

And again in January, another fatality, and a serious injury in this accident.

The subject of light poles became of interest to me when I saw all the accidents that were recorded in the accident files of the State police in Maryland. Maryland has lighted the Capital Beltway only in the interchange areas. There is no lighting on the Virginia side, although their conduits are set up so that the light poles can be installed in the future.

When I checked the records concerning light poles, I found that 124 light poles were struck on Interstate 495 from 1965 through February of this year, which was the latest figures that were available.

In this same period nine people were killed in light pole accidents on the beltway, out of the total of 77 killed in the last 3 years.

In checking the beltway and trying to determine where the light poles were being hit, I found that eight light poles had been reported hit a total of 19 times. Three of these poles had each been hit three times, and five poles each had been hit twice.

And again, in reviewing accident records, there were 50 injuries sustained in 1966 in the reported light pole accidents.

The 61 struck light poles reported in 1966 accounted for 26 percent of the fixed-object accidents.

And, incidentally, the cost to repair the light poles was approximately \$22,500. This does not include damage to vehicles.

The light pole repair can vary in cost, in amounts up to \$700 depending on the extent of damage. And of the cost sheets available to me on certain light poles which had been struck, most of them ranged from \$400 to \$600 per pole.

