

HB0114/149430/1

BY: Budget and Taxation Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 114
(Third Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 2, before “**Maryland**” insert “**Transportation –**”; and in the same line, strike “– **Funding**” and substitute “**Funding and MARC Rail Extension Study**”.

On page 2, in line 5, after “Assembly;” insert “requiring the Department of Transportation to conduct a study on extending Maryland Area Regional Commuter (MARC) rail service to western Maryland; requiring the Department of Transportation to study and make recommendations regarding certain matters; requiring the Administration to incorporate certain recommendations into the Statewide Transit Plan; requiring the Department of Transportation to complete the study notwithstanding any alteration or postponement of the Statewide Transit Plan; requiring the Department of Transportation to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before a certain date;”; and in line 7, after “Administration” insert “, the Statewide Transit Plan, and a study on extending MARC rail service to western Maryland”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 4, in lines 21 and 22, strike “**MARYLAND TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION**” and substitute “**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**”.

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 9, after line 37, insert:

“SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

(a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

(Over)

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(2) “Department” means the Department of Transportation.

(3) “Statewide Transit Plan” means a framework developed by the Maryland Transit Administration that provides a 50–year vision of coordinated local, regional, and intercity transit across the State, including defined public transportation goals and strategies for rural, suburban, and urban regions.

(b) The Department shall conduct a study on the feasibility, including the cost, of extending MARC rail service to western Maryland.

(c) In conducting the study, the Department shall:

(1) Examine existing commuter rail facilities in the State and current transportation options in western Maryland;

(2) Explore up to three potential routes for expanding rail service to western Maryland;

(3) Identify the possibilities and challenges related to establishing and operating MARC rail service in western Maryland;

(4) Study the public transportation needs of Allegany County and Washington County in the vicinity of interstates 70 and 81;

(5) Confer with the following stakeholders:

(i) The Washington County Board of County Commissioners;

(ii) The City of Hagerstown;

(iii) Washington County residents;

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- (iv) Public transit advocates;
- (v) Representatives of the local business community;
- (vi) The Allegany County Board of County Commissioners;
- (vii) The City of Cumberland;
- (viii) Allegany County residents; and
- (ix) The Town of Hancock;
- (6) Identify infrastructure needs;
- (7) Perform a cost analysis of the capital and operating costs of extending MARC rail service to western Maryland;
- (8) Identify all potential stops and estimate the potential ridership for each stop;
- (9) Study and compare the potential ridership for rush-hour-only service and all-day service;
- (10) Develop recommendations on the potential start and end points of a MARC extension; and
- (11) Explore the potential effect that extending MARC rail service to western Maryland would have on CSX.

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(d) The Department shall develop recommendations on the feasibility of planning, financing, constructing, and operating a MARC line that extends commuter rail service to western Maryland.

(e) On or before July 1, 2023, the Department shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

(f) (1) The Maryland Transit Administration shall incorporate the recommendations of the study into the Statewide Transit Plan.

(2) Notwithstanding any alteration or postponement of the Statewide Transit Plan, the Department shall conduct the study in accordance with this section.”.

On page 10, in line 1, strike “3.” and substitute “4.”.