

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2024 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

House Bill 711
Appropriations

(Delegate Wilson)

Consolidated Transportation Program - Indian Head Highway - Conversion Into
Limited Access Highway

This bill requires the Secretary of Transportation to include sufficient funds in the *Consolidated Transportation Program* (CTP) for fiscal 2025 and beyond for the planning, design, and reconstruction necessary for the conversion of Maryland Route 210 (Indian Head Highway) into a limited access highway from the I-495 and I-295 ramps to the Charles County border. By December 31, 2024, the Secretary must report to the General Assembly on a timeline and the estimated costs for the conversion. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2024.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Because the Maryland Department of Transportation’s (MDOT) capital program is fully subscribed, MDOT must redirect *significant* funding (potentially more than \$1.0 billion total over multiple years) from other projects beginning in FY 2025 to complete the required project, as discussed below. Revenues are not affected.

Local Effect: The bill is not anticipated to have a direct effect on local government operations or finances.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: The CTP, which is issued annually to the General Assembly, local elected officials, and interested citizens, provides a description of projects proposed by MDOT for development and evaluation or construction over the next six-year period.

The State Highway Administration (SHA) is responsible for more than 5,200 miles or approximately 16,800 lane miles of road, 2,500 bridges, 3,500 small stream crossing structures, and 80 miles of sound/noise barriers in the State. It also has responsibility for planning, designing, constructing, and maintaining these roads and bridges to safety and performance standards while considering sociological, ecological, and economic concerns.

State Expenditures: Because MDOT's capital program is fully subscribed, MDOT must redirect funding from other projects beginning in fiscal 2025 to meet the bill's requirements. The CTP for fiscal 2024 through 2029 includes approximately \$11.5 million for [improvements to Maryland Route 210](#); however, significantly more funding is needed to complete the project as specified in the bill. While a precise estimate of the cost to complete the project is difficult to make prior to the initial planning and design work, a preliminary analysis conducted by SHA estimates that the total project cost is likely more than \$1.0 billion over multiple years, not accounting for inflation.

Additional Information

Recent Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has not been introduced in the last three years.

Designated Cross File: SB 173 (Senator Ellis) - Budget and Taxation.

Information Source(s): Maryland Department of Transportation; Prince George's County; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 28, 2024
js/lgc

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