

March 20, 2025

The Honorable Vanessa Atterbeary
Chair, Ways & Means Committee
151 Taylor House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Letter of Support – SB 4 – Economic Development – West North Avenue Development Authority - Alterations

Dear Chair Atterbeary and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) offers the following letter in support of Senate Bill 4.

Senate Bill 4 establishes the West North Avenue Development Authority (WNADA) as a permanent authority and alters the composition, powers, and duties of the authority to more closely align to a State established economic development authority.

As a designee within the authority, we are supportive of the sponsor's intent to provide the West North Avenue Development Authority greater autonomy for the purposes of economic development. Of particular interest, the bill creates a forum for stakeholders to come together on creating a 20-year comprehensive plan around economic, housing, transportation, neighborhood, and green space development within the target zone. This multi-stakeholder approach encourages private and public partners to optimize residential land usage, expand access to jobs, and effectively manage traffic congestion.

Maryland Department of Transportation respectfully requests the Committee submit a favorable report for Senate Bill 4.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew Mickler
Director
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