Department of Legislative Services

Maryland General Assembly 2019 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE First Reader

House Bill 444 (Prince George's County Delegation)

Environment and Transportation

Prince George's County - State Highways - Mowing, Maintenance, and Litter Removal PG 419-19

This bill requires the State Highway Administration (SHA) to meet with the Prince George's County Executive, or the County Executive's designee, at least four times each year to develop, review, and coordinate the mowing of, maintenance of, and litter removal for State highways in Prince George's County. At least once each month, SHA must provide the county with a schedule of its planned mowing, maintenance, and litter removal activities for those highways. By January 31 each year, SHA must provide the county with a report summarizing the mowing, maintenance, and litter removal activities for State highways in the county for the previous calendar year. The report must provide sufficient detail to allow for an evaluation of the quantity, effectiveness, and impact of these activities.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: SHA can report to Prince George's County in the manner required by the bill using existing budgeted resources. The bill otherwise codifies current practice. Revenues are not affected.

Local Effect: None. Other than requiring SHA to report annually to the county, the bill generally codifies current practice.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law/Background: SHA is responsible for more than 5,200 miles or approximately 16,800 lane miles of road, 2,500 bridges, 3,500 small stream crossing structures, and 80 miles of sound barriers in the State. It also has responsibility for planning, designing, constructing, and maintaining these roads and bridges to safety and performance standards while considering sociological, ecological, and economic concerns.

SHA advises that the bill codifies its current meeting and scheduling practices with Prince George's County regarding the upkeep of State highways in the county. SHA currently (1) meets with county officials on a quarterly basis to discuss the issues identified by the bill as well as other issues; (2) schedules and coordinates mowing and litter removal with county officials on a monthly basis; and (3) communicates with county officials regarding its other schedules and plans on a monthly basis.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Prince George's County; Maryland Department of

Transportation; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 7, 2019

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