

COMMISSIONERS FOR SOMERSET COUNTY

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COUNTY ATTORNEY
KIRK G. SIMPKINS

March 8, 2022

The Honorable Guy Guzzone, Chair
3 West
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: SB0726 / Transportation – Highway User Revenues – Revenue and Distribution / Letter of Support

Dear Chairman Guzzone and Committee Members:

The Board of Commissioners for Somerset County respectfully request your consideration to vote favorably on SB0726 Transportation – Highway User Revenues – Revenue and Distribution.

Since 2007, Highway User Revenues peaked from a high of approx. \$2.9 million to a low in 2012 of approx. \$138,000. This reduction has placed a burden on our county road network and has led to the substandard conditions of our county roadways.

With HUR increases over the past several years, Somerset County has only recovered approximately 22% of its Highway User Revenue Funds, leaving us in the bottom six of counties recovering from the Highway User Revenue shortfalls. These shortfalls are particularly hurtful to our county, placing limitations on our much-needed Road Resurfacing Projects to include Road Side Drainage Projects and Capital Projects, as well as maintenance of our equipment and proper staffing of our Roads Department.

Therefore, the Board of Commissioners for Somerset County respectfully request a favorable report and final passage of SB0726 which would pave the way for a safer county road system and a more aesthetically pleasing road network for our travelling public. Thank you for your kind consideration.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ralph D. Taylor". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Ralph D. Taylor
County Administrator

Cc: Senator Carozza