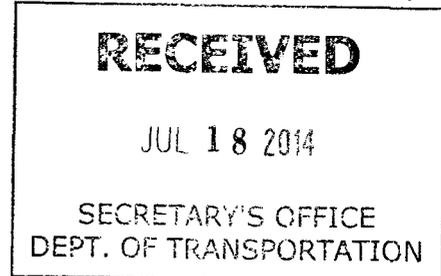


THE BOARD OF GARRETT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
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July 15, 2014



James T. Smith, Secretary
Maryland Department of Transportation
7201 Corporate Center Drive
Hanover, Maryland 21076

RE: GARRETT COUNTY TRANSPORTATION PRIORITY LIST 2014

Dear Secretary Smith:

This letter is written to provide an overview of the transportation priorities established by the Board of Garrett County Commissioners relating to Maryland Department of Transportation's major capital improvements for primary and secondary development programs as well as safety and enhancement programs in the Consolidated Transportation Plan. This year's list of projects has been prioritized so as to recognize the funding challenges with which MDOT is faced. All levels of government have been struggling with the same challenges, therefore we at the County firmly believe that now is the time for creative partnerships that will further mutual goals. Both the County and the State desire to stimulate the economy, support community vitality and promote environmental stewardship. We believe this year's priority list clearly demonstrates those goals. Partnerships to further these goals will be most effective when they involve not just various levels of government but also private entities that share our vision of transportation within the County, for the region and in the state.

We would like to highlight our greater transportation vision which is not just locally but also regionally focused, and is especially exemplified by our transit and regional priorities. Our vision is ***to link municipal revitalization to pedestrian and biking opportunities through an enhanced transit system thereby stimulating economic development, increasing alternative transportation options, encouraging healthy lifestyles, decreasing traffic pollution and highlighting the region's natural resources.***

Our list has been categorized based on the following functional areas:

- Planning Priorities
- Safety Priorities
- System Preservation Priorities
- Traffic Flow Enhancement Priorities
- Sidewalk/Streetscape Priorities
- Trail and Pedestrian Priorities
- Transit Priorities
- Regional Transportation Priorities



The Board has listed as its #1 priorities:

- Planning Priority #1:
 - A. Truck Corridor Feasibility Study – US 219 & MD 495
- Safety Priority #1:
 - Loch Lynn Bridge Project
- System Preservation Priority #1:
 - Stormwater Drain Repair of US 219 at Burger King, Oakland
- Traffic Flow Enhancement Priority #1:
 - Signal Warrant Project – Quarry Road & US 219
- Sidewalk/Streetscape Priority #1:
 - MD 826 A to Deer Park Ave Project
- Trail and Pedestrian Priority #1:
 - Pedestrian Crossing at the corner of 219 & Mosser Road
- Transit
 - Transit Service Expansion
- Regional Transportation Priority #1:
 - US 219 N Reconstruction/Relocation

Garrett County acknowledges and is greatly appreciative of the successful projects that have been completed or are on-going in our county, including but not limited to the rehabilitation of the retaining wall on US 219, intersection improvements at New Germany Road and various resurfacing and safety projects.

As per Chapter 725 of the 2010 Laws of Maryland, we have attached our list of Priority Projects with the required supporting information set forth in. Thank you for considering our transportation priorities in Garrett County. We look forward to continuing our successful relationship as we work together to further the transportation planning needs of the county, region and state.

Respectfully,

Robert G. Gatto, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners



Deborah A. Carpenter, Assistant Director
Department of Community Planning & Development

cc: Senator George C. Edwards
Delegate Wendell Beitzel
Donald Halligan, Director Planning & Capital Programming
Anthony Crawford, District Engineering