
TRANSPORTATION

“Mobility” and “accessibility” are key words in describing the needs of people and places in the second half of the Twentieth Century. They were words used by Governor Tawes to emphasize the importance of transportation to Maryland and her people in an era of rapid industrialization and urbanization. The commuter, as well as the manufacturer, the farmer and the shipper, is directly affected by the nature of the transportation system available to him. The accessibility of communities determines in large measure their attractiveness to site-seeking industrialists and thereby has a major impact on future economic development. Recreation areas prosper as they are made more easily accessible to State residents and tourists seeking leisure—time activity.

Cognizant of the importance of a modern transportation network, the Governor moved in the early days of his Administration to quicken the pace of highway construction. No aspect of public works activity is of greater interest to the people of a state than its highway building program. During his first term, the Governor ordered the updating of highway plans and reorganized the State Roads Commission to make it more responsive to the needs of the various regions of the State. At the same time, a multi-million dollar program was launched to renovate the Port of Baltimore and to enhance Maryland’s position as one of the nation’s leading maritime States.

ADDRESS, MARYLAND HIGHWAYS CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION BALTIMORE

February 9, 1959

I am pleased to have this opportunity, in the early days of my Administration, to address the annual meeting of the Maryland Highways Contractors Association. I am aware that this is no time for a lengthy speech. It is a time set aside by your Association for good fellowship, the breaking of bread together, and the enjoyment of the professional entertainment which is to follow.