



February 20, 2026

The Honorable Marc Korman  
Chair of the Committee on Environment and Transportation  
Maryland House of Delegates  
250 Taylor House Office Building  
251 Taylor House Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Support for HB 950, County and Municipal Street Lighting Investment Act – Acquisitions and Reporting

Dear Chair Korman:

On behalf of the Climate, Energy, and Environment Policy Committee (CEEPC) of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG), I am writing to offer our support for HB 950, which authorizes local governments to pay electric companies to light streets and authorizes certain counties or municipalities to acquire certain street lighting equipment.

Climate change is a regional priority for COG, the association of local governments in metropolitan Washington. The bill's passage will directly assist Maryland municipalities in improving energy efficiency and making progress toward our regional greenhouse gas emission reduction goals. The bill enables local governments and municipalities to convert their streetlighting service to customer-owned streetlighting tariff, establishes an orderly process for putting a value on streetlights acquired from a utility, streamlines the process for resolving any disputes, and provides Maryland's local governments additional control over the cost, quality, and efficiency of their streetlighting fixtures. Streetlighting is a significant energy expense for local jurisdictions. The bill's passage would allow Maryland municipalities to use energy-efficient lights in their operations and reduce their carbon footprint.

Additionally, COG, worked together with the Maryland Energy Administration, Clean Energy Solutions, Inc., Virginia Energy, and the National Association of State Energy Officials, on an initiative to facilitate local government adoption of LED streetlights. The County and Municipal Street Light Investment Act would greatly facilitate these efforts by removing barriers to local governments adopting more energy-efficient street lighting.

COG supports your efforts to enable local governments to upgrade streetlights to be more energy efficient, which aligns with our legislative priorities. Please contact Jeffrey King, COG Director of Climate, Energy, and Air Programs, at (202) 962-3238 or [jking@mwkog.org](mailto:jking@mwkog.org) if you have any questions. I appreciate your consideration.

The Honorable Marc Korman  
February 20, 2026

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cindy Dyballa", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Cindy Dyballa  
Chair, Climate, Energy, and Environment Policy Committee

cc: Honorable Michele Guyton  
Honorable Nick Allen  
Honorable H. Kevin Anderson  
Honorable Terry L. Baker  
Honorable Dylan Behler  
Honorable Regina T. Boyce  
Honorable Linda Foley  
Honorable David Fraser-Hidalgo  
Honorable Robin L. Grammer, Jr.  
Honorable Anne Healey  
Honorable Marvin E. Holmes, Jr.  
Honorable Jay A. Jacobs  
Honorable Robbyn Lewis  
Honorable Jeffrie E. Long, Jr.  
Honorable Todd B. Morgan  
Honorable Ryan Nawrocki  
Honorable Darrell Odom  
Honorable Dana Stein  
Honorable Natalie Ziegler