



November 30, 2022

The Honorable Wes Moore, Governor-Elect  
State of Maryland  
Baltimore, MD

Dear Governor-Elect Moore,

The Transform Maryland Transportation Coalition, composed of thirty organizations with members throughout our state, congratulates you on your history-making election as Maryland's next Governor. We're especially encouraged by your recognition of Greater Baltimore's need for much better public transportation and comments last week in support of a regional transportation authority for Baltimore and its surrounding counties.

As one of the few major urban areas in the United States where state government operates public transit, Greater Baltimore has long been disadvantaged by an inadequate system without accountability or control by local officials. Moreover, MTA is the only such authority where local stakeholders have no say in its funding, operations or governance -- a situation that can only be remedied by the type of regional authority that oversees and operates public transportation in most major metropolitan areas throughout the United States.

At the same time, the general dysfunction and steep decline of MTA's service require immediate actions in addition to long-term structural solutions. After eight years of underinvestment, neglect and mismanagement by Governor Hogan and his Department of Transportation, the Maryland Transit Administration's service has fallen to new lows. Frequent bus no-shows, light rail delays of an hour or more, a growing number of MARC train cancellations, misleading data and incomplete or no communications about service issues are causing severe hardships for regular MTA riders while discouraging new riders who would choose public transportation if the service was reliable.

For far too long, the lack of reliable transit service has put Baltimore City and the Greater Baltimore region at a competitive disadvantage with comparable urban areas. Robust, equitable public transit is also key to achieving our shared goals of addressing climate, as the transportation sector remains one of the key contributors to our greenhouse gas pollution.

When proposing a suspension of the state's gas tax, Governor Hogan said he wanted to alleviate "pain at the pump" for Maryland drivers. We urge you to be equally committed to alleviating the "trauma on transit" experienced by far too many Maryland transit riders.

We're truly excited about your election and look forward to an administration whose policies leave no one in our state behind. Please know we stand ready to support and assist your efforts to reform the funding, governance and operations of Greater Baltimore's public transportation in any way we can.

Sincerely,

***The Transform Maryland Transportation Coalition***

[Transform Maryland Transportation \(tmtcoalition.org\)](http://tmtcoalition.org)

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