



March 31, 2023

Delegate Ben Barnes, Chair
House Appropriations Committee
Room 121, House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Senate Bill 24 – Department of Transportation - Financing and Commission on Transportation Revenue and Infrastructure Needs (State and Federal Transportation Funding Act) – Amendment Request

Dear Chair Barnes and Members of the Appropriations Committee:

The Maryland Transportation Builders and Materials Association (MTBMA) respectfully requests an amendment for your consideration to Senate Bill 24 – Department of Transportation - Financing and Commission on Transportation Revenue and Infrastructure Needs (State and Federal Transportation Funding Act).

Senate Bill 24 would expand the authority of MDOT to issue additional bonds backed by future federal aid, commonly referred to as Grant Anticipation Revenue Vehicle, or “GARVEE,” bonds up to a maximum of \$1 billion as of June 30 of any year; however, the proceeds from those additional bonds are then reserved exclusively to pay for the following projects:

- Designing and constructing the Baltimore Red Line;
- Procuring zero-emission buses (in accordance with existing provisions relating to the conversion of the State transit bus fleet to zero-emission buses) and constructing related infrastructure, including bus maintenance facilities;
- Developing and constructing the Southern Maryland Rapid Transit Corridor;
- Designing and constructing improvements to the Maryland Route 2 and Route 4 corridor, including the Thomas Johnson Bridge;
- Designing and constructing improvements to the Maryland Route 90 corridor; and
- Designing and constructing improvements to the Interstate 81 corridor.

In addition, amendments adopted by the Senate would establish the Maryland Commission on Transportation Revenue and Infrastructure Needs to review the current funding sources for the Transportation Trust Fund, options for sustainable long-term revenue sources for transportation, among others.

The Honorable Ben Barnes

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While MTBMA is in strong support of establishing the Commission on Transportation Revenue and Infrastructure Needs and the increase in the amount of GARVEE bonds that MDOT may issue, we respectfully ask for your consideration to include two additional projects to the list:

- **The American Legion Memorial Bridge on Interstate 495; and**
- **The Gov. William Preston Lane Jr. Memorial Bridge spanning the Chesapeake Bay.**

We believe improvements to these critical transportation corridors are long overdue and will benefit Marylanders across all regions of the State. We appreciate you taking the time to consider our request.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'MS', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Michael Sakata

President and CEO

Maryland Transportation Builders and Materials Association