



Wes Moore
Governor
Aruna Miller
Lieutenant Governor
Paul J. Wiedefeld
Secretary

February 23, 2024

The Honorable Marc Korman
Chair, House Environment and Transportation Committee
251 House Office Building
Annapolis MD 21401

RE: Letter of Information – House Bill 1032 – Highways – Tourist Area Corridor Signage Program

Dear Chair Korman and Committee members:

The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) respectfully offers the following information on House Bill 1032 for the Committee’s consideration.

House Bill 1032 seeks to codify, with certain modifications, the Tourist Area and Corridor Signage (TAC) program operated by the State Highway Administration (SHA). As background, TAC is a system of supplemental guide signs that directs motorists to eligible local attractions that meet certain operational conditions, include hours and days of operation.

The SHA is planning a decentralized, participant-funded program where local governments operate the program that works best for their needs, but where SHA provides guidance for TAC installations, retains the responsibility of ensuring signs are compliant with the MUTCD and other requirements for mounting signs on State right-of-way in the county, and recovers SHA’s costs in association with TAC program requests. The SHA is still finalizing details of what this model would look like for the TAC program moving forward.

House Bill 1032 as currently drafted includes certain provisions that would require SHA to commit resources to the TAC program in a manner that conflicts with SHA’s ongoing TAC program changes. The SHA has met with the sponsor to discuss this program and is actively working with the sponsor to ensure the bill language with amendments is aligned with the structure of the TAC program moving forward.

The Maryland Department of Transportation respectfully requests the Committee consider this information when deliberating House Bill 1032.

Sincerely,

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