

**MINUTES OF THE MARYLAND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**  
**February 5, 2025**

**I. Call to Order**

Chair Justin Towles called the Maryland Transportation Commission meeting to order on Wednesday, February 5, 2025, at 10:30 AM via Teams meeting.

**II. Roll Call**

The following individuals were present:

Justin Towles, Chair  
Diane Baker, Member  
Debra Carter, Member  
Rudolf-Victor De Leon Dinglas, Member  
Debra Farrar-Dyke, Member  
Jennifer Hill Lineweber, Member  
Barbara Richman-Kahn, Member  
George Littrell, Jr., Member  
Lisa Weimin Liu, Member  
John Lunn, Member  
Todd Nock, Member  
Gary Simpson, Member  
Greg Snook, Member  
Mario VillaSanta, Member  
MDOT Staff Brittany Brothers

**III. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Chair Towles asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the January 8, 2025, meeting. Mr. Nock made a motion to approve the minutes, and Ms. Carter seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**IV. Dedication of MDOT Facilities**

There were no dedication requests.

Chair Towles reminded members that dedications are on hold during the Legislative Session and will resume in May.

## **V. Legislative Session Update**

Chair Towles discussed the budget and structural deficit in the State this year. He reviewed the Governor's proposed cuts and various increases, including fees centered around MDOT.

Chair Towles also discussed the new Federal Administration and the current events within the Federal Government and how that could affect future funding for Maryland. A member asked if the funding for the new bridge would be affected. Chair Towles noted that the bridge is fully funded and moving forward.

He also took a moment to discuss the Reagan National Airport crash.

Chair Towles then led a discussion about MDOT Departmental Bill HB 0020, which will reconstruct MTC. He noted that this bill uplevels the Commission to including making prioritization funding decisions, names the MDOT Secretary as the Chair, and allots appointment positions for the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House. He noted that the bill currently has support, and a hearing is set for February 11, 2025. Chair Towles said that he will be providing a written testimony and asked the members if they would be in support of a letter from the MTC? If the Commission agrees, Chair Towles will draft the letter, acquire electronic signatures, and submit it on behalf of the MTC.

Chair Towles asked for a motion to approve a support letter from the MTC that he will draft and submit to the Appropriations Committee. Mr. VillaSanta made the motion to approve, and Ms. Farrar-Dyke seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

## **VI. Other Business**

Another discussion about HB 0020 was started by the members, voicing concerns about their removal from the Commission should this bill be passed. Members discussed their confusion about how the bill will affect appointed seats, terms, and the State Roads Commission's (SRC) roll in the MTC.

Chair Towles stated that members could make a motion to amend the previously approved motion to draft a MTC support letter. Mr. VillaSanta made the motion to amend.

Chair Towles noted that the previous motion could be immediately rescinded with a 2/3 majority vote. He asked if anyone opposed rescinding the previous motion. Hearing none, the previous motion to draft a support letter on behalf of the MTC and submit it to the Appropriations Committee was rescinded.

Chair Towles noted that he will be supporting this bill as an individual and not on behalf of the MTC. He encouraged others to provide testimony if they feel strongly one way or another. He also stated that he is available should any members want to reach out to him directly and discuss concerns.

## **VII. Adjournment**

Chair Towles asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting and reconvene for the next Quarterly MTC Meeting with MDOT leadership virtually on March 5, 2025. Richman-Kahn made a motion to adjourn, and Mr. Snook seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.