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**BILL NO.:**           **House Bill 1336**

**TITLE:**               **Greater Baltimore Transit Governance and Funding Commission**

**SPONSOR:**         Delegate Bridges

**COMMITTEE:**      Finance

**POSITION:**       **SUPPORT**

**DATE:**              March 31, 2022

Baltimore County **SUPPORTS** House Bill 1336 – Greater Baltimore Transit Governance and Funding Commission. This bill would establish the Greater Baltimore Transit Governance and funding commission to evaluate the findings of the Regional Transit Governance and Funding Study.

Since taking office, Baltimore County Executive Johnny Olszewski has made tremendous strides to improve local transit services by consolidating its transportation initiatives within the transportation bureau under the previously-named Department of Public Works. Since this transition, the Department has been renamed to the Department of Public Works and Transportation (DPW-T) to fully capture the County’s commitment to enhanced local transit for all residents. DPW-T has been critical to the establishment of a first of its kind Baltimore County circulator, The Loop and is planning for potential expansion of this service throughout the County.

Baltimore County’s efforts to connect residents at low cost to resources and opportunities across the region cannot be done alone. Through collaboration, regional partners can collectively act to increase the access, quality, and usage of our transportation services. In August 2021, the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board evaluated transit governance and funding in the Baltimore Region and put out a series of recommendations for different paths forward. HB 1336 would evaluate the Board’s findings and narrow down options for bringing regional partners together to connect our communities with a world-class transit system.

Accordingly, Baltimore County requests a **FAVORABLE** report on HB 1336. For more information, please contact Joel Beller, Acting Director of Government Affairs at [jbeller@baltimorecountymd.gov](mailto:jbeller@baltimorecountymd.gov).