



Chair Marc Korman
and Members, Environment and Transportation Committee
House Office Building
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

February 29, 2024

Dear Chair Korman and Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee:

My name is Dan Reed and I serve as the Regional Policy Director for Greater Greater Washington, a nonprofit that works to advance racial, economic, and environmental justice in land use, transportation, and housing throughout Greater Washington. GGWash supports House Bill 1070, the Maryland Toll Rate Reform Act, which would direct the Maryland Toll Authority (MDTA) to identify opportunities to raise much-needed transportation funding through toll revenue.


Maryland's budget shortfall threatens funding for roads and transit service throughout the state, and in some cases, has led to proposals to cut service entirely. Under the previous governor, tolls on Maryland highways, tunnels, and bridges were significantly decreased, which is no longer sustainable in today's economic climate. As written, this bill would direct the MDTA to find the "optimal" rate to increase tolls that maximizes revenue without pushing drivers to untolled routes or placing an undue burden on lower-income travelers.

Along with House Bill 1215, House Bill 1070 will provide the revenue we need to maintain the transportation network Marylanders rely on today while funding investments for the future. We urge the Environment and Transportation Committee to give this bill a favorable report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Dan Reed'.

Dan Reed
Regional Policy Director
Greater Greater Washington

The Washington, DC region is great  and it can be greater.