

SB356 BWI Testimony.pdf

Uploaded by: Pamela Beidle

Position: FAV

PAMELA G. BEIDLE
Legislative District 32
Anne Arundel County

DEPUTY MAJORITY WHIP

Finance Committee

Chair, Executive Nominations Committee

Spending Affordability Committee

Joint Committee on Gaming Oversight

Joint Committee on Management of
Public Funds

Chair, Anne Arundel County
Senate Delegation



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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

February 15, 2023

SB356

**Transportation – Citizens Committee for the Enhancement of Communities
Surrounding BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport – Modification**

Good Afternoon Chair Griffith, Vice Chair Klausmeier and Members of Finance;

Thank you for the opportunity to share with you SB 356, Citizens Committee for the Enhancement of Communities Surrounding BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport – Modification. The Committee was formed in 2001 to provide funding to the communities impacted most by BWI for transportation related improvements.

SB356 increases the funding from \$1 for every takeoff and landing of an aircraft at BWI to \$2. It also expands the scope of projects eligible for funding to include not only transportation issues, but also public safety, education and projects sought by nonprofit organizations. This is similar to the existing Local Development Councils for MD Live and Laurel Racetrack.

The Fiscal Note states an additional staff member is needed. As the Department already staffs the Committee, I do not believe a full time staff person is needed.

Every aspect of our citizens lives are disrupted by the noise associated with the takeoffs and landing aircraft especially since the introduction of NexGen aircraft, the impact is felt 24 hours a day. The benefit to our communities is well deserved and is small compensation for the impact.

I respectfully request a favorable report on SB356.

Anne Arundel County_FAV_SB356.pdf

Uploaded by: Steuart Pittman

Position: FAV



February 15, 2023

Senate Bill 356

**Transportation - Citizens Committee for the Enhancement of Communities
Surrounding BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport - Modification**

Senate Finance Committee

Position: FAVORABLE

Anne Arundel County **SUPPORTS** Senate Bill 356 – Transportation - Citizens Committee for the Enhancement of Communities Surrounding BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport - Modification. This Bill expands the responsibilities of the Committee to developing projects to improve quality of life in surrounding communities, advancing projects brought to the committee by nonprofit organizations, and making recommendations to the Secretary of Transportation for funding projects that address these matters. It also doubles the minimum annual funding that the Secretary must budget for committee recommended projects.

Currently, grant funding for projects to address transportation issues in the Airport Noise Zone (ANZ) is based on \$1 per inbound or outbound flight, which amounts to approximately \$230,000 annually. This legislation doubles that amount, providing an additional \$230,000 each year to not only address transportation issues, but also fund public safety improvements, quality of life projects, and improve education. With implementation of the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA's) Next Generation Air Transportation System (NextGen), noise complaints in communities surrounding BWI have increased significantly due to altered flight patterns, and the quality of life of residents in the area has been impacted. Projects to ameliorate those impacts require community support and input, as well as funding, and this Bill is an important component in meeting those requirements.

For all of these reasons, I respectfully request a **FAVORABLE** report on Senate Bill 356.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Stuart Pittman".

Stuart Pittman
County Executive

20230215 - Support SB0356 - Oral - Woomer.pdf

Uploaded by: Dan Woomer

Position: FWA

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

Speaker: Daniel E. Woomer
Linthicum Heights, MD 21090

Hearing: Senate Finance
3 East
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Date: Wednesday, February 15, 2023 Time: 1:00 pm

Introduction:

I'm Daniel E. Woomer, past VP of the Linthicum-Shipleigh Improvement Association, Board member and past president of the Maryland Coalition for Responsible Transit, member of the Citizens Against the SCMaglev, and voting member of the BWI Roundtable.

I encourage the Finance Committee 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. Currently, for example, only existing sidewalks can be replaced. There are many roads that lack sidewalks. The proposed changes would allow 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.

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

Second amendment I suggest is strike line 11 on page 3 quote *Improve Education* end quote.

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

In Summary:

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

Thank you.

20230215 - Support SB0356 - Written - Woomer.pdf

Uploaded by: Dan Woomer

Position: FWA

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

Speaker: Daniel E. Woomer
Linthicum Heights, MD 21090

Hearing: Senate Finance
3 East
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Date: Wednesday, February 15, 2023 Time: 1:00 pm

Introduction:

I'm Daniel E. Woomer, a resident of Linthicum Heights, a neighbor of the BWI Marshall Airport, past Vice President 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, and voting member of the DC Metroplex BWI Community Roundtable.

I encourage the Senate Finance Committee members to vote **IN FAVOR** with amendments the changes proposed in Senate Bill 0356.

Testimony:

With the establishment of the Citizens Committee for the Enhancement of Communities in 2001, and the implementation of a \$1.00 takeoff and landing fee to fund its annual working budget, communities within two miles of the BWI Marshall have submitted project proposals and receive grants-in-aid to make transportation related repairs within their communities. Such projects included sidewalk and curb replacement, as well as traffic studies and speed calming hump installations.

Senate Bill 0356 would increase the takeoff and landing to \$2.00, and expand the scope of the projects eligible to receive grants. Currently, for example, only existing sidewalks can be replaced. There are many community roads that lack safe sidewalks. The changes proposed in Senate Bill 0356 would allow for these projects to be put forth by the communities for grant consideration by the Citizens Committee for the Enhancement of

Communities, as well as other quality of life, environmental impact improvement, and citizen safety projects, which benefit all residents.

Note, the proposed changes would increase the funds available for community grants, with little impact to the State budget, as the funding for the grants is generated from the BWI Marshall takeoff and landing fees. However, as the prior projects were completed by contractors, the increased funding for community enhancement projects would prove beneficial for area businesses. As suggested in the Financial and Policy Note, I question the need for the addition of a State employee to serve as a grants administrator. The number of annual grants approved has run between 8 to 10 (pre-Covid). Even with doubling the grant funds available as proposed in Senate Bill 0356, the number of actual grants awarded will likely remain small. Existing State resources should be able to absorb the few additional grants throughout the fiscal year. My first suggested amendment, no funding for an additional State employee.

Second amendment I suggest is the removal of line 11, page 3 *"Improve Education, and"*. There are several funding sources for education. Anne Arundel County Executive Stuart Pittman has increased school funding. Governor Moore has proposed an additional \$500 million increase in school funding. The funds for the Citizens Committee for the Enhancement of Communities grants should be focused on community projects that improve the surrounding communities' residents' safety and quality of life. Again, as an example, replacement of dilapidated sidewalks, some dating back to the 1930's, improve the safety and quality of life for all, from tots, to parents with strollers, to school children, to senior citizens.

In Summary:

I encourage the Finance Committee members to vote IN FAVOR with amendments the changes proposed in Senate Bill 0356.

Thank you.

SB0356-TransportationCitsCmteeIncreasedRole-FAVWAm

Uploaded by: Nelda Fink

Position: FWA

Favorable with Amendments – SB0356 Transportation -Citizens
Committee for the Enhancement of Communities Surrounding BWI Thurgood
Marshall Airport - Modification

Nelda Fink

MD District 32

The Citizens Committee is currently very active and in my opinion is doing a good job. Expanding their role to include the items in this bill would be beneficial to the communities surrounding BWI, one in which I reside.

The only recommendation I have for amendment is that the increased landing fee be a recommendation of that Citizens Committee, rather than a fee determined by the legislature. The reasoning behind this is the Committee knows more the issues arising from the traffic at the airport more than the legislators. (No offense intended.)

The subparagraph (h) 3(iii) could be reworded to give the Committee the authority to recommend/implement a proper landing fee based on their dealings with the grants and community involvement.

One of the issues that needs to be considered in the landing fee increase (doubling it as the current bill suggests) is that some of the airlines may decide to use other nearby airports to reduce the expense and BWI would then lose business possibly resulting in a slight economic downturn from the airport.

I urge the Senate members to move forward **favorably** on this bill and to consider the amendment I'm recommending.

Thank you.

Nelda Fink

SB356_MAA_UNF.pdf

Uploaded by: Nicolae Copper

Position: UNF

CHAIRMAN:
Jeff Graf
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David Slaughter

MARYLAND ASPHALT ASSOCIATION



TREASURER:
Paul Bramble
SECRETARY:
Curtis Hall
PRESIDENT:
G. Marshall Klinefelter

February 15, 2023

Senator Melony Griffith, Chair
Senate Finance Committee
3 East, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Senate Bill 356 – UNFAVORABLE – Transportation – Citizens Committee for the Enhancement of Communities Surrounding BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport Modification

Dear Chair Griffith, and Members of the Committees:

The Maryland Asphalt Association (MAA) is comprised of 18 producer members representing more than 47 production facilities, 24 contractor members, 24 consulting engineer firms and 41 other associate members. MAA works proactively with regulatory agencies to represent the interests of the asphalt industry both in the writing and interpretation of state and federal regulations that may affect our members. We also advocate for adequate state and federal funding for Maryland's multimodal transportation system.

Senate Bill 356 expands the responsibilities of the Citizens Committee for the Enhancement of Communities Surrounding Baltimore-Washington International (BWI) Thurgood Marshall Airport and doubles the minimum annual funding that the Secretary of the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) must budget for projects recommended by the committee from \$1 for every takeoff and landing to \$2.

MAA believes all transportation projects being considered for funding through the Transportation Trust Fund (TTF) should be judged on their individual merits with no preference shown for projects from certain areas of the state over others. MAA opposes Senate Bill 356 because it reduces the overall amount of funding in the TTF available for general transportation projects throughout the state by doubling the mandated appropriation that must be reserved specifically to fund the recommendations of the Citizens Committee for the Enhancement of Communities Surrounding Baltimore-Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport. With a system preservation funding gap already exceeding \$4 billion, this move would only serve to make our already deteriorating roads and crumbling bridges even more dangerous.

We appreciate you taking the time to consider our request for an UNFAVORABLE report on Senate Bill 356.

Sincerely,

Marshall Klinefelter
President
Maryland Asphalt Association

SB356_MTBMA_UNF.pdf

Uploaded by: Nicolae Copper

Position: UNF



February 15, 2023

Senator Melony Griffith, Chair
Senate Finance Committee
3 East, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Senate Bill 356 – UNFAVORABLE – Transportation – Citizens Committee for the Enhancement of Communities Surrounding BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport Modification

Dear Chair Griffith, and Members of the Committees:

The Maryland Transportation Builders and Materials Association (MTBMA) has been and continues to serve as the voice for Maryland's construction transportation industry since 1932. Our association is comprised of 200 members. MTBMA encourages, develops, and protects the prestige of the transportation construction and materials industry in Maryland by establishing and maintaining respected relationships with federal, state, and local public officials. We proactively work with regulatory agencies and governing bodies to represent the interests of the transportation industry and advocate for adequate state and federal funding for Maryland's multimodal transportation system.

Senate Bill 356 expands the responsibilities of the Citizens Committee for the Enhancement of Communities Surrounding Baltimore-Washington International (BWI) Thurgood Marshall Airport and doubles the minimum annual funding that the Secretary of the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) must budget for projects recommended by the committee from \$1 for every takeoff and landing to \$2.

MTBMA believes all transportation projects being considered for funding through the Transportation Trust Fund (TTF) should be judged on their individual merits with no preference shown for projects from certain areas of the state over others. MTBMA opposes Senate Bill 356 because it reduces the overall amount of funding in the TTF available for general transportation projects throughout the state by doubling the mandated appropriation that must be reserved specifically to fund the recommendations of the Citizens Committee for the Enhancement of Communities Surrounding Baltimore-Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport. With a system preservation funding gap already exceeding \$4 billion, this move would only serve to make our already deteriorating roads and crumbling bridges even more dangerous.

We appreciate you taking the time to consider our request for an UNFAVORABLE report on Senate Bill 356.

Thank you,

Michael Sakata
President and CEO
Maryland Transportation Builders and Materials Association