

Department of Legislative Services
 Maryland General Assembly
 2001 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 503 (Delegate Owings)
 Ways and Means

Mass Transit Administration - Future Extension of Mass Transit Systems in Calvert County

This bill requires the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) to study the feasibility of preserving and acquiring rights-of-way for a mass transit extension from Chesapeake Beach to Solomons Island in Calvert County and to report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly by January 1, 2002. MDOT is required to examine the property needed for an extension, estimate the cost for the State to purchase the necessary rights-of-way, and determine the feasibility of using an old railroad right-of-way. MDOT must solicit input from the Calvert County Commissioners, utility companies that use existing rights-of-way, and county citizens granted property access across the old rights-of-way.

The bill states the General Assembly’s intent that MDOT use existing resources to conduct the study.

The bill is effective from June 1, 2001 to December 31, 2001.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Transportation Trust Fund expenditures could increase by \$500,000 in FY 2002 only.

(in dollars)	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
SF Expenditure	500,000	0	0	0	0
Net Effect	(\$500,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Note:() = decrease; GF = general funds; FF = federal funds; SF = special funds; - = indeterminate effect

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: None applicable.

State Expenditures: The Mass Transit Administration (MTA) advises that it could not implement the bill with existing resources without diverting capital funds from other projects in the consolidated transportation program (CTP). It cites the cost of previous feasibility studies, including one for a downtown loop in Baltimore City (\$430,000) and one to extend light rail from Glen Burnie to Marley (\$700,000). MTA further advises that the cost will depend on the complexity of the study.

The fiscal 2002 allowance for the entire CTP is approximately \$1.8 billion, and \$227 million for MTA projects, which includes funds for the Governor's proposed transit initiative.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 606 (Senator Dyson) – Finance.

Information Source(s): Department of Transportation (Mass Transit Administration),
Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader – February 20, 2001
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