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SUPPORT HB464

I ask for your favorable consideration of HB464, entitled Maryland–National Capital Park and Planning Commission – Mandatory Referral Review.

HB464 is identical to HB394, a bill that passed the House of Delegates during the shortened 2020 session. The Montgomery and Prince George’s County Delegations both voted unanimously to support HB464.

Mandatory referral is the advisory process by which governmental agencies have their projects publicly reviewed by our bicounty planning agency.

Under current law, the submitting agency can skip the review process after 90 days have elapsed if there is a disagreement over the completeness of the application. This bill closes that loophole.

While not specific to any agency or project, this bill might help to encourage future healthy collaboration between the public, MNCPPC and MDOT. As the letter from North Chevy Chase indicates, the need for the bill was revealed by MDOT’s construction of a salt barn in my district adjacent to the municipality.

Thank you