

**GBC, State Chamber, Board of Trade
Commission Transportation Study**

The **Greater Baltimore Committee** (GBC), the Maryland Chamber of Commerce and the Greater Washington Board of Trade have initiated a study to quantify the economic impact of Maryland's traffic congestion and to gauge the benefits of increasing transportation funding in the state.

The three largest business advocacy organizations in Maryland have commissioned the Texas Transportation Institute to measure the overall economic importance of the state's transportation resources and to project the consequences of existing and future congestion.

The institute, a member of the Texas A&M University System with widely recognized expertise on transportation issues, will also analyze the economic benefits of increasing funding to Maryland's Transportation Trust Fund to either \$400 million or \$600 million per year.

Maryland Department of Transportation experts conservatively estimate that the state's transportation fund needs at least \$400 million per year in additional revenue to pay for a growing backlog of key transit, highway, port, airport, rail and other currently unfunded projects that are now in the planning stages. Others contend that the annual need for increased transportation revenue is closer to \$600 million.