed by the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Delegates, and the chief executives of Anne Arundel County, Baltimore, and Baltimore County, who have expertise or experience dealing with issues of mass transit, will study and offer recommendations to improve equity and performance of regional mass transit systems.

Across our region, residents feel the effects of inequitable access to mass transit and transportation options, which affects their ability to travel between their homes, schools, and places of employment. This inequity hits those on the lower rungs of the economic ladder hardest. In 2019, Anne Arundel County adopted Move Anne Arundel!, the County's Transportation Functional Master Plan, with the adopted vision that "Anne Arundel County will provide a safe, efficient, equitable, sustainable, and multimodal transportation system that provides residents, travelers, and visitors with connectivity and choice." Move Anne Arundel! includes quantifiable goals for improving safety and shifting mode share from single occupancy vehicles to alternatives, including mass transit.

This commission will undertake significant analysis in studying financing models and peer regions that have successfully implemented shared governance and oversight structures, reviewing potential alternative distributions of planning responsibilities, oversight, and funding, reviewing alternative governance structures for mass transit, identifying potential funding sources, and coordinating with providers of public and private transit in the region to improve coordination among public transportation services in the region. By providing its interim and final reports to the General Assembly to help guide transportation policy and planning, the Commission will be a valuable asset in addressing the transit needs of the hundreds of thousands who have inequitable access to public transportation, or are stuck in traffic every day, and offer real ideas to solve the public health, environmental, and safety crisis that is hurting the quality of life in the region.

For all of these reasons, Anne Arundel County respectfully requests a **FAVORABLE** report on House Bill 1336.