

Planning



**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND**

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March 7, 2012

The Honorable Beverley K. Swaim-Staley, Secretary
State of Maryland, Department of Transportation
7201 Corporate Center Drive
Hanover, MD 21076

Ref: Board of County Commissioners Transportation Priorities
Washington County, Maryland

Dear Secretary Swaim-Staley:

I am pleased to submit to you the list of transportation priorities in response to correspondence from your Office of Planning and Capital Programming dated December 28, 2011. The Board of County Commissioners discussed their priorities at their regular meeting held on February 28, 2012. They are summarized as follows:

1. **Eastern Boulevard Corridor Improvements:** This multi-phase project consists of an integrated multi-modal transportation system connecting U.S. Route 40, Maryland Route 64, and Maryland Route 60. Phases I and II entails the widening of the existing Eastern Boulevard; Phase III involves an extension of Eastern Boulevard to Maryland Route 60. Additional phases include an integration of separate diverse routes to disperse traffic thus reducing traffic volumes on state routes and the return of existing state intersections back to acceptable traffic operational levels of service. These diverse routes include the construction of Professional Court Extended and Yale Drive providing accessibility to critical attractions such as the Regional Meritus Medical facility and Hagerstown Community College and Southern Boulevard near the Town of Funkstown.
2. **Interstate 70 at Maryland Route 65, Interchange planning study:** This interchange experiences frequent operational problems. The area has also seen economic growth that effects operations. Several hundred acres of land are available and under consideration for additional development within our Urban Growth Area and the State Priority Funding Area. The request is to initiate planning and preliminary engineering studies to upgrade the partial interchange to safely handle the existing an anticipated traffic levels. This project could be a public-private venture.
3. **U.S. Route 340 at Keep Tryst Road:** Continued planning, design, and construction of a grade separation interchange and highway widening coordinated with Virginia and West Virginia.



Secretary Swaim-Staley
March 7, 2012
Page 2

4. Transportation Enhancement Pedestrian/Bicycle Access Program: Planning and project development funding for the proposed Civil War Railroad Trail. A twenty-four mile scenic pedestrian and bicycle trail connecting the City of Hagerstown to Weverton in the southern portion of the County. This proposed project creates tourism, recreational, healthy living, and economic development opportunities for Washington County.

On behalf of the Board of County Commissioners, I would like to express our sincere appreciation for your time and efforts to make Washington County and the State of Maryland a showplace location to live and work. If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact our Director of Public Works, Joe Kroboth, III at 240-313-2252 or by email at jkroboth@washco-md.net.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND



Terry L. Baker
President

cc: Senator Christopher Shank
Senator George C. Edwards
Senator Ronald Young
Delegate LeRoy E. Myers
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Ed Plank, Director, Highway Department
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