

Office of the County Auditor
Auditor's Analysis

Council Resolution No. 17-2022

Introduced: January 4, 2022

Auditor: Michael A. Martin

Fiscal Impact:

Because we cannot anticipate the cost of future Complete Streets projects in the County's Capital Improvement Program or the County's future funding capacity to provide the necessary capital appropriations, our Office is unable to determine the fiscal impact of this legislation.

The Office of Transportation stated that while the estimated costs of capital projects that are almost through the design process will not be impacted due to this revision, capital projects in the early phases of design may be affected due to design or scope changes.

Purpose:

This legislation adopts comprehensive revisions to the Howard County Design Manual Volume III and IV by making the following revisions:

- *Volume III*: The original version was repealed and renamed to "Complete Streets and Bridges," which incorporates new design guidance with a focus on safety for all road users (pedestrians, motorists, bicyclists, etc.)
- *Volume IV*: Standard specifications and drawing details for construction were revised to reflect all the new updates and guidance

Other Comments:

Per our review of Council Resolution 120-2019, which approved the Complete Streets Policy, consulting costs of approximately \$700,000 would be needed to support the design manual revision. Based on our Office's review of the County's financial system, \$452,973 have been paid to the consultant to date.

This legislation will not impact private roads and developer proposals for private roads will continue to be reviewed using existing County practices.