



July 23, 2024

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



Re: Caroline County 2024 CTP

Dear Secretary Wiedefeld,

The County Commissioners are eager to forge a productive partnership focused on enhancing transportation infrastructure and addressing our community's needs. We value this opportunity to collaborate and align our goals with the administration's vision. By working together, we aim to address critical transportation issues and improve safety, ultimately fostering a more connected and secure environment for our residents.

Our county has identified several transportation priorities that require immediate and strategic intervention. With your leadership and the expertise of your administration, we are confident that we can achieve meaningful progress in these areas. The County's updated Transportation Priorities and Safety Concerns for 2024 are outlined as follows:

**Priority A: Complete Safety Improvements at MD 404 and MD 328/River Road**

The progress made by the State Highway Administration (SHA) in addressing the safety improvements requested last year is commendable. We request that SHA continue to address the remaining items, which are already underway or in the planning stage:

- Create turn lanes on MD 328 and River Road.
- Adjust the traffic light timing so that traffic on MD 328 and River Road does not move simultaneously.
- Reduce the speed limit on MD 328 between MD 404 and Business 404/Meeting House Road to 35 mph.
- Finalize upgrade to the blinking 'Oil City' light on Greensboro Road to a fully operational traffic light.

**Priority B: Widen MD 404 to Four Lanes from Harmony Road to MD 16 East**

The previous dualization of MD 404 has led to reduced accidents, decreased congestion, and higher user satisfaction. While acknowledging the scale of this undertaking, the Commissioners request that SHA initiate the final phase of the project to dualize MD 404 from Harmony Road to MD 16 East. This includes starting preliminary planning, funding design and engineering, and addressing any necessary property or right-of-way acquisition.

**Priority C: Install "Remain on 404" Signs to Manage Beach Traffic**

To alleviate congestion and manage traffic flow, particularly from May to September, we request the installation of "Remain on 404" signs at strategic locations. These signs will help redirect traffic away from local roads and reduce the influx of non-local vehicles, thereby enhancing safety and efficiency.

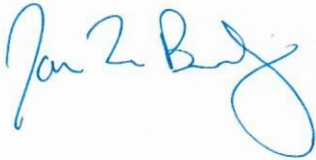
**Priority D: Implement "No Return to 404" Signs at Mitchell and Hignutt Roads**

In response to ongoing complaints about non-local traffic, reckless driving, and safety concerns, we propose placing "No Return to 404" signs at the entrances of Mitchell and Hignutt Roads. This measure aims to reduce diverted traffic and improve overall safety.

**Priority E: Finalize of Paving of Route 16:** The paving of Harmony Road, specifically addressing the section from its current endpoint to Wilkens Branch Road, is crucial for improving road conditions and enhancing connectivity in our county. We urge SHA to prioritize the finalization of this project to ensure smoother travel and safety for all motorists.

We strongly urge the Governor's administration to maintain a steadfast commitment to prioritizing road safety and funding for infrastructure projects in Caroline County. The investments made by the Moore administration in our transportation initiatives are deeply appreciated, and we emphasize the critical importance of continuing to prioritize the safety and well-being of our residents through sustained funding and proactive measures. We look forward to continued collaboration to ensure that our roads meet the highest standards of safety and efficiency for all who travel them.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Travis Breeding". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

J. Travis Breeding, President  
Caroline County Commissioners