

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2002 Session

**FISCAL NOTE**

House Bill 1267 (Delegate Edwards)  
Environmental Matters

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**Natural Resources - Land Preservation and Recreation Plan**

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This bill decreases the frequency, from every five years to every six years, for when the Maryland Department of Planning, in cooperation with the Department of Natural Resources, must prepare and revise the Maryland Land Preservation and Recreation Plan (LPRP).

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** The bill's changes could be handled with existing budgeted resources.

**Local Effect:** The bill's changes could be handled with existing local resources.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** The State LPRP, prepared by the Maryland Department of Planning (MDP), identifies the acquisition and development needs for parks and open space in the State and provides guidance in this area to local jurisdictions. MDP, in cooperation with the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), must prepare and revise the State LPRP every five years. A local governing body must prepare a local LPRP with acquisition goals based upon the most current population data available from MDP and submit it to DNR and to MDP for joint approval according to the criteria and goals set forth in the State LPRP and any revisions thereof. A local governing body must revise its local LPRP at least every five years concurrently with the revision of the State LPRP and submit the revised local plan to DNR and MDP for joint approval.

**Background:** Program Open Space (POS), established in 1969, provides funds for State and local acquisition and development of public outdoor recreation sites, facilities, and open space. To assure that the funds available under POS are focused on meeting the most important needs, the State and each local jurisdiction must prepare LPRPs every five years. The State LPRP was last updated in March 2001.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Maryland Department of Planning, Department of Natural Resources, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 15, 2002  
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