

**An Interim Report to the Governor and
the Maryland General Assembly**

regarding

**the Task Force to Study Transportation Access
HB. 923/Ch. 705, 2019**

MSAR 12129

November 2020

Introduction

The Task Force to Study Transportation Access (Task Force) was created by House Bill 923/Ch. 705, Acts of 2019, the purpose of studying and making recommendations, to assist individuals and families without access to transportation or the ability to use a personal motor vehicle, to improve access to employment, training and education opportunities, health and rehabilitation services (including nonemergency medical services) and other social services.

This report was prepared to meet the requirements of HB 923/Ch. 705, 2019 which directs:

The Task Force shall:

(1) review information, findings, and recommendations from available recent and current human services transportation plans, pilot projects, and reports; and

(2) make and report findings and recommendations for policies or actions to improve transportation access in accordance with the purpose of the Task Force described under subsection (c) of this Act.

(j) (1) On or before June 30, 2020, the Task Force shall submit an interim report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

Membership

Name	Agency/Organization
Senator Malcolm Augustine	Senate of Maryland
Delegate Tony Bridges	Maryland House of Delegates
Robin McKinney	CASH Campaign of Maryland
	Center for Mobility Equity
	Central Maryland Transportation Alliance
Mary Handley	Delmarva Community Services, Inc.
Christopher Dews	Job Opportunities Task Force
Rodney Lee	Maryland Nonprofits
Chris Benzing	Maryland Rural Development Corporation
Kimberly Golden Brandt	Preservation Maryland
Ande Kolp	The Arc Maryland
John Duklewski	Transportation Association of Maryland, Inc.
Martin Schwartz	Vehicles for Change
Mark Hudson	COMMUTE with Enterprise
Andrea Turner	Greater Baltimore Committee
Ashley Duckman	Maryland Chamber of Commerce
Scott Gibson	Greater Washington Board of Trade
Kimberly Gcheidle	MD Dept. of Health (<i>ex officio</i>)
Samantha Blizzard	MD Dept. of Human Services (<i>ex officio</i>)
Travis Johnston	MD Dept. of Transportation (<i>ex officio</i>)
Mike DiGiacomo	Governor's Workforce Development Board (<i>ex officio</i>)

The two remaining organizations – the Center for Mobility Equity and Central Maryland Transportation Alliance – have yet to name an appointee.

The Secretary's Office at MDOT (MDOT TSO) Office of Planning and Capital Programming will provide staff to the Task Force.

Meetings

The Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate appointed Senator Malcolm Augustine and Delegate Tony Bridges as Co-Chairs of the Task Force. On August 13th, an introductory email was sent out to the membership from the Task Force's email account, TransportationAccess.TaskForce@maryland.gov. From there, the first meeting of the Task Force was held on September 30, 2020 and the second on November 18, 2020.

The first meeting was organizational in structure, beginning with the introduction of the Co-Chairs and of the members, outlining the role their individual organizations play in supporting widespread transportation access. Following the introductions, MDOT Staff provided details on the intent of the Task Force, as outlined by the 2019 legislation.

The second meeting of the Task Force included a presentation by Travis Johnston from the MDOT Maryland Transit Administration (MDOT MTA) and Dan Dalton of KFH Group on The Maryland Five-Year Human Services Transportation Draft Plan. Subsequent discussion was held amongst the members and follow-up was charged to the necessary individuals.

The next meeting of the Task Force is scheduled for January 7, 2021, where the Task Force will continue to review information and findings from current plans in order to guide their recommendations to improving transportation access. Meetings are expected to take place on a bimonthly basis and, in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, will be hosted virtually until it is safe to resume in-person meetings. A final report is due on December 1, 2021.