



## The County Commissioners of Kent County

Ronald H. Fithian, President | Albert H. Nickerson, Member | John F. Price, Member  
Shelley L. Heller, County Administrator | G. Robert Mowell, County Attorney

February 6, 2026

The Honorable Mark Edelson  
316 Lowe House Office Building  
6 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: SUPPORT House Bill 0559 Transportation – Highway User Revenues Capital Grants – Calculation

Dear Delegate Edelson, and Members of the Appropriations Committee and Environment and Transportation Committee:

On behalf of the County Commissioners of Kent County, Maryland, this letter serves as support for House Bill 0559, Transportation – Highway User Revenues Capital Grants – Calculation. Kent County strongly supports House Bill 0559, which prevents a significant reduction in Highway User Revenue in FY2028. Under current law, Kent County faces a sudden and damaging reduction in local road funding, threatening the ability to maintain safe and reliable transportation infrastructure. This would mean limiting activities such as patching and crack sealing, which do not improve roadways but merely slow degradation and deterioration. In Kent County, Highway User Revenues are a critical funding source that directly supports road resurfacing, bridge maintenance, traffic safety improvements, and snow and storm response. As a rural jurisdiction responsible for maintaining a substantial local road network, Kent County relies on predictable funding to plan and implement multi-year capital projects and minimize costly emergency repairs. As with other counties, Kent County lacks independent authority to raise transportation revenue. HB 0599 prevents funding from slipping backward and preserves Kent County's ability to continue advocating for a fair, long-term restoration of Highway User Revenues. For these reasons, Kent County respectfully urges a favorable report on HB 0559.

Very truly yours,

Shelley L. Heller  
County Administrator

SLH: smb

cc: The County Commissioners of Kent County  
The Honorable Stephen S. Hershey, Jr.  
The Honorable Jay A. Jacobs  
The Honorable Steven J. Arentz  
The Honorable Jefferson L. Ghrist

**R. Clayton Mitchell, Jr. Kent County Government Center**

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