

Jeffrey A. Cline, *President*  
Terry L. Baker, *Vice President*  
Krista L. Hart, *Clerk*



Wayne K. Keefer  
Randall E. Wagner  
Charles A. Burkett

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF  
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND**

March 7, 2022

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

RE: Support of SB 726 – Transportation - Highway User Revenues – Revenue and Distribution:  
Washington County

Dear Senator Guzzone:

The Board of County Commissioners of Washington County, Maryland unanimously supports Senate Bill 726.

Washington County has nearly 900 miles of paved, locally-maintained roads. In fiscal year 2007, Washington County received nearly \$9 million in highway user revenues. This revenue stream provided for routine highway repair, maintenance, and operations. The General Assembly changed the distribution of highway user revenues, and Washington County currently receives approximately \$2 million annually in highway user revenues. This is inadequate to provide for routine maintenance and repair of local roads, causing the County to be forced to employ disfavored cosmetic seals and pothole repairs. Since 2007, Washington County has lost approximately \$120 million in revenue that it would have historically received to maintain and repair its local roads.

This bill restores the traditional funding stream and returns highway user revenues to the local governments that maintain and repair most of the roads in the State of Maryland. Restoration of this revenue stream will directly enhance the quality of life enjoyed by county residents and visitors.

For the foregoing reasons, the Board of County Commissioners of Washington County respectfully and without reservation urges the Committee to approve SB 726.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF  
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: Jeffrey A. Cline  
Jeffrey A. Cline, President

cc (via email): Senator George C. Edwards  
Senator Paul Corderman