



SB - SUPPORT
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SB0062, – Transportation - Consolidated Transportation Program - Prioritization
(Transportation Investment Priorities Act of 2026)

Meeting of the Budget and Taxation Committee

February 25, 2026

Dear Chair Guzzone, Vice Chair Rosapepe, and members of the Budget and Taxation Committee, on behalf of Elders Climate Action Maryland, I urge a favorable report on SB0062, the Transportation Investment Priorities Act of 2026

Elders Climate Action is a nationwide organization devoted to ensuring that our children, grandchildren, and future generations have a world in which they can thrive. The Maryland Chapter has members across the state.

Each day, we see the climate crisis more clearly. We know that Maryland is at risk for sea level rise, flooding from intense rainfall, heat waves, and other extreme weather events.

We are deeply concerned about the effects of the transportation sector. It is the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in Maryland. It is also a major source of other air pollutants that threaten our health. The recent changes in Federal policy are making it much more difficult to cut transportation emissions.

Maryland is facing serious budget constraints, so it is vital that transportation funding be spent in ways that produce the greatest benefits to the health and well-being of Maryland residents.

The Maryland Department of Transportation uses a transportation project prioritization program that is codified in Chapter 30, which has been in place since 2017. SB0062 updates and clarifies the program to ensure public funds are spent efficiently, fairly, and transparently, delivering the greatest benefits to our communities.

The prioritization criteria and measures by which projects are scored would be revised to include:

- safety
- accessibility and mobility
- climate change and the environment
- social equity and economic development
- sustainable land use and transportation demand management

We support these changes, especially the criteria focused on climate, the environment, social equity, sustainable land use, and transportation demand management.

For all of these reasons, we strongly urge a favorable report on SB0062, the Transportation Investment Priorities Act of 2026. Thank you for your time and consideration.