

The Hon. Paul J. Wiedefeld, Maryland Transportation Secretary
Maryland Department of Transportation
7201 Corporate Center Drive
Hanover, Maryland 21076

RE: Allegany County 2025 Transportation Priorities

Dear Transportation Secretary Wiedefeld:

The Board of Commissioners of Allegany County, in cooperation with the municipalities of Allegany County is pleased to present our transportation priorities to your department for the FY 2025 – 2029 Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP.) The County's transportation priorities focus on system preservation, safety, and supporting economic development. The County appreciates your responsiveness to Allegany County's requests to move projects forward efficiently to better serve the needs of our constituents.

Thank you for the continued funding of the following projects in Allegany County:

- I-68 Cumberland Viaduct – Bridge Deck Replacement and Bridge Rehabilitation
- US 220, McMullen Highway – Geometric Improvements along US 220, MD 53, and MD 636 – Cresaptown
- US 220 Corridor Funding to Complete Project Planning (South of Cresaptown to WV State Line)
- MD 144, Naves Cross Road Bridge Replacement
- MD 51, Old Town Road Bridge Replacement
- Bear Ridge Trail Construction
- Borden Tunnel Lining Restoration
- Baltimore Street Access
- Bel Air Elementary School Pedestrian Bridge Replacement
- Allegany County Transit - Preventive Maintenance
- Allegany County Transit - Computer Equipment
- Allegany County Transit - Garage Door Replacement
- Allegany County Transit - Transit Development Plan

This year, you will see many of the projects that were listed in the 2024 Priority Letter and one new project; the previously listed project requests have been updated to move these projects to completion. It is critical that projects in Allegany County continue to receive funding for consecutive phasing and to see these projects are completed in a timely manner to reach the goals of a safe and effective transportation system.

To be consistent with the Chapter 725 process, representatives from the County and the municipalities discussed and prioritized the following projects at a coordination meeting held Monday, April 7, 2025. The Board of Commissioners, as a part of the agenda of their regular public business meeting on Thursday, April 17, 2025 endorsed the 2025 priority requests. On behalf of Allegany County, the Town of Barton, the City of Cumberland, the City of Frostburg, the

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Town of Lonaconing, the Town of Luke, the Town of Midland, and the Town of Westernport, we would like to submit the following projects:

1. Construction Funds for Braddock Road Pedestrian & Bicycle Improvements (Updated)

The City of Frostburg has pushed for construction funding for continuous walking and biking lanes on Braddock Street (near I-68 Exit 33) to Center Street in order to complete the project in conjunction with Maryland Department of Transportation. Engineering was funded in FY2020, but final design was delayed due to COVID. State Highway and City of Frostburg are anxious to begin construction in spring of 2026. The project lies along MD 736 adjacent to the Frostburg State University (FSU) campus, and will address the need for increased safety within a high-volume pedestrian and bicycle traffic corridor; effectively linking local residents to large employers such as Active Network, Appalachian Laboratory, Edgewood Commons, the FSU campus, and the Center Street and Sand Spring II developments, at the gateway to downtown Frostburg.

2. Rt. 40 / Rt. 36 Project (New)

Frostburg is pushing for design funding for pedestrian improvements at the intersection of state routes 36 and 40. The intersection currently has no pedestrian paths, crossings or safe areas. It also an extremely high foot traffic and vehicle trafficked area. It is the intersection between Frostburg's industrial park, two shopping plazas, Mountain Ridge Highschool, several restaurants, a bank and a gas station. The City is seeking funding in conjunction with State Highway in order to complete a pedestrian improvement and feasibility study, in order to begin planning sidewalk, bike lane and ped improvements.

3. Allegany County Transit Operating & Capital Funding (Updated)

Allegany County Transit is requesting funding for operations and capital projects. Additional funding is requested for a replacement service vehicle, and new radio equipment. Allegany County Transit operates a fixed route and demand response service in Allegany County. The Transit's mission is to provide the citizens and visitors of the Allegany County service area with clean, safe, reliable, courteous, and efficient transportation—continued support is requested for operation funds to achieve our mission. The Capital Funding request for FY 2026 is for preventative maintenance.

4. Frostburg Depot Street and Tunnel Feasibility Study

The City of Frostburg will pursue a feasibility study to address both bike and pedestrian access to Main Street as well as infrastructure concerns in the area of the Frostburg Depot Tunnel. The City owns and maintains Depot Street which sits above an abandoned train tunnel, this tunnel also crosses under Main Street (US 40). Settling and drainage issues under the road and around the tunnel have created persistent problems with not only the road but the sidewalks as well. The tunnel under Frostburg contains a 16-inch sewer main owned by the City of Frostburg that is no longer accessible due to cave-ins within the tunnel. The entire depot area serves as a major economic and recreational thoroughfare for not only Western Maryland Scenic Railroad tourists but GAP trail users as well. The City seeks a feasibility study to determine the most cost effective and beneficial infrastructure investment to improve ease of pedestrian and bicyclist access to Main Street and also ensure that the sewer infrastructure in the tunnel remains accessible and is maintained. Rehabilitation of the tunnel to be opened to bicyclists and pedestrians is one option that should be explored. The tunnel is owned by the Allegany County Commissioners.

5. Washington Street Bridge Rehabilitation

The City of Cumberland is requesting that the state obligate funding to replace the Washington Street Bridge. This is one of three bridges located along a CSX railway. The City and CSX have been in negotiations for several years to address ownership of the bridges, which is expected to result in the City assuming ownership

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of the Washington Street Bridge. This is a critical project for allowing the City to restore traffic flows to Washington Street which located within a Historic District of the City. The under clearance of the bridge will need to be raised nearly 4 feet which will require retaining walls to accommodate the new bridge approach. The project estimate for replacing the bridge is \$6,000,000.

6. Queen City Drive & Baltimore Street Pedestrian Crossing (New)

The City of Cumberland requests design and construction funding for the construction of a new pedestrian bridge over Queen City Drive and CSX Rail. The existing underpass was originally constructed in the 1910's and extended in 1968, which was never ADA compliant. Due to the City's vagrant population and several biohazards, the underpass was closed in February 2025. The railroad grade-crossing creates a barrier for citizens to reach the essential human services on either side of the tracks while CSX traverses the crossing. This project would reconnect the City with an ADA compliant pedestrian bridge over a major arterial road and rail crossing, while addressing a quality-of-life issue.

7. Great Allegheny Passage Slope Stabilization, Drainage, & Surface Improvements

Allegheny County requests construction funding for slope stabilization, drainage, and surface improvements on the Great Allegheny Passage. Improvements are needed in various locations on the Great Allegheny Passage to minimize the nuisance maintenance issues and improve safety for all trail users.

8. US 220 Bowling Green Drainage Improvements

Allegheny County requests continued support for funding of all phases of the Bowling Green drainage improvements from Milnor Avenue to Moss Ave. After the June 12, 2014 flood event, State Highway Administration (SHA) and Allegheny County collaborated with Whitney Bailey Cox & Magnani, LLC (WBCM) in preparing the Bowling Green Flooding Hydrology/Hydraulics Study, which proposed short-, mid-, and long-term solutions in response to the flood event. Phase I was completed April 2019. Engineering has been completed for Phase II and was ready for construction, but was delayed in 2020 due to COVID-19 Pandemic. Since State funding was not available for planned construction projects in April 2020 and April 2021, a small-scale project: Phase II-A was fully funded by the Allegheny County in 2021. State funding was available for FY23 and Phase III was completed. Allegheny County requests SHA to continue to obligate funding for the cost of finalizing engineering/design, permitting, administering the advertisement/bid/award, and construction management services for the remaining phases. SHA will fund the construction cost of all work within the US 220 right-of-way and split the cost with Allegheny County for all work from US 220 to the CSX Railroad.

Additional Projects for Future Funding Considerations:

1. Midland Sidewalk Repairs

The Town of Midland is requesting a project to repair and/or replace uneven sidewalk along Rt. 36 between the north and south connections with Paradise Street to enhance the safety and mobility within an ever-increasing pedestrian route through town. The current sidewalks along Rt. 36 through the Town of Midland were constructed along with the new Rt. 36 alignment over 25 years ago. The Town of Midland, with MDOT SHA funding, extended the sidewalks along the eastside of Rt. 36 with tie-in to Paradise Street promoting a connection between the north and south ends of town. This connection was made in 2002 to enhance the pedestrian safety and mobility in these areas along the roadway. The current conditions of the sidewalk are hazardous to the safety of pedestrians traveling from one end of town to the other. The concrete slabs have shifted over the years and broken creating an uneven walking surface which can lead to trips and falls for the

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pedestrians using the sidewalk. The Town of Midland is requesting funding to repair and/or replace the current sidewalk along the eastside of Rt. 36 between the north and south connections to Paradise Street.

2. Safe Walkway/Bikeway from Westernport through Luke to Garrett County Line

The Town of Luke seeks to conduct a feasibility study and preliminary design for a bikeway through the Town of Luke. This work will be completed through a grant from the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) Kim Lamphier Bikeways Network Program. The work completed under this contract will include the evaluation, planning and preliminary design of the town's proposed bicycle network. The proposed low-traffic-stress bicycle network will improve safety conditions to encourage bicycling for residents and tourists.

3. Greene Street Rehabilitation & Streetscape Improvements

The City of Cumberland requests design and construction funding for the rehabilitation of Greene Street to improve road structure, road surface, pedestrian/bicycle/ADA sidewalks, and streetscape upgrades. Greene Street is in need of significant rehabilitation to handle the traffic on this West Side arterial street. The City is looking to implement the Greene Street Complete Street Plan to improve the corridor for all modes of transportation. The Greene Street Complete Street Plan (financed by the Cumberland Area MPO) was completed in 2015. The plan provides a vision for a safer, more attractive, and economically viable street spanning from Baltimore Street to the end of City maintenance at I-68 Exit 42.


Thank you for your consideration of these transportation priorities in Allegany County. We look forward to a productive partnership with the Maryland Department of Transportation and to actively participate in the development of the CTP to plan and implement these projects.

If you need any clarifications about our recommendations, please contact us.

Sincerely,
The Board of Commissioners of Allegany County



President David J. Caporale



Commissioner Creade V. Brodie, Jr.



Commissioner William R. Atkinson

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The Hon. Paul J. Wiedefeld

May 16, 2025

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District 1 Delegation

Senator Michael W. McKay
Senator Michael W. McKay (Apr 26, 2025 15:07 EDT)

Senator Michael W. McKay, District 1

Delegate James C. Hinebaugh, Jr., District 1A

Delegate Jason C. Buckel
Delegate Jason C. Buckel (May 5, 2025 16:26 EDT)

Delegate Jason C. Buckel, District 1B

Terry L. Baker

Delegate Terry L. Baker, District 1C

Municipal Elected Officials of Allegany County

Daniel A. Colmer, Mayor, Town of Barton

John W. Coburn
John W. Coburn (Apr 23, 2025 10:38 EDT)

John W. Coburn, Mayor, Town of Lonaconing

Raymond M. Morriss
Raymond M. Morriss (Apr 23, 2025 10:45 EDT)

Raymond M Morriss, Mayor, City of Cumberland

Paula Ward
Paula Ward (May 2, 2025 13:31 EDT)

Paula Ward, Mayor, Town of Luke

Todd J. Logsdon
Todd J. Logsdon (Apr 23, 2025 12:28 EDT)

Todd J. Logsdon, Mayor, City of Frostburg

John Monahan
John Monahan (Apr 23, 2025 21:08 EDT)

John Monahan, Mayor, Town of Midland

Judy Hamilton
Judy Hamilton (Apr 23, 2025 10:38 EDT)

Judy Hamilton, Mayor, Town of Westernport

Enclosures:
2025 Priority Lists Spreadsheet

Cc:
The Hon. Michael W. McKay, Maryland Senate
The Hon. Jason C. Buckel, Maryland House of Delegates
The Hon. James C. Hinebaugh, Jr., Maryland House of Delegates
The Hon. Terry L. Baker, Maryland House of Delegates
Daniel A. Colmer, Mayor, Town of Barton
Raymond Morriss, Mayor, City of Cumberland
Todd J. Logsdon, Mayor, City of Frostburg
John W. Coburn, Mayor Town of Lonaconing
Paula Ward, Mayor, Town of Luke
John Monahan, Mayor, Town of Midland
Judy Hamilton, Mayor, Town of Westernport
Bcc:
Dave Cotton, Maryland Department of Planning
Linda Puffenburger, District 6 State Highway Administration
David Schlie, State Highway Administration

Tyson Byrne, Manager, Regional Planning, Office of Planning and Capital Programming, Maryland Department of Transportation
Kari Snyder, Regional Planner, Office of Planning and Capital Programming, Maryland Department of Transportation
Sean Varsolona, Regional Planner, Office of Planning and Preliminary Engineering, Maryland Department of Transportation
Travis Johnston, Director Office of Local Transit Support, Maryland Transit Administration
Karlie Shannon, Regional Planner, Maryland Transit Administration
Jason M. Bennett, C.P.A., Administrator, Allegany County
Adam Patterson, P.E., Director, Public Works, Allegany County
Whitney M. Patterson, Engineer II, Public Works, Allegany County
Robert Smith, City Engineer, City of Cumberland
Hayden Lindsay, City Engineer, City of Frostburg
Cathy Lark, Circuit Rider

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024 Priority	Project Name	Jurisdiction	Anticipated Cost \$(,000's)	Funding Source	Funding Source	X Funding Source	MPO/LRT/PT	Outside MPO	Safety & Security	System Preservation	Quality of Service	Environmental Stewardship	Community Viability	Economic Prosperity	Opportunity Zone	Sustainable Community	Contact Name	Contact email
1	Construction Funds for Braddock Road Pedestrian & Bicycle Improvements	City of Frostburg	TBD	No Portion			Yes	No	X	X	X	X	X				Hayden Lindsey	hindsey@frostburgcity.org
2	Rt. 40 / Rt. 36 Project	City of Frostburg	TBD	No Portion			Yes	No	X	X	X	X	X				Hayden Lindsey	hindsey@frostburgcity.org
3	Allegany County Transit Operating & Capital Funding - Garage Door Replacement	Allegany County	\$ 1,900	Local	10-50%	Yes	No	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Elizabeth Robinson-Harper	erobinson-harper@alleganygov.org
4	Frostburg Depot Street and Tunnel Feasibility Study	City of Frostburg	\$ 150	No Portion			Yes	No	X	X	X	X	X				Hayden Lindsey	hindsey@frostburgcity.org
5	Washington Street Bridge Rehabilitation	City of Cumberland	TBD	Local	<50%	Yes	No	X	X			X		X	X		Robert Smith	robert.smith@cumberlandmd.gov
6	Queen City Drive & Baltimore Street Pedestrian Crossing	City of Cumberland	\$ 7,000	TBD			Yes	No	X	X			X	X			Robert Smith	robert.smith@cumberlandmd.gov
7	Great Allegheny Passage Stabilization, Drainage & Surface Improvements	Allegany County	\$ 300	No Portion			Yes	No	X	X		X		X			Adam Patterson	adam.patterson@alleganygov.org
8	US 220 Bowling Green Drainage Improvements	Allegany County	\$ 600	No Portion			Yes	No		X		X					Adam Patterson	adam.patterson@alleganygov.org
* <u>Additional Projects for Future Funding Considerations:</u>																		
1	Midland Sidewalk Repairs	Town of Midland & Allegany County	TBD	No Portion	0%	Yes	No	X					X	X		X	Craig Alexander	ccalexander@hughes.net
2	Safe Walkway/Bikeway from Westernport through Luke to Garrett County Line	Town of Luke	TBD	Local	20%	Yes	No	X		X			X	X			Paula Ward	edclemonsjr@yahoo.com
3	Greene Street Rehabilitation & Streetscape Improvements	City of Cumberland	\$ 6,806	No Portion	20%	Yes	No	X					X	X		X	Robert Smith	robert.smith@cumberlandmd.gov