

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2013 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 1508 (Delegate Mizeur)
Environmental Matters

Montgomery County - Highway Construction and Maintenance - Maryland Route
410 in Takoma Park

This bill prohibits the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) from expending funds for MD Route 410 construction through the City of Takoma Park, in Montgomery County, that involves the addition of a new motor vehicle lane. Prior to beginning any nonroutine maintenance in the Takoma Park Historic District, the State Highway Administration (SHA) must submit the project plans to the Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission for review.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Because MDOT does not plan to add a motor vehicle lane to MD Route 410 in Takoma Park, the bill is not expected to materially affect State finances.

Local Effect: The bill does not affect local operations or finances.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: SHA must construct, reconstruct, and repair State highways as necessary and must maintain them in good condition.

Background: MD Route 410 traverses a densely populated area through the City of Takoma Park. The road passes through residential and commercial properties as well as an historic district.

While MD Route 410 is identified as a State highway, the city controls portions of the road's right-of-way. In the past, SHA did not maintain the city-controlled portions of MD Route 410. However, in February 2013, SHA and the city approved a Memorandum of Understanding that, among other things, expands SHA's maintenance responsibilities along MD Route 410 and Carroll Avenue.

Concern has been expressed about adding a motor vehicle lane to MD Route 410. Specifically, some individuals believe that adding a lane will have an adverse effect on safety and will harm the character of nearby properties. Currently, SHA does not plan to add another motor vehicle lane to MD Route 410 in the city.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): City of Takoma Park, Montgomery County, Maryland
Department of Transportation, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 18, 2013
mm/lgc

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