



**The Maryland Department of the Environment
Secretary Serena McIlwain**

***Senate Bill 62- Transportation - Consolidated Transportation Program - Prioritization
(Transportation Investment Priorities Act of 2026)***

Position: Support
Committee: Budget and Taxation
Date: February 23, 2026
From: Jeremy D. Baker, Director of Government Relations

The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) **SUPPORTS** SB 62.

Bill Summary

Senate Bill 62 would adjust the Maryland Department of Transportation's (MDOT) process for planning, evaluating, and funding major transportation projects in excess of \$5 million. The new project scoring would be mandated prior to a project's inclusion in the revised Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP), where evaluations and project rankings must be published. Additionally, the legislation would restructure the Maryland Transportation Commission by reducing its size, changing its leadership, and expanding its advisory role on budgets, scoring, and the state transportation plan. The bill would replace the previous nine goals with six new policy goals: safety, accessibility, climate and environment, social equity, economic development, and sustainable land use.

Position Rationale

MDE supports SB 62 as the bill would integrate critical goals related to climate change and the environment, social equity, sustainable land use, and transportation demand management into the evaluation and scoring of transportation projects in excess of \$5 million dollars. By requiring these items be included, the bill would ensure that infrastructure investments better align with the State's long-term objectives of reducing emissions, protecting public health, and promoting a more sustainable future for Maryland.

Accordingly, MDE asks for a **FAVORABLE** report for SB 62.