

Title: **Support Maryland General Assembly Senate Bill 0356 –  
Oral Testimony**

Speaker: Daniel E. Woomer  
Linthicum Heights, MD 21090

Hearing: House Environment and Transportation Committee  
House Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Date: Thursday, March 30, 2023

Time: 1:00 pm

**Introduction:**

I'm Daniel E. Woomer, past VP of the Linthicum-Shipley Improvement Association, Board member and past president of the Maryland Coalition for Responsible Transit, member of the Citizens Against the SCMaglev, voting member of the BWI Roundtable, and pleased to speak before you again.

I encourage the Committee members to vote **IN FAVOR** with amendments the changes proposed in Senate Bill 356.

**Testimony:**

With the establishment of the Citizens Committee for the Enhancement of Communities and the \$1.00 takeoff and landing fee to fund its annual budget, communities neighboring BWI Marshall have received grants-in-aid to make transportation related improvements.

This Bill would increase the fee to \$2.00, and expand the scope of the projects eligible to receive grants allowing BWI Marshall surrounding communities to request additional quality of life, environmental impact improvement, and safety projects.

Note, the proposed changes **SHOULD** have no impact to the State budget. Grants are funded by takeoff and landing fees. On average there are 8 to 10 grants per year (pre-Covid). Even doubling the fees, the number of grants awarded will likely remain small. Existing State resources should be able to absorb these few additional simple grants as the

majority of the work for the grant is completed by the grant requester.

My first suggested “amendment” is no additional employee as proposed in Financial and Policy Note.

Second amendment I suggest is strike line 16 on page 3 quote *Improve Education; and* end quote.

The grants should be focused on community projects that improve all residents’ safety and quality of life. For example, replacement of dilapidated decades old sidewalks improves the safety and quality of life from tots, to parents with strollers, to school children, to senior citizens.

Our state schools have multiple avenues of funding, federal, state, county, alumni, galas, etc. As you are aware, Governor Moore is looking at an \$800 million add to school funding. Let’s keep this small amount of funding solely for community improvement and support which aids all residents.

**In Summary:**

I encourage the Committee members to vote **IN FAVOR** with amendments the changes proposed in this Bill.

Thank you.