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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

SB681: Transportation and Climate Alignment Act of 2024

What SB681 Does:

- Requires MDOT and other regional planning entities to measure and mitigate increases in pollution and vehicle travel caused by highway expansion projects over \$10 million
- This applies prospectively, not to existing projects
- Mitigation measures will first be prioritized in the area where the project is taking place, or in overburdened communities defined in the Climate Solutions Now Act
- Mitigation measures may include: expanding public transportation, improving bike infrastructure, improving broadband access, and investing in other public transit-related projects
- Minnesota and Colorado have passed similar legislation
- The federal government provides states with tools to measure greenhouse gas emissions

Why SB681 is Needed:

- Currently, transportation is the #1 source of climate pollution in Maryland, and we are not on track to meet our goals
- It is important for the state to understand how new large transportation projects impact our ability to meet our own climate goals
- The state is in a difficult budgeting circumstance, so it is critical that we ensure that state dollars are used in a way that moves us closer to our broad climate goals, as well as preserving our commitment to equity