



# Transportation Alliance

January 29, 2025

## **Testimony on SB 198 – *Transportation Investment Priorities Act of 2025* – Budget & Taxation Committee**

### **Position: Favorable**

The Central Maryland Transportation Alliance supports SB 198, which updates and clarifies the transportation project prioritization program codified in Chapter 30. The point is to ensure that public funds are spent efficiently and effectively on transportation projects that deliver the greatest benefits to the community.

SB 198 requires the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) to make reforms to the project prioritization program that has been in place since 2017 so that it is clearer and more predictable for stakeholders including counties, municipalities, Metropolitan Planning Organizations and other entities that propose transportation projects for inclusion in the MDOT capital program.

It is always important for MDOT to be a careful steward of how public dollars are spent, and now more so as the legislature considers separate proposals for increasing revenues to the Transportation Trust Fund. This departmental bill will improve the transparency and accountability of the spending side of the ledger.

We encourage a FAVORABLE report for Senate Bill 198.