



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND

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May 23, 2008

Mr. John D. Porcari, Secretary
Maryland Department of Transportation
7201 Corporate Center Drive
Hanover, Maryland 21076

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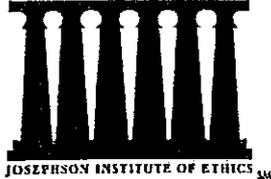
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Re: Frederick County's 2008 Transportation Priorities

Dear Secretary Porcari:

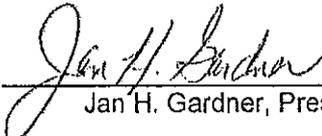
On behalf of the Board of County Commissioners of Frederick County and Frederick County's State Delegation, we are writing to share the County's transportation priorities for consideration in the development of the Maryland Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP.)

A complete listing of Frederick County's Transportation Priorities is included with this letter. The County continues to have numerous transportation priorities to address both congestion and traffic safety. Our priorities include the completion of the I-70 project, full funding for project planning for the MD 180-MD 351 project, design and engineering for Phase III of MD 85, and some new requests for transit and the Frederick Municipal airport. Frederick County has contributed local funding to advance numerous projects and will continue to partner on important projects.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide our transportation priorities and comments. We look forward to continuing a productive partnership with the Maryland Department of Transportation and to actively participate in the development of the CTP. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact John Thomas, Principal Planner in the Division of Planning at 301-600-6768, or me at 301-600-3190.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND

By: 
Jan H. Gardner, President

FREDERICK COUNTY STATE DELEGATION

By: 
Richard B. Weldon, Jr., Chairperson

cc: Frederick County Delegation Members
The Honorable William J. Holtzinger, Mayor, City of Frederick
Board of County Commissioners
Ron Hart, County Manager
Eric Soter, Director, Division of Planning
Al Hudak, P.E., Director, Division of Public Works
Joyce Grossnickle, Administrative Officer, Office of the County Manager
Neil Pedersen, Administrator, State Highway Administration
Paul Wiedefeld, Administrator, Maryland Transit Administration
Dave Coyne, District Engineer, State Highway Administration
Stephanie Yanovitz, State Highway Administration
Jenny King, Maryland Department of Planning
Reading File

Summary of Transportation Priorities For Frederick County

Submitted: May, 2008

Highways

State Primary Highways

Design & Engineering

- 1. I-70 Phase 4** (I-70 widening from I-270 west to Mt. Phillip Road) - Frederick County requests funding to complete design and engineering for Phase 4 of this project. The widening is needed to eliminate congestion and improve safety through this corridor. SHA is currently finalizing the conceptual design. The current design will impact 4 bridges and 2 ramps. Right-of-way is needed for storm water management only. SHA Office of Highway Design is preparing a major quantities cost estimate based on the conceptual design. **Funding in the amount of \$10.1 million is required to complete right-of-way and engineering. This is a BRAC related project.**
- 2. I-270/US 15 Multi-Modal Corridor Study** In anticipation of the completion of the planning study in 2009, Frederick County in coordination with the City of Frederick, Montgomery County and the Maryland Department of Transportation, will begin the process of defining and prioritizing breakout projects to move forward with design and engineering. These improvements could include interchanges, safety improvements, or widening of highway road segments in Frederick County. The Board of County Commissioners acknowledges that an electronic toll lane system on State, Federal, or Interstate Highways will likely be part of any long-term solution to our traffic congestion and safety concerns. **This is a BRAC related project.**

Construction:

- US 15/Monocacy Blvd Interchange** – Frederick County requests funding for the construction of an interchange at the intersection of US 15 and Monocacy Boulevard. This project includes construction of a new interchange as well as approach road improvements. Project planning is complete. This project is fully funded for design and engineering. Location approval and preliminary investigation report is expected Summer of 2008. The County will coordinate with the City of Frederick, the State Highway Administration, and adjacent property owners to identify private contributions from developers. The County allocated \$1,000,000 in funding in FY 2008 and an additional \$1,000,000 in FY 2009 for this project. **This is a BRAC related project.**

State Secondary Highways

Continuation of Project Planning

- MD180 – MD 351.** Frederick County requests funding to complete project planning for improvements and capacity upgrades to the MD 180 – MD 351

corridor from Greenfield Drive to Corporate Drive. The county has contributed \$500,000 for planning for this project.

Planning

1. **MD 144** – Frederick County requests funding to initiate project planning for improvements to MD 144. This project would include the widening of the roadway from existing 4-lane section that ends just west of Spring Ridge Parkway westward to the proposed roundabout at the ramp from westbound I-70 (just east of Bowmans Farm Road).
2. **MD 194** – Frederick County requests funding to complete project planning for improvements to MD 194 including the widening to a 4-lane divided roadway between MD 26 and Devilbiss Bridge Road. This project would address both capacity and safety issues. Planning and right-of-way identification for a portion of this project from the intersection of MD 26 and MD 194 to the southern end of the Walkersville Bypass at Walkersville High School was completed as part of the MD 26 upgrades, allowing that portion to be able to move into the Design & Engineering Phase, while the segments of MD 194 north of Walkersville High School would need additional planning funded.
3. **MD 464 (Souder Road)** – Frederick County requests funding to initiate project planning for improvements to MD 464. This project includes reconstruction as a two-lane roadway between MD 79 and the eastern limits of the City of Brunswick.

Design & Engineering

- **MD 85 Phase III** - Frederick County requests funding for moving forward with design and engineering for Phase III of the MD 85 project from Crestwood Blvd to English Muffin Way rather than Phase II to take advantage of ongoing developer constructed improvements and developer funding contributions.

Construction:

- **MD 85 Phase I** - Frederick County requests construction funding to advance Phase I of the MD 85 project (I-270 interchange reconfiguration). The county has contributed \$2.1 Million to design and engineering for this project.

State Highway Safety Projects

- **US 15 (south of US 340)** – Support and fund interim improvements currently proposed at the MD 464/US 15 intersection and along the US 15 Corridor from US 340 to the Potomac River. Support ultimate improvement to widen US 15 to a 4-lane divided roadway with new grade-separated interchanges at MD 464 and north of Mountville Road. Developer funding will be available to support a portion of the improvements along this corridor.

Streetscape & Sidewalk Retrofit Projects:

- **Jefferson Streetscape Project** – Frederick County requests construction funding for this longstanding streetscape project in the unincorporated community of Jefferson. Preliminary engineering is funded and underway.
- **Middletown Streetscape Project** – The Town of Middletown and Frederick County request restoration of engineering and design funding for a Middletown streetscape project. The Town of Middletown supports this request.
- **Libertytown Project** – Frederick County requests funding for initial scoping/project planning study for a streetscape project and/or sidewalk retrofit project in Libertytown along MD 26 and MD 75. A sidewalk retrofit project would require 50% local match of allocated funding.

Local Transit

- Frederick County requests funding to expand peak-period shuttle service to regional communities such as Urbana, Middletown and New Market. **This is a BRAC related project.**
- Frederick County requests funding to expand paratransit service to meet growing demand.
- Frederick County requests funding to expand facilities and infrastructure to meet existing and future needs related to BRAC activities and projected growth including:
 - Facility Parking Expansion
 - Administrative Building Expansion
 - Passenger Shelters and Transfer Centers
- Allocate Frederick County's share of \$6.8 million BRAC related funding statewide for Locally Operated Transit Systems. **This is a BRAC related project.**

Regional Transit

1. Provide regional transit connection between the Urbana Park & Ride and the Monocacy MARC station.
2. Establish additional **MTA commuter bus** service from north of the City of Frederick to serve the Monocacy MARC Station and Shady Grove Metro. **This is a BRAC related project.**
3. Establish **MTA commuter bus service** from the Frederick area to the Baltimore area. **This is a BRAC related project.**

4. **MARC System** – Fund improvements in the Frederick’s MARC Commuter Rail service by adding additional passenger cars, locomotives, and providing signal improvements along the MARC Brunswick line to accommodate existing and increase rider-ship by increasing the frequency of service to the Frederick County MARC Stations. Fund reverse commute service in support of BRAC related activities at Fort Detrick. **This is a BRAC related project.**
5. **I-270 Transitway Study** – Frederick County requests funding to match developer and county contributions to conduct an engineering/corridor preservation study of the I-270 Transitway, an extension of the Corridor Cities Transitway into Frederick County. This study would assess the current master plan alignment to determine if the alignment is suitable or whether alternates should be considered. Station locations and other transit related facilities would also be addressed. **This is a BRAC related project.**
6. Fund the Fort Detrick Area Traffic Impact Study identified in the MD FY 2009 – 2013 CTP. **This is a BRAC related project.**

Frederick Municipal Airport

- Request funding from the Maryland Aviation Administration to support the following two projects, which are also supported by the City of Frederick:
 1. Air traffic control tower (\$6.2 million project for which traditional FAA funding sources are not available.) **This is a BRAC related project.**
 2. Airport Perimeter road (\$3.3 million project for which FAA funding is not available for non-commercial airports.) **This is a BRAC related project.**