

# Hitachi Rail

The Honorable Bill Ferguson  
President, Maryland State Senate  
H-107 State House  
100 State Circle  
Annapolis, MD 21401

# HITACHI

March 26, 2026

Dear Senate President Ferguson,

Hitachi Rail is a multi-national company serving rail transit and freight rail customers across the globe. In 2024, Hitachi Rail completed the construction of, and later in 2025 opened, a state-of-the-art manufacturing facility in Hagerstown, Maryland, where we will employ 460 direct staff and support 1,300 jobs in the Western Maryland economy.

Our business in Maryland is bolstered by our strong partnership with the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA). We are currently under contract with WMATA to design and manufacture its 8000-series railcars, with a base order of 256 railcars. The Metro Funding Modification Act of 2026 (HB386/SB281) is critical to facilitating WMATA's long-term capital program and its near-term capacity to enter into multi-year contracts.

Providing financial stability and predictability for WMATA means rail system upgrades, facility improvements, and construction projects that create further demand for businesses like ours. It also means jobs for our workers, and robust local economies across Maryland where these employees live, spend their paychecks, and pay taxes.

[Research from the American Public Transit Association](#) finds that the average dollar spent on transit capital investments results in a \$2.30 return in the form of revenue & business sales, an additional \$1.40 in GDP, \$1.00 in labor income, and \$0.25 in tax revenue. One billion dollars spent on transit capital investments can support 13,400 jobs in sectors like construction, operations, administration, and manufacturing.

The Metro Funding Modification Act of 2026 represents an investment that will generate significant returns for the state for years to come. For Hitachi Rail and WMATA, it is critical to enact this legislation this year. Our contract with WMATA includes multiple options beyond the base order of 256, with the first option for 104 railcars having an exercise date in December 2026.

Through the successful passage of the Metro Funding Modification Act of 2026, WMATA will be best poised to exercise future options through this legislative action and the corresponding financial commitment for its long-term capital program.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Joseph R. Pozza  
President & Country Representative

*Hitachi Rail STS USA, Inc.*

cc: Senator Mike McKay  
Senator Paul Corderman