

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2016 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

Senate Bill 596
Finance

(Senator Middleton)

Transportation - Installation of Brick Security Mailboxes Within Rights-of-Way

This bill requires the State Highway Administration (SHA) to allow brick and stone security mailbox supports and parcel drop boxes to be installed on residential streets if the mailbox support or drop box is on a street that (1) has a low traffic volume count (as determined by SHA); (2) has a speed limit of no more than 30 miles per hour; and (3) has trees located between curbs and sidewalks within a county right-of-way. The installation must also conform to federal guidelines adopted by the American Administration of State Highways and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) and in effect at the time of installation.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Transportation Trust Fund expenditures increase minimally for SHA to inspect and approve designs or placements of mailboxes. Revenues are not affected.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law/Background: SHA is responsible for more than 5,200 miles or approximately 16,800 lane miles of road, 2,500 bridges, 3,500 small stream crossing structures, and 80 miles of sound barriers in the State. It also has responsibility for planning, designing, constructing, and maintaining these roads and bridges to safety and performance standards while considering sociological, ecological, and economic concerns.

A “county road” means any public highway that is owned by a public body or government agency and is not a State highway or located in Baltimore City.

AASHTO is a nonprofit, nonpartisan association representing highway and transportation departments in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. It represents all five transportation modes: air, highways, public transportation, rail, and water. Its primary goal is to foster the development, operation, and maintenance of an integrated national transportation system.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Maryland Department of Transportation, American Administration of State Highways and Transportation, Department of Legislative Services

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