



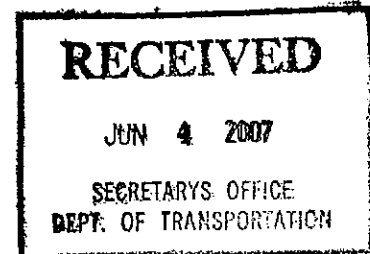
**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND**

Washington County Administration Building  
100 West Washington Street, Room 226  
Hagerstown, Maryland 21740-4735  
Telephone: 240-313-2200  
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Deaf and Hard of Hearing call 7-1-1 for Maryland Relay

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May 29, 2007

The Honorable John D. Porcari, Secretary  
The Maryland Department of Transportation  
7201 Corporate Center  
Hanover, MD 21076



Subject: **Washington County Transportation Priority Requests**

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Please accept this letter as Washington County's request of projects for your consideration in the forthcoming Consolidated Transportation Plan (CTP). Our staff has invested considerable time in meeting with and receiving input from various business and community leaders, including the Chamber of Commerce. They have also had active discussion with our SHA District Engineer and his staff, as well as Hagerstown's City Engineer, before bringing this list to our Board and the Delegation for our mutual consideration.

As you are aware, our staff had an opportunity to meet with Deputy Secretary Beverley Swaim-Staley in late April to discuss mutual concerns and was very complimentary of her visit. We very much appreciate your efforts to ensure good communication and receive input and guidance early in the CTP process. We recognize that it is not possible to fund all of the many requests made to your agencies and offer the following requests in the order of priority.

- **U.S. 40/Edgewood Dr. Intersection** - This project is currently programmed to go to construction later this year by way of a partnership between SHA, the County, and City of Hagerstown. Although this is SHA jurisdiction, the City and the County have offered to partner with the cost but are having difficulty with the extraordinary overhead and administrative costs put forth by SHA.
- **Eastern Blvd.** - Both the City and the County share jurisdiction along parts of this very busy urban highway. The road currently extends from MD Rt. 64 to MD Rt. 60. The County is considering widening the section from MD Rt. 64 to its intersection with Old Forge Road at a projected cost of \$9.3M. The City and County plan to build a new section from the intersection with Old Forge Road to the intersection of Marsh Pike and MD Rt. 60 at a cost of \$5M to improve traffic movement on the north and east side of the City. We are asking for SHA's



The Honorable John D. Porcari, Secretary  
Page 2 of 2  
May 29, 2007

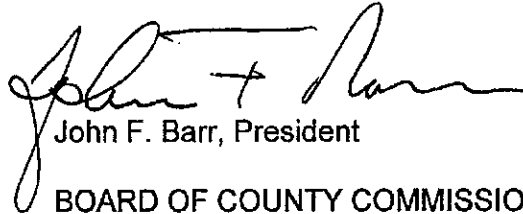
participation by covering the cost of the geometric improvements to the intersections at MD Rt. 64 (Jefferson Blvd.) and MD Rt. 60 (Leitersburg Pike).

- **U.S. 340/Keep Tryst Rd.** – Traffic safety issues have escalated in this vicinity due to a tri-state problem that significantly impacts this stretch of U.S. 340. At issue is the inability of Washington County residents living in this area to safely ingress/egress U.S. 340 at Keep Tryst Rd./Valley Rd. and at MD Rt. 67. SHA District 6 has completed a preliminary traffic study with several alternatives. Washington County would consider partnering on this project by constructing a connector road from Keep Tryst Rd. to the interchange ramp at MD Rt. 67. We are requesting that SHA proceed to design of this project.
- **U.S. 40/Cornell Dr. Intersection** – In view of the improvements along the Dual Hgwy. (U.S. 40 East), much progress is being made. Within the next few weeks, the County will be advertising for reconstruction of the intersection at U.S. 40 and Mt. Aetna Rd. (already improved by SHA). One intersection that cries out for resolution of conflicts with high traffic volumes and turning movements is that of U.S. 40 at Cornell Dr. We are requesting that SHA undertake a study of this intersection to see what geometric improvements could be made to address this area.
- **I-81 Widening** – At the urging of both the County and its Delegation, SHA completed a detailed study for the widening of the 12-mile stretch of I-81 in Maryland. The County asks that MDOT review the project for funding and consider alternatives to funding the project besides tolls.
- **I-70 Corridor Study** – In view of the growing traffic volumes and the time required for programming and funding for improvements, the County requests that SHA initiate a corridor study similar to that completed on I-81.

We thank you for the opportunity to convey our concerns and look forward to meeting with you in the fall during your annual Transportation Tour. We have enclosed a copy of a letter from our delegation in support of our requests. The original signed copy was transmitted directly to you. In the interim, please feel free to contact us should you have any questions or require additional information. Should your staff have any questions of a technical nature, they may also contact County Administrator Gregory B. Murray at 240-313-2202 or Director of Special Projects at 240-313-2215.

The Honorable John D. Porcari, Secretary  
Page 3 of 3  
May 29, 2007

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John F. Barr". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

John F. Barr, President

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF  
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND

**ENCLOSURE**

- c: Board of County Commissioners (via email)
- Washington County Delegation (via email)
- Gregory B. Murray (via email)
- Gary W. Rohrer, P.E. (via email)
- Joseph Kroboth, P.E.-L.S. (via email)
- Michael C. Thompson (via email)
- Robert Fisher (via email)