



ROBERT L. EHRlich, JR.
GOVERNOR

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Governor Ehrlich Announces \$18 Million for Intercounty Connector

ANNAPOLIS - Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., today announced \$18 million in federal funding for the long-awaited Intercounty Connector (ICC) highway, the proposed 18-mile, limited access toll road linking US 1 in Prince George's County to I-270/ I-370 in Montgomery County. This figure exceeds the minimum amount of federal funding provided in the current ICC financing plan.

"The Ehrlich-Steele Administration is absolutely committed to building the ICC," said Governor Ehrlich. "We will begin construction next year, and this federal funding will play a critical role in that process. Building the ICC means less congestion and safer commuting throughout the Washington metropolitan region. I commend the Bush Administration and the U.S. Congress, particularly Congressman Al Wynn, for recognizing how important the ICC is to our quality of life in Maryland."

Immediately after assuming office, Governor Ehrlich directed the Maryland Department of Transportation to resume design and planning for the ICC. In February of 2003, the U.S. Department of Transportation added the ICC to a select Federal Project Priority List to receive expedited environmental review from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. On July 11, 2005, Governor Ehrlich announced the State's preference to build the ICC along the Corridor 1 alignment. For much of its length, Corridor 1 follows the alignment shown in both Montgomery and Prince George's county Master Plans.

This is particularly good news as \$10 million of the \$18 million total is outside and above Maryland's minimum guarantee, the state's normal share of federal formula highway funds. In addition, the ICC has been designated as a High Priority Corridor in the National Highway System, one of 80 such designations in the nation.

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