

2020 Transportation Association of Maryland **LEGISLATIVE** AGENDA

WHO WE ARE

The Transportation Association of Maryland (TAM) is a statewide organization of over 100 community transportation, human service, and transportation vendor firms in the State of Maryland that is dedicated to improving mobility for all of Maryland's citizens.

WHO WE REPRESENT

Community transportation in every county and jurisdiction in Maryland.

The Transportation Association of Maryland (TAM) has identified three (3) priority issues that we will support during the 2020 session of the Maryland General Assembly.

1

NON-EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION REFORM: Non-emergency medical transportation, especially dialysis transportation, has become a critical issue for community transportation in Maryland. Massively increased demand has resulted in a struggle to maintain and expand services. TAM will be supporting efforts in 2020 to recommend and create a system in which medical providers can contribute to the cost of transporting patients.

2

DRIVER ASSAULT PROTECTION: Driver assault is a growing problem for many transit agencies. Transit operators lack the special protection extended to other public servants, including law enforcement officers, firefighters, and responders. TAM understands that transit worker assaults are not only a danger to workers, but to the riding public, who are also placed in harm's way when such incidents occur. We support enhanced penalties to deter attacks against transit drivers.

3

FUNDING FORMULA: State funding for Locally Operated Transit Systems (LOTS) have been relatively flat for more than 10 years. Consequently, without the means to account for even modest inflation rates, our members are being fiscally constrained in their ability to maintain the status quo in terms of service delivery. This dynamic is coupled with a well documented increased demand for services from the elderly and disabled community. Without additional funding, many current services will be reduced or eliminated in some cases. One way to alleviate the funding shortfall would be to increase the funding allocation used by the Maryland Department of Transportation Maryland Transit Administration (MDOT MTA) to support their American with Disabilities Act (ADA), Statewide Specialized Transportation Assistance Programs (SSTAP), and other related formula-based grant funding programs.

www.TAMinc.org

The Transportation Association of Maryland (TAM) is a statewide organization that is dedicated to improving mobility for all of Maryland's citizens. TAM is a viable and effective advocate for its members and provides professional development, training, and forums for the pursuit of excellence in public transportation by public, private, and specialized transportation providers. Community transportation services provided by TAM members link people to community resources and promote business, tourism and economic development.



Gary R. Blazinsky, TAM President

939 Elkridge Landing Road
Suite 195
Linthicum, MD 21090

TAM@TAMinc.org
410-553-4245