



Montgomery County

Office of Intergovernmental Relations

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HB 1249

DATE: March 5, 2020

SPONSOR: Delegate Korman, *et al.*

ASSIGNED TO: Environment and Transportation and Appropriations

CONTACT PERSON: Melanie Wenger (melanie.wenger@montgomerycountymd.gov)

POSITION: SUPPORT

I-495 and I-270 Public-Private Partnership – Partnership Agreement – Requirements (Maryland State Department of Transportation Promises Act of 2020)

House Bill 1249 would place in the State Finance and Procurement Article the public commitments the Administration made regarding its plans to widen I-270 and I-495. These commitments include specifics about the use of toll lanes and the allocation of toll revenues, how land may be acquired, requirements for “community benefit” agreements, and the sharing of data.

Montgomery County supports this legislation. It is no secret that the Administration’s Traffic Relief Plan remains controversial in the Maryland Washington, D.C. suburbs. Greater transparency and inclusion much earlier on in the planning process may have alleviated at least some of the angst the roll out of this Plan created among residents in Montgomery County. However, it is never too late to try to right some of the wrongs. Codifying these commitments will be helpful.

For these reasons, the County respectfully requests that the House Environment and Transportation and Appropriations Committees give House Bill 1249 a favorable report.