

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2012 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

House Bill 1278
Appropriations

(Delegate Cardin)

Finance

Transportation - Institutions of Higher Education - Bicycle and Pedestrian Access

This bill requires each public institution of higher education, when it revises its facility master plan, to address bicycle and pedestrian transportation circulation (1) between the institution and adjacent communities; and (2) within the campus. The plan must include any measures the institution proposes to incorporate bikeways and pedestrian facilities and promote biking and walking.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill is not expected to materially affect State finances.

Local Effect: The bill is not expected to materially affect local finances.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law/Background: By fiscal 2000, each public institution of higher education and State employment facility must provide reasonable accommodations necessary for bicycle access, including parking for bicycles.

The Secretary of Transportation appoints a Director of Bicycle and Pedestrian Access. The director is responsible for developing and coordinating policies and plans for the provision, preservation, improvement, and expansion of access to transportation facilities in the State for pedestrians and bicycle riders, including development of a Statewide 20-Year Bicycle-Pedestrian Master Plan. The Maryland Department of Transportation published a Statewide 20-Year Bicycle-Pedestrian Master Plan in 2002 as required, and the plan must be updated this year. The master plan must:

- identify short-term and long-range goals that include (1) reasonable cost estimates for achieving the goal; and (2) objective performance criteria against which to measure progress in achieving the goal;
- comply with applicable federal funding requirements;
- provide a model to guide political subdivisions of the State in enhancing bicycle and pedestrian access to transportation facilities;
- propose long-term strategies for improving the State's highways to ensure compliance with safety standards for pedestrians and bicycle riders; and
- identify bicycle-pedestrian priority areas, in consultation with local governments, to facilitate the targeting of available funds to areas with the most need.

The Governor appoints a Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee to provide guidance to State agencies concerning funding of bicycle- and pedestrian-related programs, public education and awareness of bicycle- and pedestrian-related activities and safety, and other issues.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 977 (Senator Rosapepe) - Finance.

Information Source(s): Maryland Association of Community Colleges, Maryland Department of Transportation, University System of Maryland, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 9, 2012
mm/lgc Revised - House Third Reader - April 9, 2012

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