

**Board of County
Commissioners**

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Carroll County Government

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January 30, 2026

The Honorable Guy J. Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
Miller Senate Office Building
3 West Wing, 11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chairman Guzzone and Members of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee,

On behalf of Carroll County, we are writing to express strong support for SB 288. This bill is critical to preventing the Highway User Revenue (HUR) funding cliff scheduled for fiscal 2028 and ensuring stable, predictable funding for local transportation needs.

HUR funding allows Carroll County to plan multi-year projects, reduce costly emergency repairs, and maintain safe, reliable roads for our residents. We maintain over 80% of the county's road miles, and HUR dollars fund the work residents see and rely on every day, from resurfacing and bridge repairs to traffic safety improvements and snow removal.

Under current law, counties face nearly \$110 million in lost local road funding in a single year. Over five years, that could add up to roughly \$520 million in cumulative losses compared to a stable funding path. Without predictable HUR funding, Carroll County would be forced to delay maintenance, rely on more expensive emergency fixes, and pass along increased costs to residents and businesses.

SB 288 prevents this sudden drop, preserves the baseline for future funding, and ensures counties can continue advocating for a fair, long-term restoration of HUR that matches the responsibility local governments carry for Maryland's roads. Predictable funding is essential not just for roads, but for public safety, emergency response, and the economic vitality of our communities.

For these reasons, Carroll County strongly urges the Budget and Taxation Committee to support SB 288. Thank you for your attention to this critical issue and for your ongoing leadership on behalf of local governments.

Sincerely,

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CARROLL COUNTY

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