

# HOUSE BILL 230

R2

(PRE-FILED)

6lr0152  
CF SB 62

By: Chair, Appropriations Committee (By Request - Departmental - Transportation)

Requested: September 26, 2025

Introduced and read first time: January 14, 2026

Assigned to: Appropriations and Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

## 1 AN ACT concerning

## **Transportation – Consolidated Transportation Program – Prioritization (Transportation Investment Priorities Act of 2026)**

4 FOR the purpose of altering the required elements of the Consolidated Transportation  
5 Program; requiring the Department of Transportation to develop a certain  
6 project-based scoring system, identify certain funds available for certain purposes,  
7 and solicit requests from certain entities for major surface transportation projects;  
8 requiring the Department to evaluate and score certain major surface transportation  
9 projects; requiring the Department to publish the scores of certain projects and list  
10 of projects recommended for inclusion in the Consolidated Transportation Program;  
11 providing that certain major surface transportation projects may be included in the  
12 Consolidated Transportation Program only if the project has been evaluated using a  
13 certain project-based scoring program; altering the makeup, chair, frequency of  
14 meetings, and responsibilities of the Maryland Transportation Commission; and  
15 generally relating to transportation planning and investment prioritization.

16 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

17 Article – Transportation

18 Section 2-103.1(a), (c), (e), and (m)(1)(i)1., 2-103.7, 2-203, 2-204(a) and (b), and  
19 2-205

20 Annotated Code of Maryland

## 21 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

22 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

23 Article – Transportation

24 Section 2-202

**25**                  Annotated Code of Maryland  
**26**                  (2021 Ed., Vol. 1)                  **U.L.**

## 26 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

**EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.**

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
2 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

3 **Article – Transportation**

4 2–103.1.

5 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

6 (2) “Capital project” means:

7 (i) Any project for which funds are expended for construction,  
8 reconstruction, or rehabilitation of a transportation facility by the Department or of a  
9 transportation facilities project by the Maryland Transportation Authority; or

10 (ii) Capital equipment, as defined by the Secretary.

11 (3) “Construction phase” means the phase of a capital project in which the  
12 project is committed and advanced from the project development phase to completion.

13 (4) **“FINAL PROJECT DEVELOPMENT PHASE” MEANS THE PHASE OF A**  
14 **CAPITAL PROJECT IN WHICH THE PROJECT IS ADVANCED FROM PRELIMINARY**  
15 **ENGINEERING THROUGH FINAL DESIGN ACTIVITIES.**

16 (5) **“INITIAL PROJECT DEVELOPMENT PHASE” MEANS THE PHASE OF**  
17 **A CAPITAL PROJECT IN WHICH THE PROJECT IS ADVANCED FROM EARLY PLANNING**  
18 **AND FEASIBILITY ANALYSIS TO A LEVEL OF PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING.**

19 [(4)] (6) “Major capital project” means any new, expanded, or  
20 significantly improved facility or service that involves planning, environmental studies,  
21 design, right-of-way, construction, or purchase of essential equipment related to the  
22 facility or service.

23 [(5)] (7) “Major SURFACE transportation project” has the meaning stated  
24 in § 2–103.7 of this subtitle.

25 [(6)] (8) “Minor capital project” means any project for the preservation or  
26 rehabilitation of an existing facility or service, including the planning, design,  
27 right-of-way, construction, or purchase of equipment essential to the facility or service,  
28 and generally not requiring the preparation of an environmental impact assessment.

29 [(7)] (9) (I) “Project development phase” means the phase of a capital  
30 project in which planning, engineering, and environmental studies and analyses are  
31 conducted with full participation by the public, prior to [commitment to] construction.

(II) "PROJECT DEVELOPMENT PHASE" INCLUDES THE INITIAL PROJECT DEVELOPMENT PHASE OR FINAL PROJECT DEVELOPMENT PHASE.

[(8)] (10) (i) "Proposing entity" means a government agency or political subdivision that requests that a transportation project be included in the Consolidated Transportation Program.

(ii) "Proposing entity" includes a county, a municipality, a metropolitan planning organization, A TRANSIT AGENCY, and a modal administration or any other agency of the Department.

[9] (11) "Purpose and need summary statement" means a brief statement  
10 that specifies the underlying purpose and need for a project.

[10] (12) "Significant change" means any change that affects the size or character of a project to the extent that the change:

15 (ii) Alters the function or purpose of the project; or

(iii) Impacts the ability of a modal administration to accomplish the program priorities established by the Secretary in the State Report on Transportation.

[11] (13) "State transportation goals" means the goals described in § 2-103.7 of this subtitle.

20                           (14) "TRANSIT AGENCY" MEANS THE MARYLAND TRANSIT  
21 ADMINISTRATION OR AN AGENCY THAT OPERATES A LOCALLY OPERATED TRANSIT  
22 SYSTEM.

[(12)] (15) “Transportation facilities project” has the meaning stated in [§ 4-101(i)] § 4-101 of this article.

[(13)] (16) “Transportation facility” has the meaning stated in § 3–101(l) of this article.

27 (c) (1) The Consolidated Transportation Program shall:

(i) Be revised annually; and

29 (ii) Include:

## 30 1. A list of:

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1                   A.     The State transportation goals;

2                   B.     Program priorities;

3                   C.     For projects in the [construction] **PROJECT**

4 **DEVELOPMENT** phase, the criteria used to select **DIFFERENT TYPES OF** major capital  
5 projects for inclusion in the capital program; and

6                   D.     The [manner in which each major transportation project

7 was evaluated and ranked] **RESULTS OF THE EVALUATION OF MAJOR SURFACE**  
8 **TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS SELECTED FOR FUNDING** under § 2–103.7 of this  
9 subtitle;

10                  2.     A statement of the Department's projected annual

11 operating costs, set forth separately for the Office of the Secretary and for each modal  
12 administration;

13                  3.     Expanded descriptions of major capital projects;

14                  4.     A list of major capital projects for the current year, the

15 budget request year, and the 4 successive planning years;

16                  5.     A list of [anticipated] **ALL IDENTIFIED** minor capital

17 projects[, including a specific list of anticipated special projects] for the current year and  
18 the budget request year and an estimate of the Program level for each of the 4 successive  
19 planning years;

20                  6.     A list of major bridge work projects;

21                  7.     A summary of the capital and operating programs, as

22 defined by the Secretary, for the Maryland Transportation Authority;

23                  8.     For each listed major capital project, an indication

24 whether the revenue source anticipated to support that project consists of federal, special,  
25 general, or other funds;

26                  9.     The Department's estimates of the levels and sources of

27 revenues to be used to fund the projects in the Program;

28                  10.    A glossary of terms; and

29                  11.    A cross-reference table for the information contained in

30 the various parts of the State Report on Transportation.

31                  (2)    In addition to the items listed in paragraph (1) of this subsection, the

32 Consolidated Transportation Program shall include:

(i) A summary of current efforts and future plans, prepared after consultation with the Director of Bicycle and Pedestrian Access and the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee established under § 2–606 of this title:

(ii) A listing of all bicycle and pedestrian transportation projects expected to use State or federal highway funds; and

(iii) Reflected under the Office of the Secretary, any technology-related project to be funded from the account established under § 2–111 of this subtitle, along with a description and projected cost of each.

(i) Easing traffic congestion; and

19 (ii) Use of mass transit.

(i) Identifies each major capital project for which the budget bill or a supplemental budget amendment first requests funds for the project development phase or for the construction phase;

2. The total estimated cost of the project;

(iii) Identifies significant changes in the cost, scope, design, or scheduling of major capital projects for each completed fiscal year;

31 (iv) When there is a significant change in cost, states the amount by  
32 which the expenditures that have been authorized exceed the original project estimate;

(v) When there is a significant change, states:

1. The amount by which costs exceed projected costs during  
each completed fiscal year; and

(vi) Provides a purpose and need summary statement that includes:

7                           1. A general description and summary that describes why  
8 the project is necessary and satisfies State transportation goals, including Climate Action  
9 Plan goals required by the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Act of 2009 under §  
10 2-1205(b) of the Environment Article;

11                                   2. The location of the project, including a map of the project  
12 limits, project area, or transportation corridor; and

13                           3. A summary of how the project meets the selection criteria  
14 for inclusion in the capital program;

(5) The total operating and capital expenditures for the Department or for the Office of the Secretary or any modal administration projected in the Consolidated Transportation Program for the budget request year may not exceed the budget request for the Department, Office, or modal administration for that year.

[6] For a major capital project to be considered for inclusion in the construction program of the Consolidated Transportation Program, a request must be submitted to the Secretary by the proposing entity along with a purpose and need summary statement justifying the project that includes:

(i) The location of the project, including a map of the project limits, project area, or transportation corridor:

(ii) The need for the project:

(iii) A discussion of how the project:

1. Addresses State transportation goals; and

2. Supports local government land use plans and goals; and

(iv) A certification that all members of the legislative delegation of the county in which the project is located have been notified.

10                   **(6) (I)** THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CONSIDER REQUESTS FOR  
11 PROJECTS FOR FUNDING IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION PROGRAM,  
12 STATE OF GOOD REPAIR PROGRAMS, AND THE PROJECT-BASED SCORING PROGRAM.

15                   **1. ESTABLISH AND PUBLISH CLEAR GUIDELINES FOR A**  
16 **PROPOSING ENTITY TO MAKE A REQUEST FOR EACH PROGRAM, INCLUDING THE**  
17 **FORM OF PRIORITY LETTERS, PROCESSES, AND CRITERIA THAT THE DEPARTMENT**  
18 **WILL USE TO EVALUATE EACH REQUEST;**

19                           **2. ESTABLISH A WEB-BASED SYSTEM FOR SUBMISSION**  
20   **OF PROJECTS TO BE CONSIDERED FOR INCLUSION IN THE CONSOLIDATED**  
21   **TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM; AND**

22                           3. PROVIDE RESPONSES EVERY OTHER YEAR TO EACH  
23 REQUEST RECEIVED FOR THE PRIORITIZATION PROGRAM UNDER § 2-103.7 OF THIS  
24 SUBTITLE, INCLUDING INFORMATION PERTAINING TO THE DEPARTMENT'S  
25 EVALUATION OF THE REQUESTED PROJECT.

26                   [(8)] (7) (i) The Department, in developing a construction or  
27 improvement project involving a bridge or other transportation facility that is adjacent to  
28 or crosses a waterway for inclusion in the Consolidated Transportation Program, shall  
29 consider any reasonable and appropriate measures to provide or improve in the vicinity of  
30 the bridge or other transportation facility water access for fishing, canoeing, kayaking, or  
31 any other nonmotorized water dependent recreational activity.

32 (ii) The Department, in consultation with the Department of  
33 Natural Resources and interested stakeholders, shall establish:

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1                   1. Standards and guidelines for identifying appropriate  
2 bridges and other transportation facilities to be considered for the provision or  
3 improvement of water access under this paragraph; and

4                   2. Best practices and cost effective strategies for  
5 accommodating water access under this paragraph.

6                 [(9)] (8) Except as authorized by law, the Consolidated Transportation  
7 Program may not include capital transportation grants for roads and highways to counties  
8 or municipal corporations for any period beyond the budget request year.

9                 [(10)] (9) (i) In addition to the items listed in paragraph (1) of this  
10 subsection, the Consolidated Transportation Program shall include:

11                  1. A table that identifies each project receiving construction  
12 funds:

13                   A. For the first time in the budget request year; and

14                  B. For the first time in the current year if the construction  
15 funds were not identified in the budget year in the Consolidated Transportation Program  
16 released the previous January; and

17                  2. A table that identifies each project receiving planning  
18 funds:

19                   A. For the first time in the budget request year; and

20                  B. For the first time in the current year if the planning funds  
21 were not shown in the budget request year in the Consolidated Transportation Program  
22 released the previous January.

23                 (ii) For each project included in a table required under subparagraph  
24 (i) of this paragraph, the table shall identify:

25                  1. Where the project is listed in the Consolidated  
26 Transportation Program; and

27                  2. By fund, the amount included in the current year budget  
28 and the budget request year budget for the project.

29                 (e) On or before November [15] 30 of each year, the Department shall visit each  
30 county to give local governments and local legislative delegations information about and an  
31 opportunity to comment on the [proposed Consolidated Transportation Program and the  
32 proposed Maryland Transportation Plan] FOLLOWING:

1                   **(1) THE PROPOSED CONSOLIDATED TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM;**

2                   **(2) TRANSPORTATION PERFORMANCE AND THE MARYLAND**  
3 **TRANSPORTATION PLAN IN PLAN DEVELOPMENT YEARS;**

4                   **(3) IN EVEN-NUMBERED FISCAL YEARS, THE RESULTS OF THE**  
5 **PROJECT-BASED SCORING SYSTEM DESCRIBED IN § 2-103.7 OF THIS SUBTITLE; AND**

6                   **(4) IN ODD-NUMBERED FISCAL YEARS:**

7                   **(I) METHODOLOGY AND PROGRAM COMMENTS RELATED TO**  
8 **THE PROJECT-BASED SCORING SYSTEM; AND**

9                   **(II) LOCAL PRIORITIES FOR TRANSPORTATION STATE OF GOOD**  
10 **REPAIR, ASSET MANAGEMENT, AND INITIAL PROJECT DEVELOPMENT.**

11                 (m) (1) (i) Subject to § 2-1257 of the State Government Article:

12                 1. On or before [September 1] OCTOBER 1 of each year, the  
13 Department shall submit copies of the proposed Consolidated Transportation Program and  
14 the supporting financial forecast to the General Assembly; and

15 2-103.7.

16                 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

17                 (2) **“LOCALLY MANAGED CAPITAL PROJECT” MEANS:**

18                 **(I) A CAPITAL PROJECT PERFORMED BY A POLITICAL**  
19 **SUBDIVISION IN A RIGHT-OF-WAY THAT IS CONTROLLED BY THE STATE HIGHWAY**  
20 **ADMINISTRATION, THE MARYLAND TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION, OR A PASSENGER**  
21 **OR FREIGHT RAILROAD; OR**

22                 **(II) IN THE CASE OF A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION WITHOUT ANY**  
23 **RIGHTS-OF-WAY CONTROLLED BY THE STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION, A**  
24 **CAPITAL PROJECT PERFORMED BY A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION IN A RIGHT-OF-WAY**  
25 **CONTROLLED BY THE POLITICAL SUBDIVISION, THE MARYLAND TRANSIT**  
26 **ADMINISTRATION, OR A PASSENGER OR FREIGHT RAILROAD.**

27                 (3) “Major capital project” has the meaning stated in § 2-103.1 of this  
28 subtitle.

1                   **[(3)] (4) (i)**     “Major SURFACE transportation project” means a major  
2 capital project **THAT IS** in the State Highway Administration or the Maryland Transit  
3 Administration [**whose**] **OR THAT IS A LOCALLY MANAGED CAPITAL PROJECT:**

4                   **1.**     **WHOSE** total cost for all phases exceeds \$5,000,000 [and  
5 that:

6                   **1.**     Increases highway or transit capacity;  
7                   **2.**     Reduces areas of heavy traffic congestion;  
8                   **3.**     Improves commute times in areas of heavy traffic  
9 congestion;  
10                  **4.**     Improves transit stations or station areas; or

11                  **5.**     Improves highway capacity through the use of intelligent  
12 transportation systems or congestion management systems];

13                  **2. THAT INCREASES THE CAPACITY OR ABILITY OF THE**  
14 **HIGHWAY, TRANSIT, OR RAIL SYSTEM TO MOVE PEOPLE AND GOODS; AND**

15                  **3. WHOSE TOTAL COST ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE**  
16 **INCREASED CAPACITY EXCEEDS \$5,000,000.**

17                  (ii)     “Major SURFACE transportation project” does not include:

18                  **1.**     Projects in the Maryland Aviation Administration, the  
19 Maryland Port Administration, [**or**] **THE MOTOR VEHICLE ADMINISTRATION, THE**  
20 **OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY, the Maryland Transportation Authority, OR THE**  
21 **WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY;**

22                  **2.**     Maintenance and storage facilities projects;

23                  **3.**     Water quality improvement projects;

24                  **4.**     Projects related to Maryland’s priorities for total  
25 maximum daily load development;

26                  **5.**     Safety-related projects that [**do not increase highway or**  
27 **transit capacity】 RECEIVE FUNDING UNDER 23 U.S.C. § 148 OR THAT DO NOT**  
28 **SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASE TRANSIT CAPACITY;**

1                   **6. [Roads within] PROJECTS FUNDED, APPROPRIATED,**  
2   **OR APPORTIONED UNDER** the Appalachian Development Highway System **PROGRAM;**  
3   **[or]**

4                   **7. Projects that are solely for system preservation **OR STATE****  
5   **OF GOOD REPAIR PURPOSES;**

6                   **8. PROJECTS WHERE BICYCLE OR PEDESTRIAN**  
7   **ELEMENTS ARE ADDED AS A RESULT OF THE DEPARTMENT'S COMPLETE STREETS**  
8   **POLICY; OR**

9                   **9. PROJECTS FUNDED WITH FEDERAL SOURCES EXEMPT**  
10   **FROM THE PROJECT-BASED SCORING PROCESS DUE TO EXISTING EVALUATION**  
11   **PROCESSES, INCLUDING:**

12                  **A. CONGESTION MITIGATION AIR QUALITY FUNDS;**

13                  **B. TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES FUNDS;**

14                  **C. PROTECT PROGRAM FUNDS;**

15                  **D. CARBON REDUCTION PROGRAM FUNDS; AND**

16                  **E. FUNDS FROM A FEDERAL PROGRAM ESTABLISHED BY**  
17   **THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AFTER JANUARY 1, 2024, WITH SPECIFIC RULES THAT**  
18   **SIGNIFICANTLY RESTRICT THE TYPES OR LOCATIONS OF PROJECTS THAT MAY BE**  
19   **FUNDED.**

20                  (b) The Department shall:

21                  (1) [In accordance with federal transportation requirements, develop a  
22 project-based scoring system for major transportation projects using the goals and  
23 measures established under subsection (c) of this section;] **DEVELOP, IN CONSULTATION**  
24 **WITH THE APPLICABLE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS, A**  
25 **PROJECT-BASED SCORING SYSTEM THAT:**

26                  (I) **IS CONSISTENT WITH THIS SUBTITLE;**

27                  (II) **IS DEVELOPED IN ACCORDANCE WITH FEDERAL**  
28 **TRANSPORTATION REQUIREMENTS; AND**

29                  (III) **EVALUATES THE MAJOR SURFACE TRANSPORTATION**  
30 **PROJECTS USING OBJECTIVE AND QUANTIFIABLE MEASURES FOR THE GOALS**

1 ESTABLISHED UNDER SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION THAT CONSIDER THE  
2 BENEFITS OF A PROJECT RELATIVE TO ITS COST TO THE STATE;

3 (2) Develop the weighting metrics for each goal and measure established  
4 under subsection (c) of this section;

5 (3) [On or before January 1, 2018, develop a model consistent with this  
6 section that uses the project-based scoring system developed under this subsection to rank  
7 major transportation projects being considered for inclusion in the draft and final  
8 Consolidated Transportation Program;] **PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE**  
**MARYLAND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION TO REVIEW AND COMMENT ON THE**  
**GOALS, MEASURES, AND METRICS DEVELOPED;**

11 (4) [Use the model developed under this subsection to rank major  
12 transportation projects being considered for inclusion in the draft and final Consolidated  
13 Transportation Program; and] **PUBLISH THE GUIDELINES DEVELOPED FOR THE**  
**IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS SECTION;**

15 (5) [Make the model developed under item (3) of this subsection and any  
16 ranking under item (4) of this subsection available to the public:

17 (i) As an appendix to the Consolidated Transportation Program;  
18 and

19 (ii) On the Department's website] **AT LEAST EVERY 2 YEARS, IN**  
20 **COORDINATION WITH THE MARYLAND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION, REVIEW**  
21 **AND UPDATE THE GUIDELINES, AS NECESSARY;**

22 (6) **IDENTIFY THE AMOUNT OF FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR EACH 2-YEAR**  
23 **FUNDING CYCLE AFTER NEEDS ASSOCIATED WITH THE FOLLOWING HAVE BEEN**  
24 **CONSIDERED:**

25 (I) **OPERATING, ADMINISTRATION, AND MAINTENANCE COSTS**  
26 **OF THE DEPARTMENT;**

27 (II) **GRANTS TO OTHER ENTITIES, INCLUDING:**

28 1. **DISTRIBUTION OF HIGHWAY USER REVENUES TO**  
29 **LOCAL GOVERNMENTS CONSISTENT WITH TITLE 8, SUBTITLE 4 OF THIS ARTICLE;**

30 2. **DISTRIBUTION OF LOCALLY OPERATED TRANSIT**  
31 **SYSTEM GRANTS; AND**

1                   **3. DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS TO THE WASHINGTON**  
2   **METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY;**

3                   **(III) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS, INCLUDING SALARIES, WAGES,**  
4   **AND FRINGE BENEFITS, RELATED TO OVERSIGHT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE**  
5   **DEPARTMENT'S CAPITAL PROGRAM;**

6                   **(IV) CAPITAL FUNDING THAT INCLUDES:**

7                   **1. FUNDS FOR CAPITAL PROJECTS OF THE MARYLAND**  
8   **AVIATION ADMINISTRATION, THE MARYLAND PORT ADMINISTRATION, THE MOTOR**  
9   **VEHICLE ADMINISTRATION, AND THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY;**

10                  **2. FUNDS FOR HIGHWAY SYSTEM PRESERVATION AND**  
11   **STATE OF GOOD REPAIR; AND**

12                  **3. FUNDS FOR THE TRANSIT PROJECTS WHERE THE**  
13   **PRIMARY PURPOSE IS STATE OF GOOD REPAIR; AND**

14                  **(V) ALL OTHER CAPITAL NEEDS FOR PROJECTS NOT SUBJECT**  
15   **TO THE PROJECT-BASED SCORING SYSTEM FOR MAJOR SURFACE TRANSPORTATION**  
16   **CAPITAL PROJECTS; AND**

17                  **(7) (I) AT LEAST EVERY 2 YEARS AND SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE**  
18   **FUNDING, SOLICIT REQUESTS FROM THE DEPARTMENT, LOCAL JURISDICTIONS,**  
19   **AND APPROPRIATE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS FOR MAJOR**  
20   **SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS TO BE EVALUATED; AND**

21                  **(II) REQUIRE EACH REQUESTER TO CERTIFY THAT ALL**  
22   **MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT**  
23   **REPRESENTS THE COUNTY IN WHICH THE PROJECT IS LOCATED HAVE BEEN**  
24   **NOTIFIED OF THE REQUEST.**

25                  **(c) (1) The [State transportation goals are:] DEPARTMENT SHALL**  
26   **EVALUATE MAJOR SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS BASED ON POLICY GOALS.**

27                  **(2) PROJECTS SHALL BE EVALUATED ON HOW THEY ADDRESS THE**  
28   **FOLLOWING GOALS:**

29                  **(i) Safety [and security];**

30                  **(ii) [System preservation] ACCESSIBILITY AND MOBILITY;**

**3 (iv) [Environmental stewardship] SOCIAL EQUITY;**

4 (v) [Community vitality;] **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT;** AND

5 (vi) [Economic prosperity;

6 (vii) Equitable access to transportation;

7 (viii) Cost effectiveness and return on investment; and

(ix) Local priorities] SUSTAINABLE LAND USE AND  
**TRANSPORTATION DEMAND MANAGEMENT.**

10                   [(2) In evaluating whether and to what extent a major transportation  
11 project satisfies the goals established under paragraph (1) of this subsection, the  
12 Department shall assign a score for each goal using the weighting metrics developed by the  
13 Department under subsection (b)(2) of this section and the following measures:

(i) For safety and security:

15                           1. The expected reduction in total fatalities and severe  
16 injuries in all modes affected by the project; and

17                           2. The extent to which the project implements the Maryland  
18 State Highway Administration's Complete Streets policies.

(ii) For system preservation:

26 (iii) For reducing congestion and improving commute times:

27                                   1. The expected change in cumulative job accessibility within  
28 an approximately 60–minute commute for highway projects or transit projects;

1                   2. The degree to which the project has a positive impact on  
2 travel time reliability and congestion; and

3                   3. The degree to which the project supports connections  
4 between different modes of transportation and promotes multiple transportation choices.

5                   (iv) For environmental stewardship:

6                   1. The potential of the project to limit or reduce harmful  
7 emissions;

8                   2. The degree to which the project avoids impacts on State  
9 resources in the project area and adjacent areas; and

10                  3. The degree to which the project advances the State  
11 environmental goals.

12                  (v) For community vitality:

13                  1. The degree to which the project is projected to increase the  
14 use of walking, biking, and transit;

15                  2. The degree to which the project enhances existing  
16 community assets; and

17                  3. The degree to which the project furthers the affected  
18 community's and State's plans for revitalization.

19                  (vi) For economic prosperity:

20                  1. The projected increase in the cumulative job accessibility  
21 within an approximately 60–minute commute for projects;

22                  2. The extent to which the project is projected to enhance  
23 access to critical intermodal locations for the movement of goods and services; and

24                  3. The projected increase in furthering nonspeculative local  
25 and State economic development strategies in existing communities.

26                  (vii) For equitable access to transportation:

27                  1. The expected increase in job accessibility for  
28 disadvantaged populations within an approximately 60–minute commute for projects; and

29                  2. The projected economic development impact on  
30 low-income communities.

(viii) For cost effectiveness and return on investment:

1. The estimated travel time savings divided by the project

3. The degree to which the project will increase  
transportation alternatives and redundancy.

(ix) For local priorities, the degree to which the project supports local government transportation priorities, as specified in local government priority letters.]

10           (d) (1) The score of a major SURFACE transportation project shall be based  
11 solely on the PROJECT'S CAPACITY TO SATISFY THE goals [and measures] established  
12 under subsection (c) of this section RELATIVE TO THE PROJECT'S COST TO THE STATE.

20 (ii) On the Department's website] PUBLISH IN THE  
21 CONSOLIDATED TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM AND ON THE DEPARTMENT'S  
22 WEBSITE THE SCORES OF ALL PROJECTS EVALUATED, THE RANKING OF ALL  
23 PROJECTS EVALUATED, AND THE LIST OF PROJECTS RECOMMENDED TO RECEIVE  
24 FUNDING WITHIN AVAILABLE FUNDS IN THE CONSOLIDATED TRANSPORTATION  
25 PROGRAM.

30                             (4) (I) BEFORE THE RELEASE OF THE FINAL CONSOLIDATED  
31 TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM IN EACH EVEN-NUMBERED FISCAL YEAR, THE  
32 SECRETARY MAY MAKE ANY CHANGES TO THE RECOMMENDED PROJECT LIST THAT  
33 THE SECRETARY DETERMINES IS APPROPRIATE.

5           (E) (1) ON THE COMPLETION OF A ROUND OF PROJECT EVALUATIONS,  
6 THE DEPARTMENT SHALL UNDERTAKE A REVIEW OF THE PROJECT-BASED SCORING  
7 SYSTEM AND RELATED GUIDELINES TO DETERMINE WHETHER MODIFICATIONS TO  
8 THE GUIDELINES ARE NECESSARY.

12           (F) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, A  
13 MAJOR SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROJECT MAY BE INCLUDED IN THE  
14 CONSOLIDATED TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM FOR CONSTRUCTION ONLY IF IT HAS  
15 BEEN EVALUATED BY THE PROJECT-BASED SCORING PROGRAM IN THIS SUBTITLE.

16                           **(2) THE REQUIREMENT UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION**  
17   DOES NOT APPLY TO A PROJECT IF, ON OR BEFORE JUNE 30, 2025, THE PROJECT  
18   HAS:

19 (I) PROGRESSED THROUGH 30% COMPLETION OF THE DESIGN  
20 PHASE; OR

23 [ (e) ] (G) Nothing in this section may be construed to impede or alter:

(1) The priority letter process that outlines local transportation priorities for the Department's consideration for inclusion in the Consolidated Transportation Program under § 2-103.1 of this subtitle;

(3) The inclusion of local transportation priorities in the Consolidated Transportation Program.

31 2-202.

32 There is a Maryland Transportation Commission in the Department.

1 2–203.

2 (a) The Commission consists of the following [17] members:

3 (1) [As ex officio members, the seven regional members of the State Roads  
4 Commission; and

5 (2) Ten members appointed by the Governor with the advice of the  
6 Secretary] **THE SECRETARY, OR THE SECRETARY'S DESIGNEE;**

7 **(2) EIGHT MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR, WITH AT LEAST  
8 FOUR MEMBERS REPRESENTING URBANIZED AREAS AND AT LEAST TWO MEMBERS  
9 REPRESENTING RURAL AREAS;**

10 **(3) TWO MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE; AND**

11 **(4) TWO MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE.**

12 (b) An appointed member may not be [an]:

13 (1) AN officer or employee of the Department **EXCEPT FOR THE  
14 SECRETARY;**

15 (2) **A STATE ELECTED OFFICIAL; OR**

16 (3) **AN APPOINTED OFFICIAL OF THE STATE EXCEPT FOR THE  
17 SECRETARY.**

18 (C) Each appointed member shall be a resident of this State and have interest  
19 and, preferably, experience in at least one of the fields under the jurisdiction of the  
20 Department.

21 [(c)] (D) (1) Each appointed member serves for a term of [3] 4 years and until  
22 his successor is appointed and qualifies. [The terms of appointed members shall be  
23 staggered as required by the original appointments to the Commission, three of which were  
24 made for a 3–year term, four of which were made for a 2–year term, and three of which  
25 were made for a 1–year term.]

26 (2) **THE TERMS OF MEMBERS ARE STAGGERED AS REQUIRED BY THE  
27 TERMS PROVIDED FOR MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION ON JULY 1, 2026.**

28 (3) **EACH APPOINTED MEMBER MAY BE REAPPOINTED AT THE  
29 DISCRETION OF THE APPOINTING AUTHORITY.**

1               **[(2)] (4)**     A member appointed to fill a vacancy in an unexpired term serves  
2 only for the remainder of that term.

3               **(E) THE SECRETARY MAY APPOINT A DESIGNEE WHO SERVES IN THE**  
4 **SECRETARY'S CAPACITY WHEN THE SECRETARY IS NOT AVAILABLE.**

5     2–204.

6               (a)   The [Governor shall designate one of the appointed members of the  
7 Commission as its Chairman] **SECRETARY IS THE CHAIR OF THE COMMISSION.**

8               (b)   The Commission shall meet, at a time and place designated by the  
9 Commission or its [Chairman] **CHAIR:**

10              (1)   At least once each [month] **QUARTER;** and

11              (2)   At any other time that the Secretary requests.

12     2–205.

13              (a)   (1)   The [Maryland Transportation] Commission shall study the entire  
14 transportation system of this State and regularly discuss with the Secretary any matter  
15 relating to this State's transportation system.

16              (2)   [Each of the seven regional members of the State Roads Commission,  
17 who serve as ex officio members of the Maryland Transportation Commission, shall:

18                  (i)   Conduct a continuing survey of the secondary highways, as  
19 defined in § 8–101 of this article, in that member's region; and

20                  (ii)   Report on the highway needs and problems of that region to the  
21 Maryland Transportation Commission.

22              (3)]   The [Maryland Transportation] Commission may request of the  
23 Secretary any information relating to the Department that is needed for the Commission's  
24 studies, surveys, and deliberations.

25              (b)   The Commission shall [advise] **HAVE THE FOLLOWING POWERS AND**  
26 **DUTIES:**

27                  (1)   **ADVISE** and make recommendations to the Secretary and the heads of  
28 the units in the Department on all matters that concern transportation policy formation  
29 and program execution;

1                   **(2) REVIEW, ADVISE, AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE**  
2 **SECRETARY ON THE DEPARTMENT'S QUARTERLY OPERATING AND CAPITAL**  
3 **BUDGET UPDATES;**

4                   **(3) REVIEW, ADVISE, AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING**  
5 **THE GUIDELINES TO IMPLEMENT THE PROJECT-BASED SCORING SYSTEM UNDER §**  
6 **2-103.7 OF THIS TITLE; AND**

7                   **(4) REVIEW, ADVISE, AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING**  
8 **THE MARYLAND TRANSPORTATION PLAN.**

9                   SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the terms of the members of  
10 the Maryland Transportation Commission appointed in accordance with this Act shall  
11 expire as follows:

12                  (1) of the members appointed by the Governor:

13                   (i) two members in 2027;

14                   (ii) two members in 2028;

15                   (iii) two members in 2029; and

16                   (iv) two members in 2030;

17                  (2) of the members appointed by the Speaker of the House:

18                   (i) one member in 2028; and

19                   (ii) one member in 2029; and

20                  (3) of the members appointed by the President of the Senate:

21                   (i) one member in 2027; and

22                   (ii) one member in 2028.

23                   SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
24 1, 2026.