

**MINUTES OF THE  
MARYLAND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION  
January 31, 2011**

This meeting of the Maryland Transportation Commission was held on Wednesday, January 5, at 10:30AM. The members met at MDOT in the Board Room. The following members were present.

Vice Chairman Mario VillaSanta  
Ed Ellis  
Elmer Horsey  
George Littrell  
Jack Luskin  
Michael Moore  
Carol Petzold  
Kathy Riley  
Gary Simpson  
Greg Snook  
Sudhir Trevedi

Vice Chairman VillaSanta called the meeting to order at 10:37AM. He began by welcoming everyone to the monthly meeting.

Vice Chairman VillaSanta then introduced Mr. Martin Harris to the Commission. Mr. Harris gave a detailed brief of the upcoming 2011 Maryland General Assembly Legislation Session. Mr. Harris stated that while was not able to go into all the details available due to the legislation not being officially released from the Governor's office, he could cover the following topics:

The financial situation in Annapolis is not a positive one. This should reduce the amount of legislation that must be reviewed by MDOT as there will be less proposed bills overall. Among the topics of 2011 legislation are safety and policy concerns and some "clean-up measures".

The first topic dealt with the law pertaining to the status of individuals selling more than one vehicle a year and holding a dealership license. Mr. Ellis asked if this would prohibit him from selling his own car and Mr. Harris said it would not. Mr. Harris also said that it was directed to address more problem areas than specific individuals that are becoming eyesores and safety hazards along roadways. Mr. Snook questioned the legality of such a measure and Mr. Harris responded by saying he was not aware of any violation.

The topic of the MTA being able to display LED flashing lights is intended as a cleanup measure to specifically allow MTA vehicles to be classified as those that can display these types of lights.

Outdoor advertising signs are expected to come under scrutiny during the session. Mr. Moore asked if these would affect the roadside dedication signage and Mr. Harris and Mr. Beam said that no, this measure referred solely to advertising signs.

The topic of "snipe" signs, for political and other causes is to be addressed as well. This generated a discussion among the members of the MTC and Mr. Harris as to the end result of this legislation. Mr. Harris said he would give further information to the MTC as it became available.

Ignition interlocks were also brought up as a measure to possibly curtail drunk driving. The constitutionality and other aspects of this measure are in question. This also spawned a lengthy discussion of the House Judiciary Committee Chairman, Joseph Vallarrio, and his tendency to not incorporate new measures of criminal law.

Mr. Harris then promised the Commission a more complete report of the MDOT proposed legislation as soon as possible. [NOTE: NO UPDATE AS OF 2/2/11 HAS BEEN RECEIVED]

Mr. VillaSanta then asked Mr. Beam about any future dedication requests. Mr. Beam replied that there are multiple applicants who have requested the form, but no completed applications have been received.

Hearing no further issues, the Commission then adjourned at 11:51AM until February 2, 2011 at MDOT HQ.