



MARYLAND
Association of
COUNTIES

Legislative Update

2017 General Assembly Session

County Engineers Association of
Maryland

2017 Spring Conference

Thursday, May 25, 2017



Major Session Highlights

MACo's legislative efforts = 77% success rate

TOP ISSUES



24

County Jurisdictions direct ALL MACo positions through weekly meetings

TRANSPORTATION FUNDING

SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION

OPIOID CRISIS

ENERGY FACILITY ZONING



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MACo 2017 LEGISLATIVE SESSION SNAPSHOT

598

Bills Analyzed

512

Policy Blog Articles Written



9,602

subscribers

650x

Face-to-Face w/ Legislators



Delivered

276

pieces of testimony



RESULTS



Protected counties from cost shifts and expensive legislation



Secured new money for transportation



Won a stronger county voice in energy facility siting



Gained better tools to revitalize communities

77% Success Rate
Bills that reached MACo's desired outcome



Major Session Highlights in Public Works

- 🏗️ **Local roads funding increased by \$13.4m**
- 🏗️ **Staved off onerous water delivery mandates**
- 🏗️ **Ensured MDOT “scorecard” bill does not negatively affect counties**
- 🏗️ **No new cutbacks, cost shifts, or unfair new burdens in budget**



Highway User Revenues

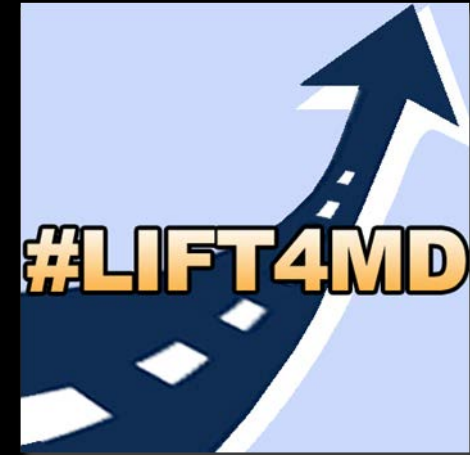
	FY18 Final: Transportation Grants		
	"Hold Harmless"	Total Grants	"New" Grants
Baltimore City	\$ 2.0	\$ 5.5	\$ 3.5
Counties	\$ 4.0	\$ 12.8	\$ 8.8
Municipalities	\$ 19.0	\$ 20.1	\$ 1.1
Total	\$ 25.0	\$ 38.4	\$ 13.4

- Additional \$13.4 million in local transportation grants added to budget
- “One-time” grants which may or may not come back next year



MACo's Infrastructure Initiative: SB 586/HB 1322

- Local Infrastructure Fast Track for Maryland Act
- Restoration of highway user revenues to all local governments through 7-year phase-in
- Assessment of the state of all our infrastructure
- Increased accountability





Other Highway User Bills

- 🏛️ **HB 552: restored highway user revenues, shared new gas taxes with local governments, and amended Constitution to protect HUR**
- 🏛️ **SB 563/HB 946: ensured municipalities receive \$50m annually in 2 years**
- 🏛️ **SB 564/HB 942: provided municipalities greater share over 2 years**
- 🏛️ **SB 161: phased-in restoration over 7 years if revenues higher than anticipated**
- 🏛️ ***No HUR bills moved out of committee.***



SB 307/HB 402 “Road Kill Bill” Repeal

- 🏛️ Governor’s bill, as introduced, repealed law
- 🏛️ MACo supported; would support “repeal” or “replace”
- 🏛️ “We’re not going to pass a repeal.” - Senate President
- 🏛️ Revised law makes scoring system informational only, removes ties to population, and creates workgroup to review and make recommendations







HB 1251: #RealRoadKill





Water Delivery Service Bills

-  **HB 228/SB 546: Water Shut-off:** required strict and rigorous process before shutting off water/wastewater services for nonpayment
-  **HB 453: Water Lien Prohibition:** prohibited tax sales to solely enforce utility liens
-  **HB 918: Water Affordability Program:** required onerous affordability programs be put in place
-  ***All killed, but not without fight***



Other Bills of Interest

Bill	MACo Position	Out- come
SB 302 / HB 36: mandates for plug-in vehicle parking	Oppose	Failed
SB 136: restricted parking citation late fees	Oppose	Failed
SB 865: mandated traffic signals at all crosswalks near schools	Amend to remove mandate	Failed



Other Bills of Interest That Passed

- 🏛️ **SB 484/HB 271:** repeals MTA's farebox recovery requirement of 35%
- 🏛️ **SB 142/HB 192:** establishes Task Force to study bicycle safety, infrastructure and funding sources
- 🏛️ **HB 889:** tow trucks can use HOV lanes
- 🏛️ **HB 11:** prohibits "coal rolling": deliberate diesel soot emissions on others
- 🏛️ **HB 119:** establishes safety commission for WMATA, in compliance with Federal law



Obstacles in our Future

- ✚ Continued politicization of transportation funding
- ✚ Divisive partisanship
- ✚ Economic uncertainty
 - ✚ National political climate
 - ✚ Slow economic growth
 - ✚ Unpredictable state revenues



Thank you!

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Summer Conference
August 16-19, 2017
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Ocean City, MD

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