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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

March 24, 2025

The Honorable Sean Duffy
Secretary of Transportation
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Duffy,

I write to you in support of the Queen Anne's County Commissioners' request for federal assistance for the designation or implementation of a pilot project to allow a 10-mile stretch of US 50/301 to implement certain traffic management strategies.

I can speak from personal experience as to the incredible importance of the stretch of the "Bay Bridge Corridor" that passes through Queen Anne's County – and to the routine traffic backups and congestion that follows. The Chesapeake Bay Bridge is the single crossing point over the entirety of the Chesapeake Bay. Especially during the summer season traffic to Ocean City, MD, this subjects my constituents to intolerable traffic delays and related safety issues.

The Commissioners have specific concerns about the threats these long backups pose to fulfilling essential local services like emergency responses. Additionally, this congestion impacts local business as well as drivers will turn to clogging neighborhood streets to attempt to circumvent the traffic, blocking access to businesses and other local entities. Day to day local community activity and, more importantly, emergency response, must not be delayed by congestion from travelers passing through the area on their way to the Bay Bridge.

It is my understanding that Queen Anne's County would like to limit access to MD 18 from US 50/301 to only travelers and residents with an origin or destination on that road or another connecting local road. This limitation would only apply during peak travel hours directly relating to an increase in Bay Bridge traffic. I understand that federal highway access to local roads cannot normally be limited, but I believe it may be necessary in this case, albeit on a limited basis, especially to allow emergency medical response teams to reach my constituents in their neighborhoods.

I am happy to join any conversations that you or your team may wish to have with Queen Anne's County, and I look forward to working with you on this important issue for Maryland's First Congressional District.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andy Harris, M.D." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Andy Harris, M.D.
Member of Congress