



POSITION STATEMENT

Bill: HB 0084 (SB 0395) Transportation – Major Highway Capacity Expansion Projects and Impact Assessments (Transportation and Climate Alignment Act of 2025)

Position: Informational

Date: February 4, 2025

Contact: Debra Borden, General Counsel

Jordan Baucum Colbert, Government Affairs Liaison

Dear Marc Korman,

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (“M-NCPPC” or the “Commission”) has not voted on an official position yet. However, Montgomery Planning staff have prepared informational comments below.

What this Bills Does. This bill requires the Department of Transportation, as part of the planning and implementation of certain major highway expansion projects to develop and implement a corresponding multimodal transportation program; requiring the Department beginning with the Consolidated Transportation Program to evaluate certain major capital projects for their impact on greenhouse gas emissions and vehicle miles traveled. It also requires, under certain circumstances, the Department to fund offsetting activities to reduce certain project or program impacts on greenhouse gas emissions and vehicle miles traveled. It requires the Secretary of Transportation to perform certain capacity expansion impact assessments and the Department and the State Highway Administration to issue a certain report before proceeding to the final project planning phase for certain projects; and generally relating to the planning and development of certain transportation projects.

Informational Comments. The bill is in line with Thrive Montgomery 2025, Montgomery County's General Plan. Just for informational purposes the bill does not apply to any projects in the STIP or funded for construction in the CTP before June 30, 2025, and the following projects are not funded:

- I-270, Eisenhower Memorial Highway and I-495 Capital Beltway - Phase 1 South; and
- I-270, Eisenhower Memorial Highway and I-495 Capital Beltway - Phase 1 North.