

Request for Supplemental Information to Support Transportation Priority Letters

According to the Maryland Chapter 725 legislation, for each new major capital project first entering the construction or project development phase, the CTP must now, in addition to previous requirements, provide information on why a project is necessary, indicate how it satisfies state goals (including the goals of the Maryland Transportation Plan and those of the yet to be completed Climate Action Plan), show the location of the project on a map, and provide a summary of how the project meets selection criteria used by Maryland DOT.

The legislation has also added new requirements for entities that are proposing projects for consideration. Any projects for which a proposing entity is requesting for inclusion in the CTP must provide the following information, as required by the legislation, for each major project requested that would be entering the construction phase 1) the location of the project, including the project limits, project area or transportation corridor; 2) the need for the project; and 3) a discussion of how the project addresses state transportation goals and supports local land use plans and goals.

MDOT is committed to implementing this legislation, but also seeks to minimize the burden on those entities requesting funding for specific projects. To streamline the process of submitting information, MDOT has developed a short questionnaire that we are asking each county (or other proposing entity) to complete for each project submitted for consideration in the construction program. You need only complete this questionnaire for *major projects* which would include all transportation capacity enhancing projects.

For each project indicated by the county as a priority in the construction program, we are asking that you provide the following information in the supplemental questionnaire:

- Project purpose and need – two to three sentences describing the need for the project and the purpose served by the project together with a map of the project location (or description of the location.)
- Indication of the goals and objectives within the MTP that are served by the project – We ask that you indicate how a project relates to the broad goal by checking each objective served by a project. Please also provide a short narrative describing how each project supports the goal. We recognize that many projects will have a very specific purpose and may not serve all goals.
- Brief description of how the project supports the county's local land use plan – please provide a description and confirm that a project is consistent with the local land use plan.

While for this year we are only asking for this detail for projects which are being submitted for the construction program, we do anticipate that we will broaden this request in 2012 to include projects that are being submitted for consideration in the project development program. Our goal is to address this requirement early in a project's development process to ensure that our pipeline of projects is consistent with the state's transportation investment priorities.

Available Resources

The following resources are available to provide additional detail as you complete this request:

Maryland Transportation Plan (2009)

Maryland Chapter 725 Legislation

Full §2-103.1 that includes Ch. 725 Updates

Guidance on how to relate projects to the goals of the Maryland Transportation Plan – Supplemental Document Prepared by MDOT in 2010