



February 12, 2020

The Honorable Delores G. Kelly, Chair
Senate Finance Committee
3 East, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Support w Amendment: SB – 285 – SHA Highway Work Permits – Pedestrian Access

Dear, Chair Kelly and Committee Members:

The NAIOP Maryland Chapters represent more than 700 companies involved in all aspects of commercial, industrial and mixed-use real estate. Our members operate throughout the state; many are part of organizations with national and international experience managing complex construction projects in urban environments. This experience highlights the imperative of prioritizing pedestrian safety around construction sites and the challenges it presents.

The issues raised in SB 285 are broad and are also currently the subject of a bill currently being considered by the Montgomery County Council. We would like the opportunity to look at best practices from other jurisdictions to bring this state bill and the council legislation into agreement so that there may be some consistency between local and state roads.

We believe the approach needs to ensure safety while also considering logistics and the sequence of construction in congested urban areas. By way of example, among the issues we would like to consider are how to address:

1. Safe, alternative pathway
2. Storage of construction materials and use of the right-of-way
3. Use of curb and travel lanes
4. Application to existing permits
5. Geographic scope
6. Convenience parking

Sincerely;

Tom Ballentine, Vice President for Policy
NAIOP Maryland Chapters -*The Association for Commercial Real Estate*

cc: Senate Finance Committee Members
Nick Manis – Manis, Canning Assoc.