

Board of County Commissioners

Doug Howard, President
Stephen A. Wantz, Vice President
C. Richard Weaver, Secretary
Dennis E. Frazier
Richard S. Rothschild



Carroll County Government

225 North Center Street
Westminster, Maryland 21157
410-386-2043; 1-888-302-8978
fax 410-386-2485
MD Relay 711/800-735-2258

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Deborah Lundahl
410-386-2043

County Commissioners Meet with Secretary Rahn from MDOT

Westminster, Thursday, October 15, 2015 – The Board of County Commissioners met today with Secretary Pete K. Rahn of the Maryland Department of Transportation. In addition to Secretary Rahn, Sen. Gail Bates, Del. Susan Krebs, Del. Warren Miller, and Del. April Rose were in attendance. The meeting was an opportunity to provide Secretary Rahn with detailed information regarding Carroll County's request for state funding of transportation projects.

The Board's top funding request is for the widening MD 32 from MD 26 south to the county line. This route is a heavily traveled commuter route linking Carroll County with I-70 and the Baltimore-Washington region. Improvements within this corridor are needed to ease commuter congestion, enhance access to employment areas, and address safety concerns throughout the corridor. Del. Krebs stated that MD 32 is a regional problem and that Howard County has also made MD 32 their highest priority.

Improvements to MD 97 are the second highest priority for the Board. This project covers the area south of Pleasant Valley Road to MD 140; and will widen the roadway and construct a full interchange at Meadow Branch Road. This portion of MD 97 provides direct access to the Carroll County Regional Airport and numerous industrial parks, linking them to the MD 140 corridor and the Baltimore region. It is strained by a significant amount of commuter traffic from the northern part of the County and Pennsylvania. Commissioner Wantz echoed the Governor's statement "Maryland is open for business," stating that MD 97 is Carroll County's newest business corridor.

A third priority is MD 26 from MD 32 east to Liberty reservoir. This segment is a heavily travelled commuter route linking Carroll County with the Baltimore region. Once again, these improvements are needed to ease commuter congestion, enhance access to employment areas, and enhance safety throughout the corridor.

Commissioner Howard thanked Secretary Rahn for his visit to Carroll County, stating "I look forward to a long and productive relationship with the Department of Transportation as we work together to make the most of our resources within the County."

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CARROLL COUNTY

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