

THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT

(301) 952-3700 County Council

POSITION STATEMENT

HB 1249

Delegate Korman, et al. Environment & Transportation Committee/Appropriations Committee I-495 and I-270 Public-Private Partnership - Partnership Agreement - Requirements (Maryland State Department of Transportation Promises Act of 2020)

POSITION:

SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT

HB 1249 – I-495 and I-270 Public-Private Partnership - Partnership Agreement - Requirements (Maryland State Department of Transportation Promises Act of 2020) – FOR the purpose of requiring the public-private partnership agreement for the I-495 and I-270 Public-Private Partnership Program to include certain provisions; authorizing certain revenues derived from certain tolls to be distributed to a certain special fund to be budgeted in a certain manner; requiring the Board of Public Works, on or before October 1, 2021, to request a certain determination letter from the Maryland Transportation Authority and the State Department of Transportation; etc.

This bill establishes various requirements for the public-private partnership (P3) agreement for the project to construct toll lanes on I-495 and I-270, including that at least 10% of the revenues from the toll lanes be deposited into a special fund to be used only for transit projects in the counties where the toll facilities are located. By October 1, 2021, the Board of Public Works (BPW) must request a determination letter from the Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA) and the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) confirming the plan to issue a final request for proposals for the project; provisions related to the P3 agreement and special fund are contingent on BPW's receipt of the letter by October 1, 2021, and take effect on the date notice is received, as specified.

HB 1249 will provide the necessary level of transparency and orderly development and approval of P3 agreements with the input of all appropriate parties. The legislation requires bidders for P3 agreements to agree to initiate a Community Benefit Agreement (CBA) as a condition of contract award by MDOT. However, the legislation does not specify the parties to be included in the CBA. The Prince George's County Council strongly supports the CBA requirement and believes that the jurisdictions in which the project will be located should be a party to the Community Benefit Agreement and requests an amendment to include impacted local jurisdiction(s) in the CBA and ensure that the CBA demonstrates benefits specifically to the impacted local jurisdictions.

For the foregoing reasons, the Prince George's County Council SUPPORTS HB 1249 with AMENDMENT and respectfully requests your favorable consideration of its position.

Prepared by: LA PEREZ CONSULTING

On behalf of Prince George's County Council