



March 31, 2022

Senator Delores G. Kelley, Chair
Senate Finance Committee
3 East Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: HB 1336 – FAVORABLE – Greater Baltimore Transit Governance and Funding Commission

Dear Chair Kelley and Members of the Finance Committee:

Together for Transportation Funding, a coalition comprised of the industry's leaders in transportation construction, was formed as a response to the years' long record of insufficient transportation funding to research, evaluate, and educate on new potential sources of revenue across the State.

House Bill 1336 seeks to establish the Greater Baltimore Transit Governance and Funding Commission who will study, analyze, and make recommendations regarding changes to the funding and governance of transit in the greater Baltimore region.

We applaud the Sponsor for the forward thinking that this bill provides. We strongly believe legislation like HB 1336 is the precursor to regional transportation authorities across Maryland, which is one of our Coalition's top four priorities. Regional transportation authorities have proven very effective in other jurisdictions around the country, allowing specific regions within a state to produce enough revenue to fund and support mass transportation projects and efforts in those defined regions. We are excited about this legislation and look forward to possible involvement on the Commission.

We appreciate you taking the time to address this issue, and we urge a favorable report on House Bill 1336.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Michael Sakata', is written over a faint, light blue circular watermark or seal. The signature is fluid and cursive, extending to the right with a long horizontal stroke.

Michael Sakata, Chair
Together for Transportation Funding