

March 28, 2024

Valeriya Remezova, Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
Maryland Division Office
George H. Fallon Federal Building
31 Hopkins Plaza, Suite 1520
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Subject: Quick Response Letter No. 1 - the Francis Scott Key Bridge (I-695) Collapse, in Baltimore Maryland

Dear Division Administrator Remezova:

The Maryland Department of Transportation and the Maryland Transportation Authority appreciate your timely acknowledgement sent in response to our letter of intent dated March 27, 2024. We are continuing to conduct necessary emergency operations and recovery efforts throughout the disaster area.

We are performing damage assessments throughout the area. Currently, it is not possible to provide exact cost estimates for the full assessment; however, our current estimate for mobilization, operations, and debris recovery is \$60 million. We will work closely with you and your team to provide a second need estimate as early as reasonably possible.

The State of Maryland's budget for emergencies is limited and unable to fund an emergency of this magnitude. Consequently, we are requesting approval of Emergency Relief (ER) funding for this disaster with a quick release of ER funds to allow us to proceed expeditiously with debris removal, demolition, traffic operations restoration, and emergency construction to this vital link on the National Highway System in Baltimore, Maryland.

We are requesting a quick release of \$60 million for the emergency activities enumerated above. Additional allocations will be requested as damage survey teams inventory damage.

If you have any additional questions or concerns, please contact Mr. Bill Bertrand, SHA Director of the Office of Finance, at 410-545-0030, or via email at bbertrand@mdot.maryland.gov. Mr. Bertrand will be happy to assist you.

Sincerely,



Paul J. Wiedefeld