



**MINUTES OF THE
MARYLAND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
June 1, 2011**

This meeting of the Maryland Transportation Commission was held on Wednesday, May 4, at 10:30AM. The members met at MDOT in the Board Room. The following members were present.

Vice Chairman Mario VillaSanta
Bill Cox
Ed Ellis
Elmer Horsey
George Littrell
Jack Luskin
Michael Moore
Carol Petzold
Gary Simpson
Sudhir Trevidi

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

The minutes from May were reviewed and approved.

Mr. VillaSanta then asked Mr. Beam to introduce any dedication requests for the June 1, 2011 meeting. Mr. Beam responded by following up on a proposal from the Office of the Governor

In May, The Office of the Governor has requested that I-195 be renamed as “Maryland’s Cyber Highway”. This would be denoted by signs spanning from the University of Maryland - Baltimore County (UMBC) Campus to Baltimore Washington International - Thurgood Marshall Airport. Mr. Beam relayed that additional signage under the Sponsor a Highway program may be sought, but this was not finalized. This launched a lengthy discussion specifying the Sponsor a Highway program versus the Adopt a Highway program and the inherent differences and similarities [NOTE: PROJECT AS A WHOLE HAS BEEN PUT ON HOLD PENDING INTERNAL DBED DISCUSSIONS]

In accordance with the direction of Vice Chairman VillaSanta along with other Commissioners from the June MTC meeting, Mr. Beam introduced Mr. Don Halligan, Director of the Office of Planning and Capital Programming for the Department. Mr. Halligan then gave a detailed briefing on the findings of the Blue Ribbon Commission, the funding gap between transportation needs and current revenues and the overall state of transportation funding in Maryland. Mr. Halligan took questions throughout the presentation. Mr. Ellis asked if Highway User Revenues would remain at their current levels. Mr. Halligan responded in the affirmative, and stated that this decision came from the Office of Budget and Management. Ms. Petzold inquired about indexing of the gas tax and the sales tax linkage to transportation funding. Mr. Halligan responded that these measures were currently not in effect, but anything could happen during the

special session to be called later this year. This launched a discussion on the formation of the Transportation Trust Fund and the different ways it has been utilized over the years, with several of the former legislators in the group providing details.

At the conclusion of the briefing, the Commission thanked Mr. Halligan for his time. Mr. Beam was directed to provide a draft of the memo to the Secretary regarding roadside structure setback regulation implementation for review at the July meeting.

Hearing no further issues, the Commission then adjourned at 11:50AM until July 6, 2011 at MDOT HQ.