

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2024 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

House Bill 1016
Appropriations

(Frederick County Delegation)

Budget and Taxation

Frederick County - School Construction Master Plan Workgroup

This bill establishes the Frederick County School Construction Master Plan Workgroup to make recommendations regarding the county’s educational facilities master plan. The Frederick County Board of Education must provide staff to the workgroup. **The bill takes effect June 1, 2024, and terminates June 30, 2025.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The Interagency Commission on School Construction (IAC) can likely respond to requests from the workgroup as needed with existing resources. Revenues are not affected.

Local Effect: Frederick County Public Schools can staff the workgroup with existing resources. Local revenues are not affected.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary: Based on its review of the county’s 2023 update to the Educational Facilities Master Plan, the workgroup must:

- comprehensively evaluate all school facility needs;
- explore and evaluate solutions to balance the fiscal demands of the educational needs of Frederick County school construction priorities; and

- consider cost saving or cost sharing opportunities for Frederick County to fund and afford new school projects, maintenance for existing buildings, or renovations to aging schools to better meet educational needs.

By December 31, 2024, the workgroup must report its findings and recommendations to:

- the Frederick County Executive;
- the Frederick County Council;
- the Frederick County Board of Education;
- the IAC; and
- the Frederick County House and Senate delegations.

Current Law: By July 1 of every year, each local school system must develop and submit to IAC an educational facilities master plan, which is a written plan that is approved by the local school board and that includes:

- educational goals, standards, and guidelines;
- community analysis so that the plan conforms to county and municipal comprehensive plans and growth management strategies;
- an inventory and evaluation of existing school buildings;
- current and projected enrollment data;
- analysis of future school facility needs;
- policies for co-location, shared use, and shared cost of existing and planned school facilities;
- policies to address school capacity needs in planned growth areas or to address adequate public facilities ordinance requirements; and
- policies addressing current and planned transportation for students, administrators, and teachers per school.

In submitting requests for planning and funding approval to IAC, a local school board must demonstrate that the requests are consistent with the most recent educational facilities master plan.

Chapter 416 of 2018 established a similar workgroup for Prince George's County Public Schools. Its final report can be read [here](#).

Additional Information

Recent Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

Designated Cross File: SB 1152 (Frederick County Senators) - Rules.

Information Source(s): Frederick County; Interagency Commission on School Construction; Frederick County Public Schools; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 5, 2024
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