



# MARYLAND TRANSIT CAUCUS

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Dear Members of the Maryland General Assembly,

On behalf of the Transit Caucus, we are writing to express our endorsement of **HB517 / SB401: the MARC Rail Authority Act of 2025**. As advocates for transportation-related legislation before the General Assembly, we believe this bill is essential to our mission of ensuring a more sustainable, efficient, and accessible transit system for all residents. We are confident that its passage will have a positive impact on our communities, economy, and environment.

The MARC Rail system has immense potential to reduce congestion on corridors like 270 and BW Parkway by improving existing commuter rail connections. This approach is more practical than dreaming of fanciful new transportation modes of continually trying to expand roadways. Yet, MARC investments are often deprioritized during fiscal downturns, as seen with the sidelining of the 2007 MARC Growth and Investment Plan and delays to Brunswick Line expansions. The MARC Rail Authority Act of 2025 addresses this by creating a governance and funding approach that ensures MARC's reliability and growth while advancing the Transit Caucus's visions of reducing transportation emissions, achieving Vision Zero through safer transit alternatives, and building a sustainable transit network that better serves Marylanders.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this bill. Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. We look forward to working with you as we build a better Maryland transportation system for all.

Thank you,

Senator Cory McCray, Co-Chair

Delegate Lorig Charkoudian, Co-Chair

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