



Maryland Department of Transportation
The Secretary's Office

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Pete K. Rahn
Secretary

February 1, 2016

Mr. Kanti Srikanth
Director
Department of Transportation Planning
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
777 North Capitol Street, N.E., Suite 300
Washington DC 20002

Dear Mr. Srikanth:

In response to your request for comments to inform the Air Quality Conformity Analysis Scope of Work for the 2016 Constrained Long Range Plan (CLRP) and FY 2017-2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), I would like to address the current policy assumption which indicates all high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) facilities will operate as HOV-3 facilities in 2020. In 2009, the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) recommended that the model should assume that the two MDOT HOV facilities, I-270 and US 50, which currently operate as HOV-2 facilities, would operate as HOV-3 facilities in 2020. MDOT does not plan to convert these facilities from HOV-2 operations to HOV-3 operations by 2020. We recommend that the HOV-3 assumption for Maryland facilities be changed to maintain these facilities as HOV-2 operations in the upcoming Air Quality Conformity Analysis.

We appreciate your cooperation in this matter. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Ms. Lyn Erickson, Manager, Office of Planning and Capital Programming, MDOT, at 410-865-1279, toll free at 888-713-1414, or via email at lerickson@mdot.state.md.us. Of course, please feel free to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Heather R. Murphy".

Heather R. Murphy, Director
Office of Planning and Capital Programming

cc: Mr. Eric Beckett, Chief, Regional and Intermodal Planning Division, SHA
Ms. Lyn Erickson, Manager, Office of Planning and Capital Programming, Maryland
Department of Transportation
Ms. Kari Snyder, Regional Planner, Office of Planning and Capital Programming, Maryland
Department of Transportation