

# SENATE BILL 900

R2

4lr2389

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By: **Senators Hershey and Colburn**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2014

Assigned to: Finance

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Department of Transportation – Highway Needs Inventory –**  
3 **Four-Lane Highways**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the State Highway Administration to include in the  
5 highway needs inventory a highway with two or more lanes in each direction for  
6 any county that did not have, as of a certain date, a four-lane highway that  
7 fully bisects the county; requiring the Administration to engage project  
8 planning for a highway with two or more lanes in each direction in the highway  
9 needs inventory for any county that did not have, as of a certain date, a  
10 four-lane highway that fully bisects the county; and generally relating to  
11 inclusion of certain four-lane highways in the highway needs inventory.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
13 Article – Transportation  
14 Section 8–610(d) and (i)  
15 Annotated Code of Maryland  
16 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

17 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
18 Article – Transportation  
19 Section 8–611 and 8–612(a)  
20 Annotated Code of Maryland  
21 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

22 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
23 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

24 **Article – Transportation**

25 8–610.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (d) "Highway needs inventory" means an identification of needs for highway  
2 projects, based on the latest evaluation of highway conditions and transportation  
3 needs by the Administration.

4 (i) "Project planning phase" means the phase in which engineering and  
5 environmental studies and analyses are conducted with full participation of the public,  
6 in addition to local, State, and federal agencies, to determine the scope and location of  
7 a proposed highway project.

8 8-611.

9 (a) The Administration shall furnish members of the General Assembly and  
10 the Governor with:

11 (1) Current information on highway needs; and

12 (2) Information necessary for the development of the State Report on  
13 Transportation, as provided in § 2-103.1 of this article.

14 (b) (1) (I) In calendar year 1979 and in each second year following, the  
15 Administration, following an assessment of the highway conditions and transportation  
16 needs of this State, shall prepare those proposed modifications to the highway needs  
17 inventory that it considers necessary.

18 (II) **THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL INCLUDE IN THE**  
19 **HIGHWAY NEEDS INVENTORY A HIGHWAY WITH TWO OR MORE TRAFFIC LANES**  
20 **IN EACH DIRECTION FOR ANY COUNTY THAT, ON JANUARY 1, 2014, DID NOT**  
21 **HAVE A HIGHWAY WITH TWO OR MORE TRAFFIC LANES IN EACH DIRECTION**  
22 **THAT FULLY BISECTS THE COUNTY.**

23 (2) By July 1, 1997, the Administration, in cooperation with local  
24 governments, shall inventory State and local facilities near rail stops, light rail stops,  
25 and subway stations to determine what improvements are needed to accommodate in a  
26 safe and effective manner pedestrians and bicycles within a reasonable distance for  
27 walking and bicycling.

28 (3) In preparing the proposed modifications, the Administration shall  
29 provide a copy of the proposal to and consult with the local governing body,  
30 municipalities, and local legislative delegations with respect to the proposed  
31 modifications.

32 (4) The Administration shall provide a copy of the State Report on  
33 Transportation to each county and municipality prior to consultation.

34 8-612.

1           (a)   (1)   The Administration [may]:

2                           **(I)**   **MAY** engage in project planning for any item in the current  
3 highway needs inventory and for each item, shall conduct studies to determine, among  
4 other things, the scale, location, environmental impact, and citizen reaction; **AND**

5                           **(II)**   **SHALL ENGAGE IN PROJECT PLANNING FOR A HIGHWAY**  
6 **IN THE HIGHWAY NEEDS INVENTORY FOR ANY COUNTY THAT, ON JANUARY 1,**  
7 **2014, DID NOT HAVE A HIGHWAY WITH TWO OR MORE TRAFFIC LANES IN EACH**  
8 **DIRECTION THAT FULLY BISECTS THE COUNTY.**

9                           (2)   During the project planning phase, the Administration shall  
10 consult with the local governing body, municipalities, and local legislative delegation.

11                           (3)   The Administration may include in its annual budget request the  
12 funds required to implement the project planning provided for in this subsection.

13           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
14 October 1, 2014.