



## PUBLIC POLICY NEWSLETTER

### The "Maximizing Transportation Efficiency Act" is Introduced, Advancing Federal Support for TDM



LEGISLATION

ACT is proud to announce the introduction of the Maximizing Transportation Efficiency Act ([H.R.7301/S.3694](#)), legislation that incorporates ACT's surface transportation reauthorization priorities.

Throughout this process, ACT has worked closely with the offices of Senator Blunt Rochester and Congresswoman Marilyn Strickland to shape and advance this legislation.

This bill is designed to ensure that Transportation Demand Management (TDM) is federally recognized and funded in communities of all sizes and types. It achieves this by establishing a federal definition of TDM, creating dedicated funding for rural TDM pilot programs, and expanding eligibility for the Congestion Relief Program.

We encourage all ACT members to engage in supporting this legislation. Visit [our webpage](#) to learn more and find tools to help advocate for the bill.

Take action

### New GAO Findings Strengthen the Case for Airport TDM Strategies



GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE

In 2024, ACT's advocacy helped secure a provision in the FAA Reauthorization Act directing the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to study the use of TDM strategies at U.S. airports. The GAO's report, released in January 2026, affirms that TDM, particularly strategies centered on strengthening and promoting transit, plays a critical role in reducing congestion on airport roadways. Several airports, including Seattle-Tacoma, Denver, and Boston Logan, were highlighted for successful transit programs and strong ridership, demonstrating transit's potential to shift both passenger and employee travel behavior.

However, the report focuses primarily on transit, leaving significant opportunity for deeper exploration of multimodal TDM approaches. Given the scale of airport workforces and the 24-hour nature of airport operations, the impact of comprehensive TDM strategies, including

carpooling, shuttles, pricing tools, employer partnerships, and first-/last-mile solutions, is substantial. The report provides a strong foundation, but it also underscores the need for future studies that capture the full breadth of TDM strategies and their ability to improve mobility, reduce emissions, and support a more efficient airport access system.

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## Maryland Repeals Long-Standing TDM Requirements



In Montgomery County, Maryland, a recently passed bill repeals long-standing County requirements for employers and permits owners and applicants of new development projects to seek termination or amendment of current TDM programs. Since the early 2000s, employers with 25 or more employees had been required to maintain a TDM plan, and those requirements were further expanded in 2020. With this repeal, the county must now rely on voluntary participation and its own outreach efforts to demonstrate the importance of TDM strategies, absent any formal mandate.

Previously, the law included a 10-cent-per-square-foot fee that generated approximately \$1 million in annual revenue. With that fee eliminated, the county now faces a significant reduction in its transportation and mobility budget. Overall, the repeal represents a setback for efforts to manage roadway congestion, reduce travel demand, and mitigate environmental impacts.

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## Additional Funding Secured for FIFA World Cup, Olympics, and Paralympics



The United States' upcoming mega-events received a significant funding boost through the recently passed Transportation, Housing and Urban Development appropriations bill. The legislation allocates \$100.25 million to support planning, capital investments, and operating expenses for the 11 host cities preparing for these large-scale FIFA World Cup matches. In addition, \$94 million has been dedicated specifically to enhancing transportation and operational readiness for the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Los Angeles.

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## Ensure TDM's Voice is Heard with ACT PAC

ACT PAC is a vital tool that helps ACT amplify your voice and advance TDM policy by supporting candidates who champion our mission and policy agenda.

Your contribution empowers us to educate elected officials on the real-world impact of TDM. Help us ensure that TDM is at the forefront of discussions shaping the future of mobility.

[Learn more and contribute](#)

## Additional Policy Resources



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