

# THE BOARD OF GARRETT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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## Board of Commissioners

Paul C. Edwards  
James C. Hinebaugh, Jr  
S. Larry Tichnell

## County Administrator

Kevin G. Null

## County Attorney

Gorman E. Getty III

May 2, 2022

James F Ports Jr., Secretary  
Maryland Department of Transportation  
7201 Corporate Center Drive  
Hanover, Maryland 21076

### RE: GARRETT COUNTY 2022 TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES

Dear Secretary Ports:

Garrett County Government has compiled the following priority transportation projects for MDOT's consideration when developing the Fiscal Year 2023 – 2028 Consolidated Transportation Plan (CTP.) The Board of Garrett County Commissioners would like to thank MDOT for its outstanding working partnership with Garrett County to address our transportation issues. We look forward to future cooperation as we strive to meet the needs of our citizens.

As per the Chapter 725 Priority Letter Guidance, the following list of projects and studies are requests from Garrett County, its Municipalities, Garrett Trails, and other community partners for the State's consideration in developing the CTP. On April 6, 2022, the Garrett County Planning Commission Approve the draft Priority Letter.

Attached is supporting project information. Thank you for the opportunity to collaborate in the development of the CTP. Garrett County will continue to partner with the Maryland Department of Transportation to move transportation projects forward efficiently to serve the needs of our constituents.

#### 1. US 219 N Extension to Pennsylvania Stateline

Garrett County and the Town of Grantsville requests continued funding for preliminary engineering and right-of-way acquisition for the for the last mile of US 219 North connecting Chestnut Ridge Road to the Pennsylvania Line. This project will improve access, reduce travel time, and for freight and passenger vehicles, and promote economic development in Western Maryland. The County and the Town of Grantsville look forward to the continued collaboration with MDOT and PennDOT to see this connection from Garrett County to Meyersdale, PA to completion in 2026.

#### 2. US 219 Relocated, Oakland Bypass

Garrett County and the Town of Oakland request funding for final engineering to relocate US 219 from north of Oakland to MD 135 (2.4 miles). This project will divert through traffic, including trucks, from downtown Oakland, improving safety and operations. Constructing this corridor will relive several issues that exist the current system. Since have the extension of Corridor H there has been an increase in freight and truck traffic through the Town of Oakland, causing congestion on the narrow main street. This truck traffic causes, local drivers to detour through residential areas to avoid traffic on Oak and Third Streets (US 219) creating dangerous situations for the residents in the neighborhoods. Rerouting through traffic will lessen the freight traffic in the Town making it more attractive for new business and increase the livability of the Town of Oakland.



3. **MD 135 Road Diet and Complete Streets Design from Loch Lynn Heights to Oakland (New)**  
Garrett County, the Town of Loch Lynn Heights, Mountain Lake Park, and the Town of Oakland request funding for planning to improve safety and to better accommodate motorized and nonmotorized users along a 1.5 mile section of MD 135 from at the intersection of Gorman Street, in Loch Lynn Heights, to Third Street in Oakland. This section of roadway sees traffic with speeds in excess of the posted 50 MPH. The results of planning should provide a concept plan to re-utilizing the right-of-way, create a two-way left-turn lane(s), provide dedicated space for bicyclist and pedestrians to access the schools, neighborhoods, and parks in this area. In this study, please address the three-foot-wide sidewalk on the bridge over the Little Youghiogheny River between on MD 135.
4. **US 219 Pedestrian Crossings at UNO's and Trader's Landing for safety**  
Garrett County requests preliminary engineering funding for safety improvements along US 219 in McHenry along Deep Creek Lake from Traders Landing to the pedestrian crossing at UNO's. Improvements should include clearly marked pedestrian median refuge island to cross at Traders Landing, a center left turn lane through the extent of the area, consider closing two entrances to reduce redundancy and change parking at Traders Landing too one-way. Consideration should be made to narrow lanes to reduce speeds and provide a wider shoulder for bike and pedestrians on the east side of the road.
5. **US 219 Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Evaluation from Mosser Road to Glendale Road**  
Garrett County requests planning funding to evaluate adding safe bicycle and pedestrian facilities to US 219 from Mosser Road to Glendale Road in McHenry, MD. Some of this route has wide shoulders and can accommodate a marked bike lane, creation of a separate path for non-motorized transportation. Other sections of this roadway are more narrow and present dangers to the non-motorized users. The County would like to provide a safe option along this route.
6. **MD 135 to Sand Flat Road to MD 219 Operational and Intersection Improvements**  
MDOT SHA conducted a US 219 Truck Corridor Study for Oakland, Maryland in February 2021. Recommendations from this study include improvements to Sand Flat Road, from MD 135 to US 219; specifically upgrading shoulders to ten feet and improve geometry and improving Sand Flat Road's intersections to US 219 and MD 135. Garrett County requests MDOT SHA program preliminary engineering funding to follow up on these recommendations.
7. **Grantsville Sidewalk Extension on Alt US 40 to River Road**  
Garrett County and the Town of Grantsville request \$400,000 for Preliminary Engineering to pursue the Grantsville sidewalk extension on US 40, from the eastern limit of the Town of Grantsville to River Road. In May 2020 MDOT SHA completed a US 40 ALT (Main Street) Sidewalk Feasibility Study for this project showing a new sidewalk withing the study limits is feasible. The developed concept plans avoid major structural impacts and provides for minimal increase in imperious area while provide a safe and compliant pedestrian pathway for connectivity from the Town of Grantsville, the State Park, and the Arts and Entrainment District. The concept design proposes approximately 1450 LF to 1875 LF of 5' wide pedestrian pathway along the north side of US 40 Alt and well as request ramps and crossings. The plan's cost estimated to be \$3.9 million dollars.
8. **Oak Street and Third Street (US 219) Sidewalk Reconstruction for Pedestrian Access in Oakland, MD**  
Garrett County and the Town of Oakland requests Sidewalk Reconstruction for Pedestrian Access (Fund 33) for final design and construction to upgrade existing pedestrian facilities along US 219 via Oak and Third Streets. A detailed plan for this project was developed in 2016, by MDOT SHA. The project calls for traffic calming features, upgrading of existing sidewalks, installation of sidewalks and lighting along Oak Street and Third Street between the intersection of Third Street and Starlite Plaza and close to the intersection of Oak Street and MD 135. This project is a sister project to the County's #2 Priority US 219 Oakland Bypass to enhance the Main Streets of the Town. The Town of Oakland experiences excessive truck traffic on Oak Street and Third Street; creating safety concerns for the town.



**9. Garrett County Transit Operating & Capital Funding**

Transit Service provides Demand Response public transportation serving Garrett County. The Transit's mission is to provide Garrett Transit Service is to provide safe, reliable, and affordable transportation to all residents of Garrett County. Continued increased funding for operations is requested to achieve our mission, especially in times of increased fuel costs, and to provide competitive wages to retain and attract drivers and dispatchers. Capital Funding request for FY 2023 includes preventative maintenance which is used to repair and maintain the agency's vehicles and facility.

**10. MD 495 and Glendale Road Intersection Evaluation**

Garrett County requests planning funding to evaluate potential treatments improving the MD 495 and Glendale Road intersection. This road seen increased truck traffic, and is a route is used by second homeowners and vacationers to access the southern end of Deep Creek Lake. This intersection has seen numerous serious accidents. An analysis of AADT results at the traffic counter located just north of this intersection indicate traffic is growing. The County suggests three possible solutions: (1) re-alignment at this location to bring the intersection closer to a 90-degree angle; (2) installing a warning light prior to this intersection in both directions, and/or other road awareness indicator; (3) install fog lighting.


Please contact us for clarifications about our recommendations.

Respectfully,

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF GARRETT COUNTY, MARYLAND



Paul C. Edwards, Chairman



James C. Hinebaugh, Commissioner



S. Larry Tichnell, Commissioner

Enclosures:

Maps

cc:

George C. Edwards, Maryland Senate  
Wendell R. Beitzel, Maryland House of Delegates  
Richard W. Carlson, Mayor, Town of Accident  
Donald E. Dawson, Mayor, Town of Deer Park  
Spencer R. Schlosnagle, Mayor, Town of Friendsville  
Mark C. Diehl, Mayor, Town of Grantsville  
Robert L. Reckart, Mayor, Town of Kitzmiller  
Carolyn S. Corley, Mayor, Town of Loch Lynn Heights  
Donald W. Sincell, Mayor, Town of Mountain Lake Park  
Kathy B. Shaffer, Mayor, Mayor, Town of Oakland  
Duane Yoder, President Garrett County Community Action  
Peggy Jamison, Circuit Rider  
Linda Lindsey, Circuit Rider  
Meg Ellis, Circuit Rider



2022 Garrett County Priority	Project Name	Jurisdiction	Anticipated Cost \$(,000's)	Funding Source	% Funding Source	Local Land Use Plan Consistency	Safe, Secure, & Resilient System	Facilitate Economic Opportunity & Reduce Congestion	Maintain and Modernize Multimodal System	Improve Quality & Efficiency to Enhance Customer Experience	Environmental Protection & Sensitivity	Fiscal Responsibility	Better Transportation Choices and Connections	Priority Funding Area	Opportunity Zone	Sustainable Community	Contact Name	Contact email
1	US 219 N Extension to Pennsylvania Stateline	Garrett County	\$ 15,000	No Portion		Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		Siera Wigfield	<a href="mailto:swigfield@garrettcountry.org">swigfield@garrettcountry.org</a>
2	US 219 Relocated, Oakland Bypass	Garrett County, Town of Oakland	\$ 60,000	No Portion		Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		Siera Wigfield	<a href="mailto:swigfield@garrettcountry.org">swigfield@garrettcountry.org</a>
3	MD 135 Road Diet and Complete Streets Design from Loch Lynn Heights to Oakland (New)	Garrett County, Town of Oakland, Town of Mountain Lake Park, Town of Loch Lynn Heights	\$ 25	No Portion		Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		Siera Wigfield	<a href="mailto:swigfield@garrettcountry.org">swigfield@garrettcountry.org</a>
4	US 219 Pedestrian Crossings at UNO's and Trader's Landing for safety	Garrett County	TBD	No Portion		Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				Siera Wigfield	<a href="mailto:swigfield@garrettcountry.org">swigfield@garrettcountry.org</a>
5	US 219 Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Evaluation from Mosser Road to Glendale Road	Garrett County	TBD	No Portion		Yes	X	X	X		X	X	X				Siera Wigfield	<a href="mailto:swigfield@garrettcountry.org">swigfield@garrettcountry.org</a>
6	MD 135 to Sand Flat Road to MD 219 Operational and Intersection Improvements	Garrett County, Town of Deer Park	\$ 6,000	No Portion		Yes	X	X		X	X				X		Siera Wigfield	<a href="mailto:swigfield@garrettcountry.org">swigfield@garrettcountry.org</a>
7	Grantsville Sidewalk Extension on Alt US 40 to River Road	Garrett County, Town of Grantsville	\$ 400	No Portion		Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		Siera Wigfield	<a href="mailto:swigfield@garrettcountry.org">swigfield@garrettcountry.org</a>
8	Oak Street and Third Street (US 219) Sidewalk Reconstruction for Pedestrian Access in Oakland, MD	Town of Oakland	\$ 4,500	No Portion		Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			Siera Wigfield	<a href="mailto:swigfield@garrettcountry.org">swigfield@garrettcountry.org</a>
9	Garrett County Transit Operating & Capital Funding	Garrett County, Garrett County Community Action	\$ 1,500	No Portion		Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		Siera Wigfield	<a href="mailto:swigfield@garrettcountry.org">swigfield@garrettcountry.org</a>
10	MD 495 and Glendale Road Intersection Evaluation	Garrett County	TBD	No Portion		Yes	X	X									Siera Wigfield	<a href="mailto:swigfield@garrettcountry.org">swigfield@garrettcountry.org</a>