



**Queen
Anne's
County**

County Commissioners:

Eric S. Wargotz, M.D., Commission President
Courtney M. Billups, District 1
Paul L. Gunther, District 2
Gene M. Ransom III, District 3
Carol R. Fordonski, District 4

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

The Liberty Building
107 North Liberty Street
Centreville, MD 21617

Telephone: (410) 758-4098
Fax: (410) 758-1170
e-mail: qacc@qac.org

County Administrator: John P. Borders, Jr.
Executive Assistant to County Commissioners: Margie A. Houck

September 29, 2008



The Honorable John D. Porcari, Secretary
Maryland Department of Transportation
7201 Corporate Center Drive
Post Office Box 548
Hanover, Maryland 21078

Re: Queen Anne's County Transportation Priority Letter

Dear Secretary Porcari:

Attached is a listing of the Transportation Priorities for Queen Anne's County. We trust that these projects will receive serious consideration for needed funding in the FY 2009-2014 Consolidated Transportation Program.

Thank you for your continuing support on these projects. We look forward to working with you and your staff as we move ahead.

QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Eric S. Wargotz, M.D., Commission President

Courtney M. Billups

Paul L. Gunther

Gene M. Ransom, III

Carol R. Fordonski

cc Senator E.J. Pipkin
Delegate Richard A. Sossi
Delegate Mary Roe Walkup
Delegate Michael D. Smigiel



**Maryland Department of Transportation - Annual Tour
Project Priorities for Queen Anne's County
Consolidated Transportation Program 2009-20014**

The County emphasizes that "*safety for our citizens*" is the driving factor towards the establishment of our local transportation priorities.

- US 301 & MD 304 Interchange – complete design and fund for construction.
- US 50/301 & MD 213 Interchange – This project is the number one component of the long-range US 50 Ocean Gateway project. Complete final design and fund for construction.
- US 50 Ocean Gateway Safety & Capacity Improvements – Continue planning, design and construction of interim improvements along this corridor. Specifically, a new signal at Carmichael Road with geometric improvements and service road connections.
- Cox Creek Connector & Dundee Overpass – This is a needed project to provide both safety improvements and to allow for necessary highway system alternatives for local and emergency traffic mobility. Funding for planning and design is requested. Special funding sources should also be considered to address this growing concern (refer to attached letter to Secretary Porcari seeking special consideration along this corridor).
- Stevensville Streetscape – fund for construction.
- Kent Island Transit – Maintain the six new commuter bus lines and routes.
- MD 213 at Fey Road – Continue planning and design for safety and capacity improvements.
- Chesapeake Bay Bridge - Develop an implementable plan for safety/preservation and capacity improvements. This must identify both immediate and long-range plans/activities to safely and effectively move traffic to and from the west.

An independent comprehensive inspection of the bridge using the latest technology should be initiated immediately to preserve safety and maintain the current structures.

The study and evaluation of a third Bay crossing and commencement of the NEPA process is needed to evaluate future capacity requirements.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

The Liberty Building
107 North Liberty Street
Centreville, MD 21617

Telephone: (410) 758-4098

Fax: (410) 758-1170

e-mail: qacc@qac.org



Queen Anne's County

County Commissioners:

Eric S. Wargotz, M.D., Commission President

Courtney M. Billups, District 1

Paul L. Gunther, District 2

Gene M. Ransom III, District 3

Carol R. Fordonski, District 4

County Administrator: John P. Borders, Jr.

Executive Assistant to County Commissioners: Margie A. Houck

September 25, 2007

The Honorable John D. Porcari, Secretary
Maryland Department of Transportation
7201 Corporate Drive
PO Box 548
Hanover, Maryland 21076

Dear Secretary Porcari:

We recently met with County Executive Leopold to discuss common issues between our jurisdictions. One of those issues involves the ever-increasing travel demand along US 50/301. As you know this roadway connects our Counties, but at the same time forms a significant barrier for travel. Furthermore, the William Preston Lane, Jr. Memorial Bridge which physically links us together and provides regional access to Maryland's Beach Resorts, creates a unique impact on both of our jurisdictions.

Studies of the US 50/301 corridor show travel demand increasing over time that will eventually create a travel picture on normal weekdays that approximates the experience that motorists have on summer weekends. These forecasts do not necessarily take into account growth in population and employment that will transpire as a result of the Base Realignment and Closure recommendations for Fort Meade and the changing demographics of our society. The forecasts do show that travel increase will occur even with another Bay crossing in a different location. Therefore we believe, and we have conferred with the County Executive Leopold in Anne Arundel County and his staff who also believe, that we must collectively address this issue before these forecasts become actual conditions.

To that end, we ask that the Department of Transportation working through the appropriate modal administrations consider a special funding allocation to complete a corridor and needs assessment from the Annapolis area of I-97/US 50/301 to the US 50/301 split in Queenstown. The following points would serve as a collective course of action within the corridor would be, in-part, the subject of this planning project:

- Building on existing and recent studies, identify quick-fix and near-term geometric improvements that will help to separate local traffic from regional travel;
- Evaluation of existing transit service connecting Queen Anne's County to Anne Arundel County and beyond to determine what reasonable and effective strategies can be implemented to encourage more ridership through restructuring services, improving access to the services, and increasing awareness of those services;

- Evaluation of the existing incident response strategies exercised on both sides of the William Preston Lane, Jr. Memorial Bridge; and
- Working together to identify and to protect longer-term design options to reduce local/regional traffic conflicts along the corridor and to encourage through traffic to avoid the use of local facilities.

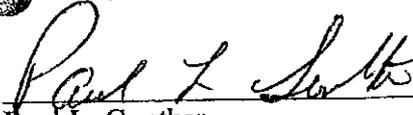
In discussing this effort with Anne Arundel County, we see this approach as a regional need to work together outside of the traditional Priority Letter process. We appreciate the approach of working collectively to address regional problems and we look forward to your support and that of the Department of Transportation to help us address this growing concern.

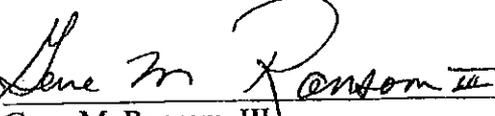
Sincerely,

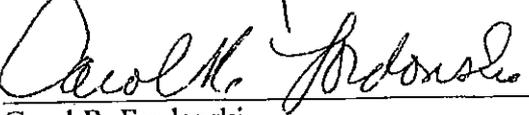
QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


Eric S. Wargotz, M.D., President


Courtney M. Billups


Paul L. Gunther


Gene M. Ransom, III


Carol R. Fordonski

cc: Members of the 36th Legislative Delegation
The Honorable John R. Leopold, County Executive