

The County Commissioners of Kent County

P. Thomas Mason, President | Ronald H. Fithian, Member | Robert N. Jacob, Jr., Member | Shelley L. Heller, County Administrator | Thomas N. Yeager, County Attorney

March 3, 2022

The Honorable Guy Guzzone, Chair Budget and Taxation Committee 3 West Miller Senate Office Building Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: SUPPORT OF Senate Bill 726 / House Bill 1187 Transportation – Highway User Revenues – Revenue and Distribution

Dear Chair Guzzone and Members of the Budget and Taxation Committee:

The County Commissioners of Kent County, Maryland support Senate Bill 726 / House Bill 1187 Transportation – Highway User Revenues – Revenue and Distribution. Due to drastic decreases in sharing funding of the Highway User Revenues by the State, in the last 12 years, the County's roads investment in funding has had by necessity, to defer investment in capital road improvements to work to preserve the existing road network. The backlog of capital projects includes paving, signage, traffic, and safety improvements. Without an impactful restoration of the fair share of funding, the long-lasting effects of a recession-driven budget cut will continue to hinder the transportation improvements needed to keep residents and visitors safe on our roadways.

We respectfully submit our full support to SB726 / HB1187.

Very truly yours, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF KENT COUNTY, MARYLAND

P. Thomas Mason, President

Ronald H. Fithian, Member

Robert N. Jacob, Jr., Member

KCC: sew

cc: The Honorable Stephen S. Hershey, Jr.

The Honorable Jay A. Jacobs
The Honorable Steven J. Arentz
The Honorable Jefferson L. Ghrist