#### MINUTES OF THE MARYLAND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION June 4, 2025

# I. Call to Order

Chair Justin Towles called the Maryland Transportation Commission meeting to order on Wednesday, June 4, 2025, at 10:30 AM at MDOT TSO Headquarters.

## II. Roll Call

The following individuals were present:

Justin Towles, Chair Diane Baker, Member Debra Carter, Member Jennifer Hill Leineweber, Member George Littrell, Jr., Member Lisa Weimin Liu, Member John Lunn, Member Todd Nock, Member Barbara Richman-Kahn, Member Rizwan Siddiqi, Member Gary Simpson, Member Greg Snook, Member Mario VillaSanta, Member MDOT Staff Geoff Anderson MDOT Staff Tony Bridges **MDOT Staff Brittany Brothers** MDOT Staff Nicole Condol MDOT Staff Nora Corasaniti MDOT Staff Michelle Martin MDOT Staff Joe McAndrew MDOT Staff Meg Young MDTA Staff Bruce Gartner **BWI Staff Keiva Rodrigues** BWI Staff Karin White

## **III. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Chair Justin Towles asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the May 7, 2025, meeting. Member George Littrell made a motion to approve the minutes, and Member Jennifer Hill Leineweber seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

# **IV. Opening Remarks MDOT Leadership**

MDOT Assistant Secretary for Transportation Equity and Engagement Tony Bridges and MDOT Assistant Secretary for Project Development and Delivery Joe McAndrew together provided brief updates regarding recent MDOT TSO activity amidst the federal transition to the new administration. It was shared that MDOT leadership continues to move forward and took part in MOVE (Mobilizing Opportunities for Vital Economic Growth) Maryland Coalition coordination during this year's state legislative session. Major MDOT accomplishments this year include securing \$50 million from the Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) Strategic Energy Investment Fund (SEIF) to deploy solar energy infrastructure, as well as initiation of the Serious About Safety program which will include further investment in US 1 safety improvements. Additionally, MDOT is supporting The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) Joint Development program in implementing transit oriented development (TOD) at its Maryland Metro stations. It was noted by Ms. Hill Leineweber that she has previous experience coordinating with WMATA on TOD issues and is available to provide insights as needed.

MTC members had a question regarding the status of the Howard Street Tunnel and SCMaglev (superconducting maglev) projects. For the Howard Street Tunnel project, it was noted that the Howard Street Tunnel is closed for reconstruction which is on schedule to reopen in November 2025 and that closing the tunnel has resulted in time and cost savings. There were no major updates from MDOT leadership regarding the SCMaglev project, however it was noted that Governor Wes Moore is seeking support for the project from USDOT.

# V. Prioritization & CTP Update

MDOT Office of Planning and Programming Chief Geoff Anderson provided an update on both the MDOT prioritization process and status of the Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP). MDOT staff are in the process of developing and testing new/draft Chapter 30 scoring criteria. MDOT staff are also looking into potential legislative updates that would refine considerations for new capacity and asset management projects. A stakeholder/applicant working group is targeted for summer 2025 to discuss potential improvements. The MTC was invited to participate, and Chair Towles confirmed that a member will be identified to support the working group.

Regarding the CTP, it was noted that the updated plan approved by the Governor includes an additional \$420 million in state transportation funding annually, beginning in Fiscal Year 2026. Current funding is targeting safety and state of good repair improvements, including investments in I-81, US 15, and the light rail program. MDOT staff continue to monitor for and seek additional federal funding opportunities, which will be highlighted in the next iteration of the CTP. It was emphasized that given the potential for variability in funding sources, support for new projects and programs is uncertain. Given this update, MTC members inquired after the status of the Red Line and US 15 projects. MDOT staff confirmed that while due diligence and planning continue, federal support is sought for the Red Line. Additionally, it was confirmed that US 15 is moving forward with full funding for construction.

## VI. MTC Roadmap & Vision

MDOT staff extended thanks to the MTC for assistance and coordination during the 2025 state legislative session.

#### VII. FSK Update

MDTA Executive Director Bruce Gartner gave an update regarding the progressive design-build Francis Scott Key (FSK) Bridge Rebuild Project. The project team is in the design process, moving forward with pile testing, collecting riverbed data, coordinating with federal partners and stakeholders, and refining cost estimates. A job fair was held recently to prepare the workforce for the construction phase of the project.

#### VIII. Trails Plan Update

A presentation regarding the ongoing update to the Maryland State Transportation Trails Strategic Plan was given by MDOT Office of Active Transportation and Mobility Deputy Director Meg Young. The update process includes developing an existing conditions report; compiling a database of existing, planned, and potential transportation trails as well as trails recommended by the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC); and a survey of partners and the general public to gather feedback. An interactive transportation trails website is also under development, and a public webinar will be held September 4, 2025. The plan is scheduled to be released early fall 2025.

## **IX. BWI Parking Policy Update**

BWI Chief Operating Officer Keiva Rodriquez gave an update regarding the MAA BWI Marshall Affiliate Parking Reservation Program with support from BWI Special Assistant to the Chief Operating Officer Karin White. MTC Members are eligible for gratis parking at BWI Marshall as part of the Affiliate Parking Program when traveling for MDOT related business. Mrs. Rodriques provided the updated parking guidelines and process for making reservations. Mrs. Rodriques also provided updates regarding the BWI proposed C-D Connector project and air traffic control tower updates.

## X. Other Business

Members noted the occurrence of a recent phishing scam posing as MDOT to be aware of, which local media has been covering.

Mr. Bridges noted the passing of Maryland HB 1253 which established the Department of Social and Economic Mobility. MDOT leadership is coordinating with the Governor's office in preparation for the transition to this new Department, which will take effect in October 2025.

#### XI. Adjournment

Chair Towles asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Member George Littrell made a motion to adjourn, and Member Barbara Richman-Kahn seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.