

Introduced _____
Public Hearing _____
Council Action _____
Executive Action _____
Effective Date _____

County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2010 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 13

Bill No. 57 -2022

Introduced by: Christiana Rigby

AN ACT requiring the Department of Police to notify the Director of Public Works of certain fatalities; requiring the Director of Public Works, or the Director's designee, to conduct an infrastructure review when certain fatalities occur on a road or at an intersection; requiring consultation with the Office of Transportation; requiring the review to be complete within a certain time; requiring the review to be sent to specified recipients and published on the County website; and generally relating to traffic fatalities in the County.

Introduced and read first time _____, 2022. Ordered posted and hearing scheduled.

By order _____
Michelle Harrod, 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 _____, 2022.

By order _____
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

This Bill was read the third time on _____, 2022 and Passed ____, Passed with amendments _____, Failed _____.

By order _____
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive for approval this _____ day of _____, 2022 at ___ a.m./p.m.

By order _____
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

Approved by the County Executive _____, 2022

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 Howard
2 County Code is amended as follows:

3 By amending:

4 Title 17 – Public protection services.

5 Subtitle 2 – Police.

6 Section 17.200A(d). Duties and Responsibilities.

7 Title 21 - Traffic control and transportation.

8 Subtitle 3 - Traffic

9 Section 21.300. Duties of the Department of Public Works.

10 By adding:

11 Title 21 - Traffic control and transportation.

12 Subtitle 3 - Traffic

13 Section 21.316. Traffic Fatalities – Infrastructure Review.

14
15
16 **Title 17 – Public Protection Services.**

17 **Subtitle 2 – Police.**

18 **Sec. 17.200A. Department of Police.**

19 (d) Duties and Responsibilities.

20 (1) The Department of Police shall be responsible for operation and
21 enforcement of the laws and rules and regulations concerning the following:

22 (i) The preservation of the public peace.

23 (ii) The prevention of crime.

24 (iii) The apprehension of criminals.

25 (iv) The protection of the rights of person and property.

26 (2) The Chief of Police shall be responsible for the efficiency, good conduct
27 and discipline of the Department of Police.

28 (3) The Chief of Police shall have general supervision over the animal control
29 function of Howard County, except for the issuance and renewal of animal
30 licenses, which function is under the supervision of the Department of
31 Inspections, Licenses and Permits.

- 1 (4) Dispatch services. The Department of Police shall provide dispatch
2 services, and shall:
- 3 (i) Operate the 911 PSAP (public safety answering point).
 - 4 (ii) Operate interface systems with other local and State and Federal
5 law enforcement, fire, safety, medical, and emergency management
6 agencies.
 - 7 (iii) Operate the dispatch system to provide appropriate police and fire
8 and rescue response to callers.
 - 9 (iv) Serve as the message and dispatch center for County Departments
10 and Agencies after normal business hours.

11 (5) Other duties and responsibilities. The Department of Police [[shall]]:
12 (I) WITHIN TWO WEEKS, SHALL NOTIFY THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT
13 OF PUBLIC WORKS OF EACH TRAFFIC FATALITY THAT OCCURS AS A RESULT OF AN
14 INCIDENT:

- 15 1. ON A COUNTY ROAD; OR
 - 16 2. AT AN INTERSECTION OF A COUNTY ROAD AND ANOTHER ROAD;
- 17 AND

18 (II) SHALL perform such other functions as may be prescribed by directive
19 of the County Executive or by law.

20

21 **Title 21 - Traffic control and transportation.**

22 **Subtitle 1. - Definitions; general provisions**

23 **Sec. 21.101. Definitions.**

24 (a) In General. Except as provided in subtitle 6 of this title, in this title, the following
25 terms have the meanings indicated:

26 (n) Director of Public Works means the Director of the Howard County Department
27 of Public Works or the Director's designee.

28

29 **Subtitle 3. - Traffic**

30 **Sec. 21.300. Duties of the Department of Public Works.**

31 The Department of Public Works shall:

- 1 (1) Determine the installation and proper timing and maintenance of traffic
- 2 control devices;
- 3 (2) Conduct engineering analyses of traffic accidents to devise remedial
- 4 measures;
- 5 (3) Conduct engineering investigations of traffic conditions;
- 6 (4) Plan the operation of traffic on the highways of this County;
- 7 (5) Cooperate with other County Officials in the development of ways and
- 8 means to improve traffic conditions; [[and]]
- 9 (6) CONDUCT INFRASTRUCTURE REVIEWS OF FATALITIES AS PROVIDED IN
- 10 SECTION 21.316 OF THIS SUBTITLE; AND
- 11 [[(6)] (7) Carry out the additional powers and duties imposed by law.
- 12

13 **SEC 21.316. TRAFFIC FATALITIES – INFRASTRUCTURE REVIEW.**

14 (A) *PURPOSE.*

15 TO CONSIDER FUTURE IMPROVEMENTS TO TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE IN
16 THE COUNTY, THIS SECTION REQUIRES THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS TO CONDUCT
17 CERTAIN STUDIES OF SPECIFIED ROADWAY INCIDENTS THAT RESULT IN FATALITIES.

18
19 (B) *IN GENERAL.*

20 (1) IN THIS SUBSECTION, “COUNTY ROAD” HAS THE MEANING PROVIDED IN SECTION
21 18.207 OF THE COUNTY CODE.

22 (2) THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS SHALL CONDUCT AN INFRASTRUCTURE
23 REVIEW OF EACH TRAFFIC FATALITY THAT OCCURS AS A RESULT OF AN INCIDENT:

24 (I) ON A COUNTY ROAD; OR

25 (II) AT AN INTERSECTION OF A COUNTY ROAD AND ANOTHER ROAD.

26 (3) THE DIRECTOR NEED NOT CONDUCT AN INFRASTRUCTURE REVIEW OF A
27 FATALITY THAT IS SUBJECT TO AN INFRASTRUCTURE REVIEW BY THE STATE HIGHWAY
28 ADMINISTRATION UNDER 8–204.2. OF THE TRANSPORTATION ARTICLE OF THE MARYLAND
29 CODE.

30 (4) FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS SHALL
31 CONSULT WITH THE OFFICE OF TRANSPORTATION.

1 (C) *CONTENTS OF REVIEW.*

2 THE DIRECTOR'S INFRASTRUCTURE REVIEW SHALL IDENTIFY ANY APPROPRIATE
3 CORRECTIVE ACTIONS AND CRASH REDUCTION COUNTERMEASURES INCLUDING, BUT NOT
4 LIMITED TO, THOSE THAT ARE CONSISTENT WITH:

5 (1) THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S BEST PRACTICES;

6 (2) THE STATE'S VISION ZERO PROGRAM ESTABLISHED UNDER TITLE 8, SUBTITLE
7 10 OF THE TRANSPORTATION ARTICLE OF THE MARYLAND CODE; AND

8 (3) THE HOWARD COUNTY DESIGN MANUAL, VOLUME III,
9 COMPLETE STREETS AND BRIDGES.

10

11 (D) *CONSIDERATIONS.*

12 IN CONDUCTING AN INFRASTRUCTURE REVIEW, THE DIRECTOR SHALL CONSIDER
13 IMPROVEMENTS THAT THE DIRECTOR CONSIDERS NECESSARY, INCLUDING:

14 (1) ROADWAY CONTEXT, SUCH AS PROXIMITY OF THE ROAD TO MASS TRANSIT AND
15 WHETHER THE ROAD IS WITHIN THE PLANNED SERVICE AREA OR OUTSIDE THE PLANNED
16 SERVICE AREA;

17 (2) THE DIFFERENT MODES OF TRANSPORTATION USING THE ROAD;

18 (3) PRIOR CRASHES WITHIN ONE-HALF MILE THAT HAVE OCCURRED DURING THE
19 PREVIOUS TEN YEARS;

20 (4) MODIFYING ROADWAY GEOMETRICS IN THE AREA SURROUNDING THE TRAFFIC
21 FATALITY;

22 (5) REPAIRING, REPLACING, OR INSTALLING PEDESTRIAN HYBRID BEACONS AND
23 OTHER TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES;

24 (6) REDUCING SPEED LIMITS;

25 (7) ADDING OR MODIFYING SIDEWALKS, SHARED USE PATHWAYS, OR BIKE LANES;

26 (8) ADDING OR RELOCATING PEDESTRIAN SIGNALS;

27 (9) MODIFYING THE WALK INTERVAL OF THE PEDESTRIAN PHASE OF A PEDESTRIAN
28 SIGNAL;

29 (10) ADDING, IMPROVING THE VISIBILITY OF, OR REPAINTING CROSSWALK
30 MARKINGS OR ADDING CROSSWALK SIGNS;

31 (11) IMPROVING LIGHTING; AND

1 (12) ADDING RIGHT TURN ON RED RESTRICTIONS FOR MOTOR VEHICLES.

2

3 (E) *DEADLINE; PUBLICATION.*

4 THE DIRECTOR SHALL:

5 (1) COMPLETE AN INFRASTRUCTURE REVIEW WITHIN 6 MONTHS AFTER A TRAFFIC
6 FATALITY;

7 (2) SEND THE REVIEW TO THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE AND, SUBJECT TO SECTION
8 22.1000 OF THE COUNTY CODE, TO THE COUNTY COUNCIL;

9 (3) SEND THE REVIEW TO THE OFFICE OF TRANSPORTATION SO AS TO INFORM THE
10 PERFORMANCE MEASURES OF THE HOWARD COUNTY COMPLETE STREETS POLICY; AND

11 (4) PUBLISH THE REVIEW ON THE COUNTY WEBSITE.

12

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