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February 2, 2023

Delegate Kumar Barve, Chair
House Environment and Transportation Committee
Room 251 House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: HB 9– FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENTS – Equity in Transportation Sector – Guidelines and Analyses

Dear Chair Barve and Members of the Committees:

The Maryland Transportation Builders and Materials Association (“MTBMA”) has been and continues to serve as the voice for Maryland’s construction transportation industry since 1932. Our association is comprised of 200 members. MTBMA encourages, develops, and protects the prestige of the transportation construction and materials industry in Maryland by establishing and maintaining respected relationships with federal, state, and local public officials. We proactively work with regulatory agencies and governing bodies to represent the interests of the transportation industry and advocate for adequate state and federal funding for Maryland’s multimodal transportation system.

House Bill 9 requires equity as a priority in the development of State transportation plans, reports and goals. To do this, the bill requires that the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) and the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) conduct a transit equity analysis, perform a cost-benefit analysis, consult with members and leaders of affected communities, and take all of this information into consideration before announcing any new developments. This bill also adds additional members to the advisory committee.

While the bill adds two additional representatives to the advisory committee, we respectfully request the bill also include a representative from the transportation construction industry. Currently, no one from the industry sits on the advisory committee and we strongly believe our insight is invaluable.

We appreciate you taking the time to address our request on House Bill 9.

Sincerely,

Marshall Klinefelter
President
Maryland Asphalt Association