

Introduced 3/1/2021
 Public Hearing 3/15/2021
 Council Action 4/5/2021
 Executive Action 4/6/2021
 Effective Date 6/6/2021

County Council Of Howard County, Maryland

2021 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. **5**

Bill No. 18 -2021

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

AN ACT removing the requirement that the Office of Transportation establish a Transit and Pedestrian Advisory Group; amending the qualifications to serve on the Multimodal Transportation Board; amending the powers of the Multimodal Transportation Board; and generally relating to transportation and the Office of Transportation.

Introduced and read first time March 1, 2021. Ordered posted and hearing scheduled.
 By order Michelle Harwood
 Theo Wimberly, Acting Administrator

Having been posted and notice of time & place of hearing & title of Bill having been published according to Charter, the Bill was read for a second time at a public hearing on March 15, 2021.
 By order Michelle Harwood
 Theo Wimberly, Acting Administrator

This Bill was read the third time on April 5, 2021 and Passed , Passed with amendments _____, Failed _____.
 By order Michelle Harwood
 Theo Wimberly, Acting Administrator

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive for approval this 6 day of April, 2021 at 3³⁰ a.m./p.m.
 By order Michelle Harwood
 Theo Wimberly, Acting Administrator

Approved/Vetoed by the County Executive April 6, 2021
Calvin Ball
 Calvin Ball, County Executive

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

1 **Section 1. Be It Enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that the**
2 **Howard County Code is amended as follows:**
3 **By amending:**

4 1. **Section 6.408. Office of Transportation**
5 **Subsection (e)**

6
7 2. **Section 21.502. Multimodal Transportation Board.**

8
9 3. **Section 21.503. General powers and duties of Multimodal Transportation Board.**

10
11 4. **The name of Subtitle 5 of Title 21 to be Multimodal Transportation.**

12
13 **Title 6. County Executive and the Executive Branch**

14 **Subtitle 4. Department of County Administration.**

15
16 **Section 6.408. - Office of Transportation.**

17 (e) *BICYCLE Advisory* *[[Groups]]* *GROUP* *[[To the Office of Transportation]]*. The Office
18 shall establish a Bicycle Advisory Group~~[[and a Transit and Pedestrian Advisory~~
19 Group]]to advise the Office on issues related to ~~[[the modes of]]~~*BICYCLE* transportation.

20 ~~[[Both]]~~*THE* advisory ~~[[groups]]~~*GROUP* shall be staffed by the Office of Transportation.
21 (1) *[[Bicycle Advisory Group]]MEMBERSHIP*. The group shall be comprised of:

22 (a) A member of the Multimodal Transportation Board;

23 (b) A Howard County Student, selected by Voices for Change;

24 (c) A Howard County Student, selected by the Howard County Association of
25 Student Councils;

26 (d) At least one representative from each of the following organizations:

27 (i) The Bicycling Advocates of Howard County;

28 (ii) The Columbia Association;

29 (iii)The Howard County Department of Public Works;

30 (iv)The Howard County Department of Recreation and Parks;

31 (v) The Howard County Police Department;

- 1 (vi) The Howard County Public School System; and
2 (vii) The Howard County Council; and
3 (e) Other members at the discretion of the Administrator of the Office.
- 4 [[(2) *Transit and Pedestrian Advisory Group*. The group shall be comprised of:
- 5 (a) A member of the Multimodal Transportation Board;
6 (b) A Howard County Student, selected by Voices for Change;
7 (c) A Howard County Student, selected by the Howard County Association of
8 Student Councils;
9 (d) A Howard County resident who is a Regional Transportation Agency
10 paratransit passenger;
11 (e) A Howard County resident who is a fixed-route Regional Transportation
12 Agency passenger;
13 (f) Two people selected by the Howard County Public School System, at least
14 one of whom shall be a high school principal;
15 (g) At least one representative from each of the following organizations:
16 (i) The Howard County Association of Community Services;
17 (ii) The Commission on Aging;
18 (iii) The Commission on Disability Issues;
19 (iv) The Howard County Department of Recreation and Parks;
20 (v) The Howard County Police Department; and
21 (vi) The Howard County Council; and
22 (h) Other members at the discretion of the Administrator of the Office.]]
- 23 ([[3]]2) *[[Advisory Group]] Meetings*.
- 24 (a) THE *[[Each advisory]]* group shall meet at least four times per year. *[[At least*
25 *two meetings shall be joint meetings with the Bicycle Advisory Group and*
26 *the Transit and Pedestrian Advisory Group, and at least two meetings shall*
27 *be held separately.]]*
- 28 (b) Each meeting shall include an open forum component in which members of
29 the public are invited to comment about transportation.
- 30 (c) *[[Advisory groups]]* THE GROUP shall follow the State of Maryland Open
31 Meetings Law.

1 (d) The Office of Transportation shall notify directly the groups and
2 organizations listed in section 6.408(e)(1)(d) [[and section 6.408(e)(2)(g)]] of
3 each [[advisory group]] meeting, but [[an advisory group's]]the BICYCLE
4 ADVISORY GROUP'S work shall not be invalidated for lack of representation
5 from one or more of the listed groups or organizations.

6 ([[4]]3)[[Advisory Group]] Responsibilities. THE GROUP [[Advisory groups]] shall:

- 7 (a) Advise and inform the Office on BICYCLE transportation matters;
- 8 (b) Provide additional subject matter expertise to the Office; and
- 9 (c) Provide feedback and technical assistance on the implementation of master
10 plans and other initiatives and policy issues.

11

12 **Title 21 - Traffic Control and Transportation.**

13 **Subtitle 5. [[Public]] MULTIMODAL Transportation.**

14

15 **Section 21.502. - Multimodal Transportation Board.**

16 (a) *General Provisions.* General provisions applicable to the Multimodal Transportation
17 Board are set forth in subtitle 3, "Boards and Commissions," of title 6, "County
18 Executive and the Executive Branch," of the Howard County Code.

19 (b) *Number of Members.* There is a Howard County Multimodal Transportation Board.
20 The Howard County Multimodal Transportation Board shall consist of nine members.
21 Non-voting ex officio members from State, regional, and County agencies may also be
22 designated by the County Executive, but not to exceed four in number.

23 (c) *Qualifications.*

- 24 (1) Each member shall be a resident of Howard County;
- 25 (2) Each member shall be experienced or interested in or a user of at least one of the
26 following:

27 (i) Public transit, including [[fixed-route or paratransit]]FIXED-ROUTE,
28 PARATRANSIT, OR MICROMOBILITY;

29 (II) ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION, INCLUDING BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN
30 TRANSPORTATION;

31 [[(ii) Bicycle transportation;

- 1 (iii) Pedestrian transportation;]]
- 2 ([[iv]]III) Road networks that SAFELY promote all modes of transportation; [[or]]
- 3 ([[v]]IV) Transportation demand management[.]; OR
- 4 (v) TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES FOR UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS.

5 (3) As new appointments are considered, special attention shall be given to ensure
6 that a balance of expertise is maintained on the Board. The County Executive
7 shall, when submitting the appointment of a potential Board member to the
8 County Council for approval, also provide a statement of the balance of
9 expertise among the existing members of the Board and an explanation of how
10 the potential appointee's expertise will complement the current balance.

11 (4) APPOINTEES SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION RELATED
12 EVENTS AND BE INFORMED ABOUT TRANSPORTATION MATTERS, INCLUDING HOW
13 THOSE MATTERS RELATE TO UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS AND ISSUES OF ACCESS.

14 (d) *Executive Secretary.* The Administrator of the Office of Transportation or the
15 Administrator's designee shall serve as Executive Secretary to the Board and shall attend
16 all meetings.

17

18 **Section 21.503. - General powers and duties of Multimodal Transportation Board.**

19 The Howard County Multimodal Transportation Board shall:

20 (a) Initiate, advise, ENCOURAGE, AND assist in providing A SAFE, WELL-CONNECTED,
21 EQUITABLE AND SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION NETWORK [[transportation options]] for
22 Howard County [[residents and]] RESIDENTS, businesses, AND VISITORS, including, but
23 not limited to:

24 (1) Public transit, including [[fixed-route and paratransit]] FIXED-ROUTE,
25 PARATRANSIT, OR MICROMOBILITY;

26 (2) ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION, INCLUDING BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN
27 TRANSPORTATION;

28 [[(2) Bicycle transportation;]]

29 [[(3) Pedestrian transportation;]]

30 ([[4]]3) Road networks that SAFELY promote all modes of transportation; [[and,]]

31 ([[5]]4) Transportation demand management; AND

1 ([[6]]5) ADA COMPLIANCE AND UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS.

2 (b) Make recommendations to the County Executive as requested or by its own
3 initiation, concerning contracts with State and Federal agencies, firms, corporations, and
4 associations to provide public transportation services to Howard County;

5 [[c]] Encourage additional home-to-work transit services, including, but not limited to
6 the modes of transportation described in subsection (a) of this section;]]

7 [[d]] (C) Assist in providing adequate public transportation for County residents, WITH
8 SPECIAL CONSIDERATION GIVEN TO RESIDENTS WITH LIMITED [[having no]] alternative
9 means of transportation;

10 [[e]] (D) Assist in increasing transportation SAFETY AND access to health and human
11 services, educational institutions, recreational facilities and other goods and services BY
12 MULTIPLE MODES;

13 [[f]] (E) Develop and submit recommendations to County, State, and regional
14 administrative bodies in planning comprehensive transportation services for Howard
15 County residents;

16 [[g]] (F) Receive and coordinate public comment and complaints concerning
17 transportation needs and to recommend actions thereon; [[and]]

18 [[h]] (G) Make recommendations[[, in consultation with the Transit and Pedestrian
19 Advisory Group,]] to the Office of Transportation on any proposed permanent
20 elimination [[or relocation]] of a transit stop in Howard [[County after notice is
21 provided and at least one public meeting is held at which interested persons shall be
22 afforded a reasonable opportunity to offer input into the proposed change;]] COUNTY.
23 THE OFFICE OF TRANSPORTATION SHALL PROVIDE THE BOARD WITH THE OPPORTUNITY
24 TO CONSIDER PUBLIC INPUT ON THE MATTER, however, nothing in the foregoing shall
25 preclude the County from the temporary elimination or relocation of a transit stop in the
26 case of an emergency, provided that no such change shall be made permanent prior to
27 completion of the Board's recommendation process described above; [[and]]

28 [[i]] (H) Furnish recommendations and provide information to the County Executive
29 and the County Council on any matter concerning the present and future needs of
30 [[public]] transportation in Howard County, including providing access to both the
31 Baltimore and Washington areas through the transportation options described in this

1 section[[]];

2 (i) PRIOR TO ANNUAL EXECUTION OF A PERMIT, REVIEW AND PROVIDE
3 RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE OFFICE OF TRANSPORTATION ON THE FORM OF AN
4 ELECTRIC SCOOTER SHARING SYSTEM PERMIT WHICH SHALL INCLUDE THE OPERATING
5 ZONES AND SHALL TAKE PLACE AT A PUBLIC HEARING; AND

6 (j) At the directive of the County Executive or by resolution of the County Council,
7 review and make recommendations on any matter related to public transportation in
8 Howard County.

9

10 ***Section 2. And Be It Further Enacted by the County Council of Howard County,***
11 ***Maryland, that this Act shall become effective 61 days after its enactment.***

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having been approved by the Executive and returned to the Council, stands enacted on April 6, 2021.

Michelle Harrod
Michelle Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having been passed by the yeas and nays of two-thirds of the members of the Council notwithstanding the objections of the Executive, stands enacted on _____, 2021.

Michelle Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having received neither the approval nor the disapproval of the Executive within ten days of its presentation, stands enacted on _____, 2021.

Michelle Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, not having been considered on final reading within the time required by Charter, stands failed for want of consideration on _____, 2021.

Michelle Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having been disapproved by the Executive and having failed on passage upon consideration by the Council stands failed on _____, 2021.

Michelle Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, the withdrawal of which received a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Council, is withdrawn from further consideration on _____, 2021.

Michelle Harrod, Administrator to the County Council