

MARYLAND TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
BOARD MEETING

THURSDAY, JULY 30, 2026
9:00 A.M.

2310 BROENING HIGHWAY, BALTIMORE, MD 21224
IN-PERSON & LIVESTREAMED OPEN MEETING

OPEN SESSION

Kathryn Thomson, Chair

MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Dontae Carroll via Phone
Maricela Cordova via Phone
William H. Cox, Jr.
Cynthia D. Penny-Ardinger
Jeffrey S. Rosen
Samuel D. Snead
John F. von Paris
Frank S. Waesche III via Phone

STAFF ATTENDING:

Lt. Col. Ronce Alford
Manny Crew
Jeffrey P. Davis
Lt. Col. Timothy Eikenberg
Bruce Gartner
Chantelle Green
James Harkness
Pilar Helm
Natalie Henson
Megan Mohan, Esq.
Simon Najjar
Mary O'Keeffe
Shannon Orange
Bradley Ryon
Bradley Tanner
Brian Wolfe

At 9:00 a.m. Chair Kathryn Thomson called the meeting of the Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA) Board to order. The meeting was held in-person at MDTA Headquarters, 2310 Broening Highway, Baltimore MD 21224 and was livestreamed on the MDTA Board Meeting web page.

APPROVAL – OPEN SESSION MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 25, 2026

Upon motion by Member William H. Cox, Jr. and seconded by Member John F. von Paris, the open session meeting minutes of the MDTA Board meeting held on June 25, 2026, were unanimously approved.

APPROVAL – CLOSED SESSION MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 25, 2026

Upon motion by Member Jeffrey S. Rosen and seconded by Member Cynthia D. Penny-Ardinger, the closed session meeting minutes of the MDTA Board meeting held on June 25, 2026, were unanimously approved.

APPROVAL – CODE OF MARYLAND REGULATIONS 11.07.07.02 AND 11.07.07.05

Mr. Bradley Ryon requested approval from the MDTA Board to make these Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) changes in order to align existing COMAR with the recently enacted law permitting MDTA to send a toll notice to the registered owner of a Class G vehicle (trailer) if an image of the front or rear registration plate of the motor vehicle towing the trailer cannot be captured.

Mr. Ryon explained that on May 12, 2026, Governor Moore approved House Bill 246, which was one of MDTA's departmental legislative initiatives, and that the law will take effect on January 1, 2027.

Upon motion by Member William H. Cox, Jr. and seconded by Samuel D. Snead, the Members unanimously gave approval to make these changes to the COMAR regulations in order to align with the new law that takes effect on January 1, 2027.

APPROVAL – CONTRACT AWARDS

• **MT-00211657 – EMERGENCY SNOW REMOVAL SERVICES**

Mr. Jeffrey Davis requested approval from the MDTA Board to execute Contract No. MT-00211657 - Emergency Snow Removal with Allen Myers MD, Inc. in the amount of \$697,657.91.

Mr. Davis explained that this contract pertains to emergency snow removal services incurred from January 24, 2026 – January 31, 2026. The contract includes services for employee supervision, supplies, labor, and equipment. These services were provided at the MDTA's I-95 Express Toll Lanes, which is a critical infrastructure that supports travel mobility along the I-95, I-895, and I-695 corridors in and around the Baltimore metropolitan areas. The services were provided during Winter Storm Fern, a declared State of Emergency.

Upon motion by Member Jeffrey S. Rosen and seconded by Member Samuel D. Snead, the Members unanimously gave approval for Contract No. MT-00211657 - Emergency Snow Removal.

- **MDTA 2026-02 – KEY BRIDGE REBUILD FINAL DESIGN SERVICES AND DESIGN SERVICES DURING CONSTRUCTION**

Mr. Jeffrey Davis requested approval from the MDTA Board to execute Contract No. AE-3162-0000 under MDTA 2026-02 - Key Bridge Rebuild Final Design and Design Services During Construction with Arup/SIBT in the amount of \$95,000,000.00.

Mr. Davis explained that the consultant shall provide services related to planning, engineering, construction support, and program support services for the Key Bridge. The focus is on preparing final signed and sealed plans, specifications, and estimates for the Key Bridge main span cable stayed bridge structure, as well as vessel collision protection at Piers 24 and 25, and associated design support services during construction.

He further explained that the scope of work includes general professional engineering consultant services including, but not limited to, transportation planning, project planning, land surveying, architecture, environmental sciences, project management, asset management, program management, construction management and inspections, and engineering (e.g., highway, construction, water resources, environmental, structural engineering, structural inspection, coastal, traffic, transportation, electrical, Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS), geotechnical, pavement, materials, utility, facilities, mechanical, plumbing, and others as needed) services.

As this contract exceeds MDTA's delegation, this will be presented at the next available Board of Public Works (BPW) meeting for approval.

Upon motion by Member Samuel D. Snead and seconded by Member Jeffrey S. Rosen, the Members unanimously gave approval for Contract No. AE-3162-0000 under MDTA 2026-02 - Key Bridge Rebuild Final Design and Design Services During Construction.

APPROVAL – CONTRACT MODIFICATION

Mr. Brian Wolfe requested approval from the MDTA Board to execute Contract No. KB-4903-000 – Key Bridge Rebuild Progressive Design Build – Modification #4 for Early Work Package (EWP) Funding in the amount of \$125,000,000.00.

Mr. Wolfe explained that on May 29, 2025, the Board approved Contract Modification 1 to KB-4903-0000, which allowed for the issuance of EWPs for the Key Bridge Rebuild project. Additionally, the Board authorized \$250,000,000.00 for EWPs, with the EWP approval authority delegated to the Chief Engineer. The Board additionally authorized \$95,000,000.00 on November 25, 2025, and \$150,000,000.00 on January 29, 2026, for a total of \$495,000,000.00 in funding for EWPs. These EWPs have allowed the MDTA to advance the project's construction schedule through measured approvals of additional work items after MDTA staff and consultants have verified that the cost of the work being done by the contract is reasonable and in line with independent cost estimates.

The MDTA informed the Progressive Design Builder (PDB) on April 28, 2026 that MDTA would exercise the contractual off-ramp and deliver the remaining work by other contractual means. The MDTA is preparing four new procurements for remaining work.

Mr. Wolfe further explained that as a result of the off-ramp from the PDB, it has been determined that additional funding is required to conclude the pile driving work at Piers 24 and 25 (pylon piers on either side of the main channel) and to demobilize the contract. This pile driving work, which corresponds with EWP-008, increases the overall pile driving quantity within the early work packages by 100, from 138 piles to 238 piles in total. This work will complete all pile driving necessary for the cable-stayed bridge pylons and the associated vessel collision protection systems, and it provides a logical interface for the transition to follow-on contractors.

The additional funding will also accommodate the cost to demobilize the construction equipment and support sites that the PDB established in the project area. This cost was not included in previous EWPs as it was assumed the equipment would progress into the Phase 2 PDB agreement and demobilization would be included in the Phase 2 cost.

This work requires the authorization of an additional \$125,000,000.00 in early works funding, increasing the authorization to \$620,000,000.00. The MDTA and the PDB have agreed on the pricing for the remaining pile driving and demobilization and will execute the associated Notice to Proceeds upon funding authorization.

Upon motion by Member Samuel D. Snead and seconded by Member Cynthia D. Penny-Ardinger, the Members unanimously gave approval for Contract No. AE-3162-0000 under MDTA 2026-02 - Key Bridge Rebuild Final Design and Design Services During Construction.

UPDATE – LEGISLATIVE REPORTS SUBMITTED TO THE LEGISLATURE

Mr. Brian Wolfe updated the MDTA Board regarding the reconstruction of the Francis Scott Key Bridge, as mandated by the 2026 legislative session budget committees.

Mr. Wolfe reported on legislative compliance the submission of the Joint Chairman's Report (JCR), update on reconstruction progress, early work packages, and explanation of the federal reimbursement process to ensure budgetary transparency.

UPDATE – MDTA'S TRAVEL PLAZAS

Mr. Simon Najar updated the MDTA Board on the progress of operations at the Maryland House and Chesapeake House Travel Plazas.

Mr. Najar explained that in 2012, the MDTA entered into a Lease and Concession Agreement with Areas USA MDTP, LLC (Areas USA), to undertake the redevelopment (including financing) and long-term operations and maintenance of the travel plazas. Pursuant to the public-private partnership (P3) arrangement, the MDTA retains oversight of the travel plazas for a period of 35 years. Mr. Najar gave a presentation that provided a brief overview of the contract award and agreement; Areas USA history and expertise; current operations at the travel plazas; and future outlook.

UPDATE – MDTA POLICE PUBLIC SECURITY

Lt. Col. Ronce Alford began his report by acknowledging Retired Col. Joseph Scott and the outstanding leadership he provided during his tenure. He stated that MDTA Police continue to operate under accountability, communication, and transparency.

Lt. Col. Alford broke down first quarter performance including traffic stops increased by 8.9%, Driving Under the Influence (DUI) arrests up by 49%, and serious crimes decreased by 21.6%. He also stated that traffic collisions continue to be an area of concern for the agency.

He ended his report by inviting the Chair and Members to the Academy Class Graduation on September 16.

Upon conclusion of Lt. Col. Alford's report, Member John F. von Paris and Chair Kathryn Thomson echoed the importance of safe driving and work zone safety.

UPDATE – EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Bruce Gartner began his report by echoing the importance of safe driving and work zone safety. He then gave kudos to the MDTA Police for earning the Tri-Arc Award Certification.

Mr. Gardner then updated the Board on the following items: Governor's Key Bridge Boat Tour on July 20; Bridge to the Future Sticker Challenge; Senator Jennings support of the Kingsville Volunteer Fire Company Dedication that was approved last month; July 15 MDTA Safety Fair; Dr. Percy Dangerfield's new position as MDOT Assistant Secretary for Administration; and the upcoming Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) Conference.

Mr. Gartner ended his report by sharing his condolences on the passing of former MDTA Board Member Bill Ensor.

VOTE TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION

At 10:05 a.m., a motion was made by Member William H. Cox, Jr. and seconded by Member Samuel D. Snead, and the Members voted unanimously to move into Closed Session under the Maryland Open Meetings Act, the MDTA Board met in Closed Session under the General Provisions Article:

- Section 3-305(b)(10) and (12) to receive an update on deployment of police staff and resources and other security measures: to discuss a pending investigative proceeding involving possible criminal conduct; and,
- Section 3-305(b)(8) to receive a status update on all litigation currently pending against the MDTA.

In attendance for the Closed Session were Chair Kathryn Thomson; Members Carroll via Phone, Cordova via Phone, Cox, Penny-Ardinger, Rosen, Snead, von Paris, and Waesche via Phone; Bruce Gartner; Megan Mohan, Esq.; Lt. Col. Ronce Alford; Pilar Helm; and Natalie Henson.

VOTE TO ADJOURN CLOSED SESSION

At 10:48 a.m., a motion was made by Member Cynthia D. Penny-Ardinger and seconded by Member Samuel D. Snead, and the Members unanimously voted to adjourn the Closed Session and return to Open Session. There were no actions taken in Closed Session that require ratification.

VOTE TO ADJOURN MEETING

There being no further business, upon motion by Member William H. Cox, Jr., and seconded by Member Samuel D. Snead, the Members unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 10:50 a.m.

The next MDTA Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, August 27, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. at MDTA, 2310 Broening Highway, Baltimore MD and will be livestreamed on the MDTA Board web page.

APPROVED AND CONCURRED IN:



Kathryn Thomson, Chair