



February 6, 2024

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

RE: HB 711 – UNFAVORABLE – Consolidated Transportation Program - Indian Head Highway - Conversion Into Limited Access Highway

Dear Chair Barnes and Members of the Committee:

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.

This bill requires the Secretary of Transportation to include sufficient funds in the Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP) for FY 2025 and beyond for the planning, design, and reconstruction necessary for the conversion of Maryland Route 210 (Indian Head Highway) into a limited access highway from the I-495 and I-295 ramps to the Charles County border.

MTBMA respectfully opposes HB 711. This is not how the CTP process is completed. If we allow every legislator to demand funding for projects in their jurisdictions, it sets a new precedent, eroding the process entirely. Additionally, the Transportation Revenue and Infrastructure Needs Commission recently released their interim recommendations, including one that requests that the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) develop and implement a new prioritization process for the 2026-2031 CTP. Therefore, this bill is premature and such requests, at the very least, should wait until MDOT has implemented a new process.

We appreciate you taking the time to consider our request and respectfully request an **UNFAVORABLE** report on House Bill 711.

Thank you,

Michael Sakata
President and CEO
Maryland Transportation Builders and Materials Association