

Report: Most of Maryland's traffic bottlenecks are in Baltimore area



By Lowell Melser

BALTIMORE —A new report that evaluates the benefits of the state's recent transportation investments also highlights the 30 worst bottlenecks in Maryland -- most of which are in the greater Baltimore area.

According to the report, six of the top 10 worst bottlenecks are in the Baltimore area, but according to the Hogan administration, the state is working to make things smoother on the roads.

"Congestion is a huge problem for Maryland," Maryland Transportation Secretary Pete Rahn said.

The report from TRIP, a nonprofit group that researches transportation issues, shows that since the economic downturn in 2008, Maryland has enjoyed significant growth, but that means more traffic, costing Marylanders money and time.

"Here in Maryland, we still see traffic congestion is costing the state \$4.1 million per year in the cost of traffic delays, and in Baltimore area, the average motorist is spending an additional 47 hours annually stuck in traffic," said Rocky Moretti, director of policy and research for TRIP.

Four of the worst bottlenecks in the Baltimore-area include northbound Interstate 95 at Maryland Route 100, the Inner Loop of the Beltway at Interstate 795, the Inner Loop of the Beltway at Maryland Route 41 and the Inner Loop of the Beltway at Interstate 83/Falls Road.



"We are tackling these, we're going to continue to tackle them, we're focused and we're addressing the greatest bottlenecks within the Baltimore region, and we're doing those now," Rahn said.

The report further shows Maryland's highways are among the most congested in the nation, and the congestion continues to wear on the system's road conditions and bridges.

Gov. Larry Hogan has pledged \$2 billion toward mass transit and to improve road conditions. With \$210 million worth of projects currently underway, the overall goal is to increase productivity around the state.

"We have to find solutions that get people to where they want to go faster," Rahn said.

[LINK: Read the TRIP report in its entirety \(PDF\)](#)