

Chapter 439

(House Bill 560)

AN ACT concerning

Transportation – State Highway Administration – Traffic Calming Devices

FOR the purpose of requiring the State Highway Administration ~~to develop certain statewide standards for the construction and maintenance of traffic calming devices; requiring the Administration to publish a manual providing the statewide standards for the construction and maintenance of traffic calming devices,~~ in consultation with appropriate county and municipal authorities, to compile certain best practices for siting, constructing, and maintaining traffic calming devices; requiring the Administration to coordinate and act as a clearinghouse for certain best practices for traffic calming devices and, based on the best practices, publish and periodically update certain information on best practices for traffic calming devices; requiring the information on best practices to include certain cost estimates; requiring the Administration to provide ~~engineering services~~ information on best practices for the ~~development~~ siting, construction, and maintenance of traffic calming devices if requested by a county or municipality; defining a certain term; and generally relating to traffic calming devices.

BY adding to

Article – Transportation

Section 8–637

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2015 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Transportation

8–637.

(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION, “TRAFFIC CALMING DEVICE” MEANS A PHYSICAL HIGHWAY MEASURE USED TO REDUCE VEHICLE SPEED AND INCREASE SAFETY FOR BICYCLISTS, MOTORISTS, AND PEDESTRIANS.

(2) “TRAFFIC CALMING DEVICE” INCLUDES:

(I) A SPEED BUMP;

(II) A RAISED CROSSWALK;

(III) A TRAFFIC CIRCLE; AND

(IV) A NARROWED ROAD.

(B) (1) THE ADMINISTRATION, IN CONSULTATION WITH APPROPRIATE COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL AUTHORITIES, SHALL DEVELOP AND ADOPT STATEWIDE COMPILE STANDARDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF TRAFFIC CALMING DEVICES, INCLUDING STANDARDS ADDRESSING BEST PRACTICES FOR SITING, CONSTRUCTING, AND MAINTAINING TRAFFIC CALMING DEVICES THAT ADDRESS:

(I) THE ENGINEERING AND DESIGN OF TRAFFIC CALMING DEVICES; AND

(II) THE COSTS AND BENEFITS OF VARIOUS METHODS OF TRAFFIC CALMING.

(2) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL PUBLISH A MANUAL PROVIDING STATEWIDE STANDARDS:

(I) COORDINATE AND ACT AS A CLEARINGHOUSE FOR BEST PRACTICES FOR SITING, CONSTRUCTING, AND MAINTAINING TRAFFIC CALMING DEVICES; AND

(II) BASED ON THE BEST PRACTICES, PUBLISH AND PERIODICALLY UPDATE INFORMATION ABOUT BEST PRACTICES FOR THE CONSTRUCTION SITING, CONSTRUCTION, AND MAINTENANCE OF TRAFFIC CALMING DEVICES.

(3) THE ~~MANUAL~~ INFORMATION ON BEST PRACTICES REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION SHALL INCLUDE THE ESTIMATED COSTS OF CONSTRUCTION OF FOR EACH TRAFFIC CALMING DEVICE.

(C) ~~(1)~~ ON THE REQUEST OF A COUNTY OR MUNICIPALITY, THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL PROVIDE ENGINEERING SERVICES INFORMATION ON BEST PRACTICES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT SITING, CONSTRUCTION, AND MAINTENANCE OF TRAFFIC CALMING DEVICES.

~~(2) ANY SERVICE PROVIDED BY THE ADMINISTRATION TO A COUNTY UNDER THIS SUBSECTION SHALL BE PROVIDED AT COST OR LOWER.~~

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2019.

Approved by the Governor, May 13, 2019.