

**Board of County
Commissioners**

Edward C. Rothstein, President
C. Richard Weaver, Vice President
C. Eric Bouchat
Dennis E. Frazier
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Carroll County Government

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March 8, 2022

The Honorable Guy Guzzone, Chair
Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: SB726 - Transportation – Highway User Revenues – Revenue and Distribution - SUPPORT

Dear Chair Guzzone and Members of the Committee,

We write in strong support of SB726 and urge a favorable report. The bill increases local government share of highway user revenue that was significantly reduced beginning with FY2008. The share was increased slightly in 2019 but will sunset after FY2024, plunging again to FY2008 levels. Justifications for the increase include:

- Local government must fund ever expanding transportation needs from other budget areas, even though those budget lines have also increased significantly, particularly education
- In Carroll County, simply maintaining existing roadways came to \$21.8 mil in FY2022 and, of that, only \$1.5 mil came from state highway user revenue
- Assuming HUR funding had remained at FY2007 levels, there has been an approximate cumulative loss of state transportation funding in Carroll County of over \$150 mil since FY2008

The General Assembly now has an opportunity, as a partner with local governments, to restore this funding and help ensure we can provide safe and efficient transportation infrastructure for our citizens. For these reasons we urge a FAVORABLE report on SB726.

Sincerely,

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CARROLL COUNTY

Handwritten signature of Edward C. Rothstein in blue ink.

Edward C. Rothstein (COL, Ret.)
President

Handwritten signature of C. Richard Weaver in blue ink.

C. Richard Weaver
Vice President

Handwritten signature of C. Eric Bouchat in blue ink.

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Handwritten signature of Dennis E. Frazier in blue ink.

Dennis E. Frazier

Handwritten signature of Stephen A. Wantz in blue ink.

Stephen A. Wantz