



Transportation Alliance

February 7, 2025

Testimony on HB 467 – *Metro Funding Modification Act of 2025* – Appropriations Committee

Position: Favorable with Amendments

The Central Maryland Transportation Alliance recommends amendments to HB 467, which indexes Maryland's annual grants to the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) to inflation.

We support the idea of indexing the annual investment in public transportation systems to inflation so that the buying power does not diminish over time. However, we are concerned that Governors and MDOT Secretaries tend to treat the annual investment in public transportation as fixed and will respond to an increase in the investment in the WMATA by looking to cut the investment in the Locally Operated Transit Systems (LOTS) and the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA). We have similar concerns about the Local Transit Sustainability Act of 2025 (HB 432, SB 20) which would apply a similar indexing to Maryland's annual contribution to the LOTS. Therefore, we recommend amending either or both bills to index Maryland's annual investment in all public transportation to inflation rather than establishing various indexes for various public transportation systems in a piecemeal fashion.

We encourage a FAVORABLE with AMENDMENTS report for House Bill 467.