

State Finance and Procurement Article, § 7-236 and the Rule of 50.

It is the intent of the General Assembly that funds dedicated to the Transportation Trust Fund shall be applied to purposes bearing direct relation to the State Transportation program, unless directed otherwise by legislation. To implement this intent for the Department of Transportation in FY 1996, no commitment of funds in excess of \$250,000 may be made nor may such an amount be transferred, by budget amendment or otherwise, for any project or purpose not normally arising in connection with the ordinary ongoing operation of the department and not contemplated in the budget approved or the last published Consolidated Transportation Program without review and comment by the budget committees.

Provided that no persons hired as contractual employees by the Department of Transportation on or after March 17, 1994 shall be provided with benefits at the cost of the state in the absence of a statewide policy of providing similar benefits to contractual employees.

It is the intent of the General Assembly that projects and funding levels appropriated for capital projects, as well as total estimated project costs within the Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP), shall be expended in accordance with the plan approved during the legislative session. In the event the department modifies the program to:

- (1) Add a new project to the construction program or development and evaluation program meeting the definition of "major project" under § 2-103.1 of the Transportation Article, which was never previously contained within a plan reviewed in a prior year by the General Assembly, and will result in the need to expend funds in the current budget year; or