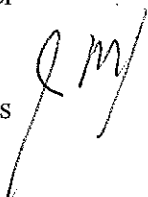



Howard County
Internal Memorandum

Subject: Testimony on Council Resolution No.014 - 2018
Resolution for the Closure of a portion of Old Maryland Route 108

To: Lonnie R. Robbins
Chief Administrative Officer

From: James M. Irvin, Director
Department of Public Works 

Date: February 7, 2018

The Department of Public Works (the "Department") has reviewed the proposed legislation concerning the closing of a portion of Old Maryland Route 108. In accordance with Section 18.204(g) of the Howard County Code, the Department is required to develop a report of the closing of a portion of Old Maryland Route 108. The Department's findings are as follows:

1. The Department of Planning and Zoning has no objection to the resolution.
2. The Department of Public Works has reviewed the legislation and the following is provided:
 - a. State Highway Administration transferred the portion of the above-mentioned road to Howard County by Deed dated December 14, 1994, and recorded among the Land Records of Howard County, Maryland in Liber 3437, folio 300.
 - b. The road closure was posted at 1:30pm on Thursday, January 18, 2018.
 - c. Traffic Engineering Division evaluated the partial closure with respect to pedestrian and vehicular traffic circulation. This portion of Old Maryland Route 108 is a dead-end, asphalt paved roadway approximately 1,100 feet long from Old Annapolis Road to the dead end. The road width varies from 28-foot wide near Annapolis Road to 36-foot wide in the section to be closed. There is an existing driveway to the Dorsey Hall Medical Center Building just before the section of road proposed for closure. The description for this closure is for the closure of the south-end portion, which is approximately 600 feet long. There are five residential homes and one church that seem to be occupied within the proposed 600-foot section. Since the road is a dead-end, there is no other alternative traffic route. There is no posted speed limit sign. Since this road is a dead-end with residential homes fronting the road, a 25-mph speed limit would be appropriate. There is no sidewalk. The proposed closed section of the road has a combination of concrete and asphalt curb along the north-side and guardrail with jersey barrier along the south side. There are no alternate routes or affected school crossings. Since the road is a dead-end, there is no record of traffic volumes and crash data.
 - d. The Bureau of Utilities maintains an existing 8-inch sanitary sewer and existing 12-inch water main with fire hydrant constructed under 223 W&S. Similarly, Utilities also maintains an existing 12-inch water main with fire hydrant constructed under contract 14-1374.
3. The Howard County Police Department has no objection to the resolution.

4. The Department of Fire and Rescue Services has no objection to the resolution.
5. Verizon stated that it is attached to BGE poles, and as long as the poles remain, Verizon has no exceptions to the closing.
6. BGE stated they it has electric and/or gas facilities located within the area of the proposed closing and require an easement to be granted to BGE. BGE objects to the closing until the Petitioner either executes a Right of Way Agreement allowing BGE to continue to operate, maintain, and have access to their existing facilities, or the Petitioner requests and receives permission to relocate the existing facilities, at the Petitioner's expense.

The Department of Public Works concluded that there is no adverse impact on the traveling public if this roadway is closed.

Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact me on Extension 4401.

cc: Jennifer Sager, Legislative Coordinator
Valdis Lazdins, Director, Department of Planning and Zoning
John Butler, Chief, Department of Fire and Rescue Services
Gary Gardner, Chief, Department of Police
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