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COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Worcester County

GOVERNMENT CENTER
ONE WEST MARKET STREET • ROOM 1103
SNOW HILL, MARYLAND
21863-1195

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CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
CANDACE I. SAVAGE, CGFM
DEPUTY CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
ROSCOE R. LESLIE
COUNTY ATTORNEY

February 22, 2026

Ms. Kathryn B. Thomson, Secretary
Maryland Department of Transportation
7201 Corporate Center Drive
Hanover, MD 21076

RE: State Transportation Priorities in Worcester County for 2026

Dear Secretary Thomson:

Thank you for the opportunity to present Worcester County's transportation priorities at the upcoming Consolidated Transportation Program tour this fall. In advance of that meeting, shown below is the list of projects we would like to discuss with you and the MDOT team during the tour and at the summer MACO conference in Ocean City, August 12 – 15, 2026.

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believed this short-term improvement could be undertaken quickly while long range planning, permitting, design, and construction move forward towards full dualization.

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The north end of Worcester County has experienced significant growth over the last decade, and the MD 589 corridor has become heavily congested at all times of the year. More people are living in Ocean Pines year-round than ever before and commercial development is increasing. Congestion and delay issues along MD 589 are at or are approaching failing conditions as the road network reaches maximum capacity. MD 589 needs to be dualized to address the congestion issues and increasing safety concerns as additional residents come to the area.

NEW DRAWBRIDGE ON US 50 ENTERING OCEAN CITY

Similar to MD 90, traffic congestion on US 50 continues to worsen. In recent years, there have been several incidents of the existing drawbridge getting stuck. With Ocean City serving as a year-round tourist destination, the US 50 drawbridge needs to be replaced with a more reliable structure and one that can accommodate the increasing traffic congestion issues.

SIGNALIZE THE INTERSECTION AT MD 611 & MD 376

During tourist season, MD 376 experiences significant delays and queuing as eastbound traffic waits to turn left onto northbound MD 611. There are several traffic generating businesses north of the intersection (ex. Frontier Town Campground & Water Park, Eagle's Landing Golf Course, Ocean City Airport) as well as numerous residential and commercial developments. The steady stream of traffic to and from Assateague Park does not allow for adequate gaps in traffic to enter onto MD 611. The intersection needs to be signalized to reduce the delay and congestion on MD 376, even if using a seasonal signal operation similar to what was approved for MD 611 and Golf Course Road several years ago.

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GPS applications such as Google Maps and Waze are sending increasing amounts of traffic down MD 367 and MD 368 as an alternate route to MD 90 instead of the more appropriate and better suited route of US 113. MD 367 & MD 368 are two-lane, two-way roads intended more to serve residential traffic, not the volume of tourist traffic currently being experienced. Local residents and visitors to the area are getting stuck on MD 368 north bound as they try to turn left on MD 367 west bound. The intersection needs to be signalized to reduce delay and congestion.

SIGNALIZE THE INTERSECTION AT US 13 & MD 366 (POCOMOKE)

Worcester County is requesting MDOT upgrade the intersection of US 13 and MD 366 in Pocomoke from the existing intersection control beacon to a full traffic signal for safety improvements and associated intersection widening to support nearby economic development. Over the years, there have been multiple crashes at the intersection. Twenty-four (24) between January 1, 2019, and December 31, 2023. Twenty-one (21) crashes were angle collisions. US 13 is a divided highway at this intersection with a crossing distance of 160 feet. For comparison, the intersection of US 13 and MD 364 (2.3 miles north of MD 366) has a crossing distance of 120 feet, and it is signalized. In addition, US 13 & MD 366 is located on a horizontal curve and there is a grade change when approaching the intersection westbound which creates sight distance issues. Lastly, there is a need for the State to help support economic development in Pocomoke which can be accomplished by widening the intersection. Expanded shoulder width and dedicated right turn lanes will encourage new business construction and development in this economically challenged area, including the creation of needed new jobs.

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CONSTRUCT SAFETY IMPROVEMENT ON US 113 NEAR CORKERS CREEK

The corridor of US 113 near Corker's Creek has several crashes between January 1, 2019, and November 30, 2022, including 1 fatal crash. The prevailing crash patterns are nighttime crashes where vehicles have left the road. Worcester County is requesting the installation of guard rail and roadway lighting through the corridor to address the safety concerns of residents in the area.

ELIMINATE FLOODING ON MD 12 NORTH OF SNOW HILL

MD 12 north of Snow Hill floods even during moderate rain events. High water signs have been installed and are left in place year-round. The road is lower than surrounding properties and there are no drainage structures to relieve flooding. MD 12 is a designated evacuation route that is impassible during large storms (when the route is needed the most) due to the flooding. The road needs to be raised with drainage structures added to keep the road passable and clear during storm events.

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developed for the corridor in order to provide a consistent and clearly understood approach to the placement of access points, traffic signals, access roads, lane designations, pedestrian & bicycle amenities, and right-of-way needs. Future residential & commercial businesses can then reference and use the plan when developing the layout of their developments.

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UPDATE THE BATHROOMS AT THE MARYLAND STATE LINE - US13 - POCOMOKE WELCOME CENTER

MDOT is responsible for the Maryland State Line welcome center on US 13 in Pocomoke. The facility and grounds have become outdated. As a visitor's first impression of Maryland and Worcester County, the facilities are in need of refreshing to improve the function and aesthetics. Worcester County recognizes the State has limited resources; therefore the County is requesting the State transfer the entire property to the County. Worcester's intention is to revitalize the facility and grounds and make them consistent with other County tourism and economic development venues.

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Lastly, Worcester County has received the attached priority letters from Ocean City, Snow Hill, and Berlin which we are including in this submittal to MDOT.

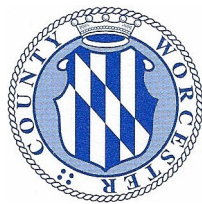
Thank you for your attention to these matters. If you should require any additional information or you should have any questions or concerns regarding these matters, please feel free to contact me or Weston Young, Chief Administrative Officer, at this office.

Sincerely,



Theodore J. Elder
President

cc: Weston Young, Chief Administrative Officer
Candace Savage, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Dallas Baker, Director of Public Works
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Worcester County
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
6113 TIMMONS ROAD
SNOW HILL, MD 21863

DALLAS BAKER JR., P.E.
DIRECTOR

JANA POTVIN
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

MEMORANDUM

TO: Weston Young, P.E., Chief Administrative Officer
Candace Savage, CGFM, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
FROM: Dallas Baker, Jr., P.E., Director *Dallas Baker Jr*
DATE: February 22, 2026
SUBJECT: 2026 Consolidated Transportation Program Letter

Attached for the Commissioner's review and comment is the draft 2026 Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP) priority letter addressed to the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT). Each year, the County sends a letter to MDOT and the local State Delegation outlining our priorities to the State's transportation network. All projects from last year are included on the list with the exception of the pedestrian improvements at US 113 & MD 346 which have been completed. I recommend keeping all requested improvements on the list until they are fully funded for construction. I also recommend we continue to meet with MDOT at the Summer MACo conference (August 12 – 15, 2026) to discuss these projects with them in person.

Lastly, Public Works reached out to the incorporated municipalities of Ocean City, Berlin, Snow Hill, and Pocomoke to solicit any requests they may have for MDOT. We have received the attached priority letters from Ocean City, Snow Hill, and Berlin which I recommend we include in our submittal to MDOT.

Attachments

cc: Jana Potvin
File

February 22, 2026

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Sincerely,

Theodore J. Elder
President

cc: Weston Young, Chief Administrative Officer
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Richard W. Meehan, Mayor, Ocean City
Mark Crampton, D-1 District Engineer, SHA
Senator Mary Beth Carozza
Delegate Wayne Hartman



TOWN OF OCEAN CITY

The White Marlin Capital of the World

February 18, 2026

RE: Consolidated Transportation Program Request 2024

Mr. Dallas Baker
Director of Public Works
Worcester County
6113 Timmons Rd
Snow Hill, MD 21863

Dear Mr. Baker:

Thank you for the opportunity to offer input on Worcester County's Consolidated Transportation Program Priority letter to the Maryland Department of Transportation. Per previous years, Ocean City's highest priority remains the full dualization of Maryland Rt. 90 for its full length from Rt 50 to Rt 528 (Coastal Hwy). Not only has congestion on Rt 90 worsened over the years, but more frequent breakdowns of the aging Rt 50 drawbridge have placed additional stress on the Rt90 access. In addition, because Rt 90 is a two-lane highway with a barrier, even relatively minor accidents can close the entire highway in one or both directions. This has caused delays in emergency transport and left Ocean City without ambulances on occasion as all are tied up in traffic either transporting to the hospital or attempting to reenter Ocean City from the hospital. Rt 90 also functions as a primary evacuation route off the island.

Understanding that dualization for the entire length of RT90 is no longer being considered by the State Highway Administration, Ocean City does support the State Highway's proposed dualization from Rt 528 (Coastal Highway) to Rt 113 along with shoulder hardening from Rt 113 to Rt 50. We believe this will have a significant positive impact on traffic flow, emergency vehicle response times and evacuation times.

Ocean City's next priority is the replacement of the Rt 50 Drawbridge for the same reasons outlined in previous letters. The frequency of draw span malfunctions increases each year causing major traffic disruptions. When the draw span is operating properly, the delays caused by the regular half hour openings are the major source of congestion in the Ocean City downtown area. A new reliable draw bridge with a taller clearance would reduce the frequency of openings and help ease congestion on both sides of the bridge.

MAYOR

Richard W. Meehan

CITY COUNCIL

Matthew M. James
President

William C. Savage III
Secretary

John F. Gehrig, Jr.
Jacob H. Mitrecic
Carol Proctor
Larry R. Yates

CITY MANAGER

Terence J. McGean, PE

CITY CLERK

Diana L. Chavis, MMC

Ocean City would ask that the State fund the formal Study and Design Phase for the “Table Top” intersection improvements for MD528 (Philadelphia Ave) at North Division Street, inclusive of a Grade Separation Wall to replace the current wooden bollards. From the standpoint of Flood Resiliency and Emergency Services, ingress and egress thru this specific intersection is of utmost importance during major storm/flooding events when access to the RT50 bridge is eliminated due to downtown flooding.

Ocean City fully supports all of Worcester County’s other requests in the 2025 letter. We particularly recognize the need to dualize Rt 589 given the growth along this corridor.

Thank you again for your consideration and cooperation in moving these important projects forward. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me anytime.

Sincerely,



Terence J. McGean, PE
City Manager

cc: Mayor Richard W. Meehan
City Council Members
Hal Adkins
Brad Parks
George Bendler
Bill Neville

Janet Simpson, Mayor
Margaret Fletcher, Council
Aaron W. Lumpkins, Council
Edward S. Lee, Council

Rick Pollitt, Town Manager
Maureen Howarth, Town Attorney



Lounell Hamstead, Finance Manager
Tina Busko, Exec Dir. Purnell Museum
Paul Bessette, Grants Administrator
Dan Brandewie, Planning, Zoning & Bldg.
Randy Barfield, Public Works Dir
Bobby Wilt, Supt. of Water/WW
Andy McGee, Police Chief
Jen Divis, Economic Development & MSM

MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF SNOW HILL

February 20, 2026

Mr. Dallas Baker, Jr., P.E.
Director of Public Works
Worcester County
6113 Timmons Road
Snow Hill, MD 21863

Dear Mr. Baker:

On behalf of the Mayor & Town Council of Snow Hill, Maryland, we appreciate the opportunity to contribute our local priorities for inclusion in Worcester County's submission of needed projects to the Maryland Department of Transportation for the Consolidated Transportation Program for 2026. Our recommendations center around the following issues with some carry-over from last year and one new request:

- **Route 12 Flooding & Drainage**

The entrance to Snow Hill on State Route 12 has been historically challenged for generations by flood waters caused by a rising Pocomoke River due to weather and tidal events that cover the road, reaching depths that require road closure to all traffic. It is not unusual for flooding of the access to the bridge to cause lengthy delays or even closings of county schools and local businesses and, since Snow Hill is the County Seat, county services, such as the court system and other county agencies, as well. It has even been necessary, on occasion, for the Town of Snow Hill emergency responders to re-locate equipment to the western side of the bridge to be able to respond to needs in that portion of their service area. We realize the solution to this problem will be comprehensive and expensive but we must continue to encourage the State to make this a priority for public safety and to address further deterioration of the road structure.

- **Market Street/Byrd Park Flooding**

Municipal Building * P.O. Box 348 * Snow Hill, Maryland 21863
Telephone: 410-632-2080 * Fax: 410-632-2858

The Town also continues to experience serious flooding of Market Street at intersections in the area of Byrd Park and the Julia A. Purnell Museum. The overflows to the streets caused by the rise in water levels of the Pocomoke River cause safety concerns and challenges to property and health when heavy flooding occurs. We understand that the ultimate solution to this historic problem rests with a major effort of flood remediation at Byrd Park. However, we must acknowledge, as well, that the expense of fighting back the rising waters greatly exceeds the financial resources of this small community's budget.

We, therefore, would like to suggest that pooling our resources in a new State/Town partnership in Byrd Park would be an important first step to overcoming this on-going threat to life, property and infrastructure.

- Safe streets on State roads and highways
 - a. We again ask consideration by the State Highway Administration of new signage, painted crosswalks, speed bumps or humps in selected locations along roadways under their jurisdiction. We constantly receive questions and complaints from the public about pedestrian safety and speeding traffic along portions of Washington Street, Market Street, Church Street and others. The Town appreciates recent outreach by the State Highway Administration to coordinate action to address these issues and ask that SHA continue to build on that effort in collaboration with Town staff.
 - b. As cited in last year's letter, the new Dollar General Market at 503 South Church Street is open and doing very well. In conversation then with SHA, we learned that the posted speed limit did not qualify the street for additional lanes for acceleration and deceleration and so our concern for pedestrian safety remains, especially noting the proximity of Snow Hill High School. The Town of Snow Hill would ask that you give great consideration for signage, sidewalks, speed limits or even street adjustments that would improve the safety of our school children and those visiting the High School.
 - c. Finally, there has been much energy and enthusiasm generated in the past couple of years around new bikeways throughout our Town, designed to not only improve access to public facilities and resources by bikers and pedestrians alike but to promote an increase in economic development and business activity resulting from Snow Hill's growing popularity as a tourism destination location. The county

commissioners have endorsed a master Greenways strategy and the Town commissioned a master bikeways feasibility study that recommended a multi-phase approach to improving safe access for cycle enthusiasts and walkers, including a direct line of approach to the State Park at Shad Landing. Your active participation in supporting these efforts in those areas under your jurisdiction would give progress here a tremendous boost and we respectfully encourage your favorable consideration of this request.

- Signage along Route #113

U. S. Route #113 is a major north/south artery connecting the eastern portion of the Delmarva Peninsula from southern Worcester County to Kent County, Delaware. The dual-lane highway is a controlled, limited-access highway and subject to various rules and regulations pertaining to advertising and signage. The Town of Snow Hill has access to Route #113 at 4 primary intersections located at Business Route #113, MD Route #12, Public Landing Road and East Market Street with a fifth minor intersection at East Washington Street. With opportunities for advertising and promotion along the highway severely limited, we would ask for your support in providing reasonable accommodation to the Town at these few locations to present our community to tourists and passers-by who might be drawn to some of our unique attractions for shopping and visiting. Appropriately designed references to Historic Downtown Snow Hill, our beautiful waterfront parks and other locations of interest would be of tremendous benefit to our community without detracting from the nature of this scenic highway.

Thank you once again for the opportunity to share our thoughts with the Worcester County Commissioners and the State Department of Transportation. If we can provide any additional information or be of service to you going forward, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



Janet T. Simpson
Mayor

Cc: Town Council



Mayor & Council of Berlin

10 William Street, Berlin, Maryland 21811

Phone 410-641-2770 Fax 410-641-2316

www.berlinmd.gov

February 20, 2026

Mayor

Zack Tyndall

Vice President

Dean Burrell

Council Members

Steve Green

Jay Knerr

Shaneka Nichols

Jack Orris

Town Attorney

David Gaskill

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Hon. Theodore "Ted" Elder

Worcester County Commissioners

1 Market Street, Room 1103

Snow Hill, Maryland 21863

President Elder,

I am writing on behalf of the Mayor and Council, citizens, and business community within the Town of Berlin to respectfully ask the Worcester County Commissioners to add the following projects to their list of State Transportation Priorities for 2025. The following projects are critical to improving the safety of our community and are not listed based on prioritization of the requested project:

- **PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE ACROSS RT. 113 at RT. 376 (BAY STREET)**
 - The creation of RT. 113 divided the Town of Berlin. Residents who live west of RT. 113 have access to the town's only grocery store, healthcare providers, Town Hall, and Worcester County library without having to cross a major highway. However, the residents who live east of RT. 113 lack safe access to these vital services. The intersection of RT 113. and RT. 376 is also perceived by residents as unsafe due to incidents from the past. Currently, this intersection is the only marked crosswalk along RT 113 in Berlin for residents to travel between neighborhoods. The Town of Berlin is requesting a pedestrian bridge to help improve pedestrian safety and increase interconnectivity between the neighborhoods and districts in town.
 - **2026 UPDATE: The Town of Berlin is currently working on Phase I of the Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods (RCN) planning grant through the Federal Highway Administration in partnership with the State Highway Administration. We have held two of the three public engagement sessions and will be working to compile the data from those meetings. This project also includes important community connections to the Town of Berlin's planned Berlin Bikeway (also known as Rails and Trails) along with the Worcester County Greenways and Trails Master Plan.**

- TRAFFIC SIGNAL RT. 50 and RT. 818 (NORTH MAIN STREET)
 - The intersection of RT. 50 and RT. 818 (North Main Street) serves as one of the primary entrances to the Town of Berlin. Due to increased traffic along RT. 50 and growth in the area, the safety of this intersection is of concern for our community. The Town of Berlin requests the installation of a traffic light to improve safety for those who live, work in, and visit our town.
 - **2026 UPDATE: This project is in process with the State Highway Administration and the local MDOT District 1 office.**
- SIDEWALKS RT. 346 (OLD OCEAN CITY BOULEVARD) - FROM SUNLIGHT LANE TO RT. 818 (MAIN STREET) and FROM RT. 818 (MAIN STREET) to RT. 377 (WILLIAM STREET)
 - The residents of Sunlight Lane currently do not have safe pedestrian access to Main Street. Residents are forced to walk on the roadway and share travel lanes with vehicular traffic.
 - **2026 UPDATE: The Town of Berlin has received substantial citizen feedback from the neighborhoods most directly impacted by this project. The citizen feedback, letters, and petitions have been shared with the local MDOT District 1 office. This project is in process with the State Highway Administration and the local MDOT District 1 office.**
- SIDEWALKS RT. 346 (OLD OCEAN CITY BOULEVARD) - FROM RT. 818 (MAIN STREET) to RT. 377 (WILLIAM STREET)
 - The Town of Berlin has several new businesses opening along the Rt. 346 corridor between Main Street and William Street. Unfortunately, there are no sidewalks in place along this section of roadway. Pedestrians are forced to share the roadway with vehicular traffic. Recently, the Town of Berlin police department and the Berlin Fire Company responded to an accident along this section of Rt. 346 where a pedestrian was hit by a vehicle.
- IMPROVE TRAFFIC FLOW AND SAFETY AT INTERSECTION OF RT. 818 (NORTH MAIN STREET) and RT. 346
 - Currently, the intersection of RT. 818 and RT. 346 is a four-way intersection with flashing lights. However, due to increased traffic at this intersection, confusion occurs and often creates unsafe conditions. The Town of Berlin would like to work towards a solution that improves traffic flow and safety at this intersection.
- CROSSWALKS – RT. 818, RT. 374, RT. 376, RT. 377, and RT. 346
 - The Town of Berlin has completed an inventory of sidewalks along the State Highways within municipal limits where yellow ADA pads already exist. In an effort to improve pedestrian safety and walkability, the Town of Berlin would like to have crosswalks painted connecting the yellow ADA pads that are already installed.

The Town of Berlin remains committed to working with the Maryland Department of Transportation to improve pedestrian safety along state highways within the town limits. We are prioritizing the addition of crosswalks along several state highways throughout the Town, including RT. 818, RT. 374, RT. 376, RT. 377, AND RT. 346. Many roadways already have ADA pads on the sidewalks, but lack painted crosswalks. Without painted crosswalks on the road, motorists do not give pedestrians the right of way, creating unsafe conditions for those on sidewalks.

The Town of Berlin greatly appreciates the Commissioner's consideration regarding the addition of these projects to the State Transportation Priorities in Worcester County for 2026.

Respectfully,

Mayor Zack

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