

Director William Pines
Maryland State Highway Administration
707 North Calvert Street
Baltimore, MD 21202

Dear Administrator Pines:

On behalf of the Prince George's County Council, we are writing to request urgent attention to the significant accumulation of trash, debris, and large litter obstructions on state roadways within Prince George's County roadways, with an emphasis along the I-495 Capital Beltway within the County, particularly throughout the south county corridor between Exit 17 and 2A. This stretch of the Beltway has drawn heightened concern from residents due to persistent roadside debris and increasing safety hazards.

As one of the region's busiest and most visible transportation routes, this portion of the Beltway not only serves as a gateway into Maryland but also connects key economic destinations within the County. The increasing volume of debris along medians, shoulders, and exit ramps not only detracts from the visual environment but also creates safety risks for motorists and maintenance crews. Residents throughout north, central, and south county have reported large, discarded items, such as, boats, mattresses, tires, broken furniture, and construction materials, that have remained unattended for weeks. In addition, the frequent presence of smaller debris, including plastic waste, metal scraps, and deteriorated signage, contributes to the overall deterioration of this highly traveled segment. Compared with surrounding jurisdictions, litter levels in this section of Prince George's County are noticeably higher.

We respectfully request that the Maryland State Highway Administration schedule and implement enhanced cleanup operations along all state roads within Prince George's County as soon as possible, with priority given to the stretch between Largo and National Harbor. If feasible, we also ask that the State Highway Administration increase the frequency of routine maintenance moving forward. These efforts would greatly improve roadway safety, environmental quality, and the overall appearance of our county's transportation network.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for your continued partnership in maintaining Maryland's transportation infrastructure. Please let us know if additional information is needed or if a coordinated meeting would be helpful to discuss next steps.

Sincerely