



Senator Guy Guzzone, Chair
Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West Miller Senate Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

March 4, 2026

RE: SB 868 – UNFAVORABLE – State Highway Administration – Maryland Route 410 (East-West Highway) Pedestrian Safety Action Plan – Expansion

Dear Chair Guzzone and Members of the Committee:

The Maryland Asphalt Association (MAA) represents approximately 110+ members, including 20 material producers, contractors, engineering firms, and associate members, supporting a 7,000-person workforce. MAA actively collaborates with regulatory agencies to advocate for the asphalt industry, ensuring fair regulations at both the state and federal levels. Additionally, we support adequate funding for Maryland’s multimodal transportation system.

This bill would require the State Highway Administration to expand the scope of a specific infrastructure project—namely, the Maryland Route 410 (East-West Highway) Pedestrian Safety Action Plan—to include additional public rights-of-way in Prince George’s County.

It has long been MAA’s position that **specific projects should not be legislated** through individual bills. Infrastructure planning and implementation are appropriately managed through the established processes of the Maryland Department of Transportation and the State Highway Administration, which consider engineering standards, safety data, funding priorities, environmental impacts, and public input.

Legislating individual project scopes circumvents those processes and creates precedent for piecemeal mandates that could undermine statewide planning, accountability, and efficient use of resources. The existing MDOT/SHA project vetting, design, and prioritization framework is the proper venue for determining scope changes to highway safety plans and improvements.

For these reasons, the Maryland Asphalt Association urges the committee to give SB 868 an unfavorable report.

Sincerely,

Tim E. Smith. P.E.
President
Maryland Asphalt Association