



# CITY OF HAGERSTOWN, MARYLAND

The Honorable Robert E. Bruchey, II

Mayor  
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April 10, 2018

The Honorable Pete Rahn  
Secretary of Transportation  
Maryland Department of Transportation  
7201 Corporate Center Drive  
Hanover, MD 21076-0548

**RE: HAGERSTOWN MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES  
2018 MDOT CONSOLIDATED TRANSPORTATION PLAN**

Dear Secretary Rahn:

Thank you for being such a strong supporter of our community. As you prepare the Consolidated Transportation Plan, I am pleased to submit to you the Hagerstown Mayor & City Council's list of priority transportation items based on the discussion at our March 27, 2018 meeting:

1. **Highway User Revenues:** This revenue is essential for us to maintain the street network throughout the City. We request that funding be returned to FY09 levels plus inflationary adjustment as historically we received close to \$2 million annually. Attached is a chart of our share of funds in recent years.
2. **I-81 Widening:** This corridor is crucial to the economy of our area and the frequent accidents on I-81 have both a physical and perceived negative impacts on Hagerstown. We are grateful that SHA is widening I-81 from the Potomac River to approximately Route 11. However, we advocate for the widening of all 12 miles to the Pennsylvania line over the next 10 years.
3. **US Route 40 (Dual Highway) Pedestrian Issues:** Our Engineering, Planning, and Police staff have all endorsed the "*Pedestrian Safety Study and Audit*" for US 40 between Cannon Avenue and Redwood Circle as prepared by the HEPMPO and we request the implementation of this plan by the State Highway Administration as soon as possible. We are aware of your concerns about the high rate of pedestrian deaths in the State, several of which occurred on this short section of highway. The HEPMO study provides specific ways to make the Dual Highway more compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act and provide safer, alternative modes of travel for our population, especially those without motor vehicles.
4. **Tourist Signs:** In April of 2016, the Mayor and Council approved a State Highway plan to install new "Tourism" signs. These signs would replace the faded and outdated brown signs around the community and would direct motorists to downtown, City Park, Fairgrounds Park, Municipal Stadium, etc. Unfortunately we were recently informed that the signs may not be installed until FY21. We request that this timetable be expedited for at least the City's destinations.



5. **Eastern Boulevard Corridor Improvements:** We support this Washington County led, multi-phase project to improve Eastern Boulevard that will be a multi-modal transportation system connecting US Route 40, Maryland Route 64, and Maryland Route 60. We further support the construction of Professional Boulevard and we anticipate we will financially support the construction of Phase I (shown in red on the attached map) provided it yields an opportunity for us to expand our tax base. Professional Boulevard traffic studies clearly show that it will disperse traffic and reducing traffic volumes on State routes.
6. We strongly support and ask for continued funding from the "alternative" transportation funding programs including:
- **Bikeways Grants:** Following our *2016 Bicycle Master Plan*, we will be seeking grants to continue to improve our award-winning bicycle infrastructure;
  - **Transportation Alternatives Program:** We recently received a \$200,000 grant for the final design of the Marsh Run Trail. This Trail will become a key element in the City's expanding bicycle and pedestrian network. Upon completion, the trail will provide a continuous bicycle and pedestrian corridor along the southern edge of the City's urban core, and will connect with the Hagerstown Cultural Trail (that connects City Park and our downtown City Center). Please see attached map;
  - **Retrofit Sidewalk Installation:** We appreciate the sidewalk that was constructed in our community by the program, most recently on Burhans Boulevard. Other future uses of these funds would be the Dual Highway (see #4 above), Route 65 near South High, and Route 40 in the extreme west end of the City;
  - **Safe Routes to School Program:** We also appreciate that we have benefitted from seven grants that we were fortunate enough to obtain through this program and they have significantly improved accessibility around our many educational institutions.

On behalf of the Mayor & City Council, I would like to express our sincere appreciation for your consideration of our priorities and for the work that MDOT is already doing to improve transportation in our community. If you have any questions or need additional information before the tour meeting date, please do not hesitate to contact our City Engineer, Mr. Rodney Tissue at 301-739-8577 extension 128, or [rtissue@hagerstownmd.org](mailto:rtissue@hagerstownmd.org).

Sincerely,

CITY OF HAGERSTOWN



Robert E Bruchey, II  
Mayor

Attachments: Recent history of HUR, Professional Boulevard plan, Marsh Run Trail map

c: Washington County Delegation

Hagerstown City Council

Valerie Means, City Administrator, City of Hagerstown

Rodney Tissue, City Engineer, City of Hagerstown Parks & Engineering

Kathy Maher, Director, City of Hagerstown Planning & Code Administration

Anthony Crawford, District Engineer, Maryland State Highway Administration, District 6

Rob Slocum, Washington County Administrator, Washington County Government

Scott Hobbs, Director, Washington County Engineering Department

Matt Mullenax, Director, Hagerstown/Eastern Panhandle Metropolitan Planning Organization

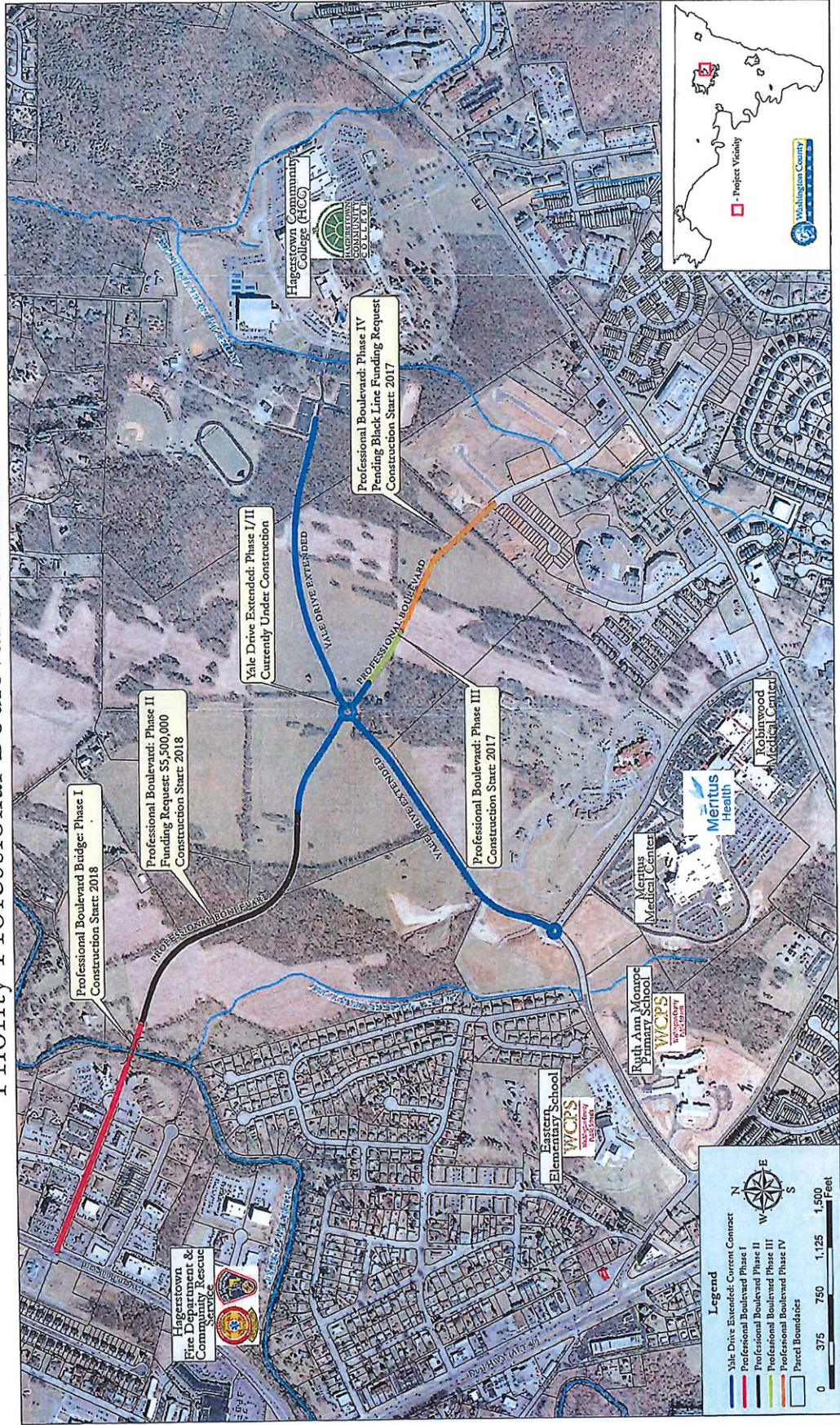
Dan Spedden, President, Hagerstown-Washington County Convention & Visitors Bureau

**City of Hagerstown**  
**State Shared Taxes: State Highway User Revenue Detail**  
**as of March 20, 2018**

	Total	Yearly Change	Over FY09	One-Time Allotments	Annual Allocation	Yearly Change	Over FY09
FY09 Actual	1,899,839.05				1,899,839.05		
FY10 Actual	217,621.80	-89%	-89%		217,621.80	-89%	-89%
FY11 Actual	161,387.12	-26%	-92%		161,387.12	-26%	-92%
FY12 Actual	469,325.59	191%	-75%		469,325.59	191%	-75%
FY13 Actual	301,934.70	-36%	-84%		301,934.70	-36%	-84%
FY14 Actual - includes one-time allotment	1,039,879.51	244%	-45%	722,881.83	316,997.68	5%	-83%
FY15 Actual - includes one-time allotment	1,081,978.18	4%	-43%	748,955.36	333,022.82	5%	-82%
FY16 Actual - includes one-time allotment	1,224,207.10	13%	-36%	884,465.39	339,741.71	2%	-82%
FY17 Actual - includes one-time allotment	1,206,124.86	-1%	-37%	873,766.19	332,358.67	-2%	-83%
<b>Estimated FY18 based on 9/15/16 memo</b>							
FY18 Projected Annual allotment - includes one-time	1,257,029.68	4%	-34%	916,032.00	340,997.68	3%	-82%
<b>Estimated FY19 budget based on 9/15/17 memo</b>							
FY19 Budget Annual allotment - includes one-time	342,502.36	-73%	-82%	TBD/Unknown	342,502.36	0%	-82%



Priority Professional Boulevard Corridor

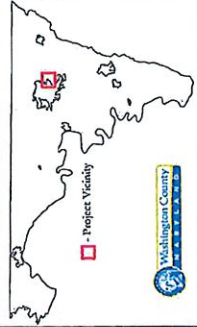


**Legend**

- Yale Drive Extended: Current Contract
- Professional Boulevard Phase I
- Professional Boulevard Phase II
- Professional Boulevard Phase III
- Professional Boulevard Phase IV
- Parcel Boundaries

Scale: 0 375 750 1,125 1,500 Feet

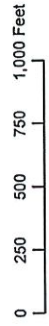
North Arrow



# City of Hagerstown Proposed Marsh Run Trail



- Hagerstown Cultural Trail
  - Railroad
  - City Street
  - Bester Elementary School
  - Public Park
- Bicycle Routes**
- Route Type**
- Existing Shared-Use Path
  - Existing On-Street Bike Lane
  - Bicycle-Friendly Route
  - Proposed Shared-Use Path
  - Proposed Bike Lane



Map Projection: NAD83 State Plane Maryland FIPS (feet)  
 Data Source:  
 City of Hagerstown, 2017; State of MD Imagery, 2011  
 Prepared By: Hagerstown Planning & Code Admin. Div. 5/2014  
 (rev. 5/2017)

