

# County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2014 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 2

## Resolution No. 23 - 2014

Introduced by: Council Members Calvin Ball, Mary Kay Sigaty,  
Jennifer Terrasa and Courtney Watson

ARESOLUTION requesting that the Howard County Public Transportation Board provide a report to the County Council and County Executive on the performance of the Howard County public transportation system and on specific improvements required of the system to meet the increasing demand for public transportation options in and around Howard County.

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Introduced and read first time on \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

By order \_\_\_\_\_  
Sheila M. Tolliver, Administrator to the County Council

Read for a second time and a public hearing held on \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

By order \_\_\_\_\_  
Sheila M. Tolliver, Administrator to the County Council

This Resolution was read the third time and was Adopted \_\_, Adopted with amendments \_\_, Failed \_\_, Withdrawn \_\_ by the County Council on \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

Certified by \_\_\_\_\_  
Sheila M. Tolliver, Administrator to the County Council

NOTE: [[text in brackets]] indicates deletions from existing language; TEXT IN SMALL CAPITALS indicates additions to existing language. ~~Strike-out~~ indicates material deleted by amendment; Underlining indicates material added by amendment.

1 **WHEREAS,** The need for an increase in public transportation services in Howard  
2 County to mitigate increased congestion has been acknowledged by a number of previous  
3 studies and commissions;

4  
5 **WHEREAS,** The Maryland Transit Authority projects that the Purple and Red Line  
6 expansions of rail service in Maryland will be completed by 2021, which will add  
7 approximately 70,000 riders per day to the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit  
8 Authority’s system and approximately 50,000 riders per day to the Baltimore area  
9 transportation system;

10  
11 **WHEREAS,** Howard County, located between two expanding metropolitan areas, is  
12 projected to increase public transportation riders in the next eight years within the  
13 County;

14  
15 **WHEREAS,** The expected growth of the surrounding transportation systems along with  
16 the growth of Downtown Columbia will require the County to invest in public  
17 transportation;

18  
19 **WHEREAS,** Over the last year, the current Howard County public transportation system  
20 carried almost 1,000,000 passengers on its fixed route, most of whom have limited  
21 transportation options;

22  
23 **WHEREAS,** The necessary investment to meet public transportation demands will  
24 require the County to find new and innovative ways to help fund public transportation to  
25 meet the demand of the County residents;

26 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the County Council of Howard County,  
27 Maryland this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, 2014, that the Public  
28 Transportation Board provide the Council a report by September 30, 2014 with an  
29 evaluation of:

- 30 1. The existing transportation services including, but not limited to, comparison

1 against service standards, route efficiencies and the ability to meet existing  
2 demand;

3 2. Options to increase or expand public transportation to meet short-term and long-  
4 term demand;

5 3. Funding sources, including federal and state funding, for infrastructure and  
6 capital projects to increase peak and off peak frequency is achievable in the next  
7 five years;

8 4. Expanded capital investment in purchasing environmentally sustainable buses to  
9 increase the fleet of Howard County to meet increased levels of service;

10 5. The public transportation aspect of the “Columbia Market Analysis and  
11 Economic Development Services” report on the village centers conducted by  
12 the Columbia Association, the Howard County Department of Planning and  
13 Zoning, and the Howard County Economic Development Authority;

14 6. Bus shelter, bus pad and bus stop use, accessibility such as crosswalks and  
15 safety including the proactive use of ADA requirements; and

16 7. Feasibility and opportunities for public/private partnerships and expanded  
17 regional collaboration; and

18 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the County Council of Howard County  
19 requests the Public Transportation Board solicit public comments prior to the submission  
20 of the report, as well as specific input from the following entities:

21 1. Association of Community Services

22 2. Howard County Economic Development Authority;

23 3. Howard Community College;

24 4. League of Women Voters of Howard County;

25 5. Howard County Public School System;

- 1        6. Columbia Association;
- 2        7. Transportation Advocates of Howard County; and
- 3        8. Howard County Commission on Disability Issues; and
- 4        9. Howard County Department of Citizen Services.

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