

CHAIRMAN:
Jeff Graf
VICE CHAIRMAN
David Slaughter

MARYLAND ASPHALT ASSOCIATION



TREASURER:
Paul Bramble
SECRETARY:
Curtis Hall
PRESIDENT:
Tim Smith

March 1st, 2024

Delegate Marc Korman, Chair
House Environment and Transportation Committee
Room 251, House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: HB 1215 – FAVORABLE – Transportation Financing – Retail Delivery Fee and Transportation Network Company Impact Fee (Transportation Funding Act of 2024)

Dear Chair Korman and Members of the Committee:

The Maryland Asphalt Association (MAA) is comprised of 19 producer members representing more than 48 production facilities, 25 contractor members, 25 consulting engineer firms, and 41 other associate members. MAA works proactively with regulatory agencies to represent the interests of the asphalt industry both in the writing and interpretation of state and federal regulations that may affect our members. We also advocate for adequate state and federal funding for Maryland's multimodal transportation system.

House Bill 1215, the "Transportation Funding Act of 2024" aims to address the significant transportation funding issues in Maryland by introducing two new fees: the Retail Delivery Fee and the Transportation Network Company (TNC) Impact Fee. The Retail Delivery Fee will be imposed on certain vendors and marketplace facilitators for deliveries within the State, and the TNC Impact Fee will be on passenger trips originating in the State using transportation network companies. The fees will go toward the Transportation Trust Fund (TTF), with any surplus directed to local transit systems.

MAA believes HB 1215 represents a vital opportunity to address the critical funding needs of the TTF. The fees outlined in this bill represent an innovative way to diversify revenue streams for the TTF, which will ensure dedicated funding for critical transportation and infrastructure projects throughout Maryland. Furthermore, the allocation of surplus funds to local transit systems underscores a commendable commitment to enhancing accessibility for all Marylanders. This legislation is a pragmatic approach to investing in our State's economic prosperity, public safety, and sustainability.

We appreciate you taking the time to consider our request for a **FAVORABLE** report on HB 1215.

Sincerely,

Tim Smith, P.E.
President
Maryland Asphalt Association