



Montgomery County

Office of Intergovernmental Relations

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HB 1206

DATE: March 4, 2025

SPONSOR: Montgomery County Delegation

ASSIGNED TO: Appropriations

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POSITION: Council Support

Montgomery County – Silver Spring Purple Line Construction Zone Parking Improvement Grant Program MC 16-25

House Bill 1206 establishes the Silver Spring Purple Line Construction Zone Parking Improvement Grant Program for the purpose of improving parking in Downtown Silver Spring. The grant funds would be channeled through local business associations, for the next two years, to help alleviate parking problems caused by the construction of the Purple Line. The bill mandates that the Governor include \$50,000 in fiscal 2026 and 2027 for the grant program. However, the bill as drafted cannot mandate an appropriation for fiscal 2026 because it does not provide the Governor sufficient notice to include the funding in his annual budget bill for fiscal 2026 (Maryland Constitution, Article III, Section 52). Therefore, the State Legislature would need to amend the fiscal 2026 budget to include these funds if it intends to capitalize the first year of the grant program as envisioned in the bill, absent a supplemental or supplementary appropriation.

The uncodified language that establishes the Grant Program and its funding source for the next two years sunsets at the end of June 30, 2027.

The size of this grant program is small, and its duration is short. Regardless, the funds could still make a meaningful difference by helping to address the acute parking problems impacting some of Silver Spring's small businesses, which have been caused by Purple Line construction delays. For these reasons, the Montgomery County Council supports House Bill 1206.