

construction and reconstruction program shall be derived from the current 20-year highway needs study.

(b) (1) The Administration shall develop and carry out a 5-year secondary highway construction and reconstruction program. Projects in the 5-year secondary highway program shall be derived from the current 20-year highway needs study.

(2) As to the establishment of construction priorities and the inclusion of highway projects in any county, before each submission of the 5-year secondary highway program to the General Assembly, the Administration shall consult with the county and municipal government officials.

(3) Each year, the Administration shall submit:

(i) In its budget to the General Assembly, for the review and approval of the General Assembly, the secondary highway program for the following fiscal year; and

(ii) For the information of the General Assembly, the secondary highway program for the remaining 4 years of the program.

(4) The program submitted each year to the General Assembly for review and approval shall include:

(i) The highway projects, including bicycle trails, scheduled for construction or reconstruction during the following fiscal year; and

(ii) The degree of completion anticipated during that year for each project.

(5) If, for any reason, the Administration cannot perform in accordance with the scheduling set forth in the annual submissions, it shall explain to the General Assembly during the next regular legislative session any change in the scheduling of a project included in the program for the preceding year. ]

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(A) IN THIS PART THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(B) (1) "CONSTRUCTION PHASE" MEANS THE PHASE IN WHICH A HIGHWAY PROJECT IS ADVANCED THROUGH DETAILED ENGINEERING, PROPERTY ACQUISITION, AND CONSTRUCTION TO COMPLETION.

(2) THIS DEFINITION DOES NOT PRECLUDE THE ADMINISTRATION FROM ACQUIRING PROPERTY DURING THE PROJECT PLANNING PHASE, AND THE COMPLETION OF PROPERTY ACQUISITION DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A COMMITMENT TO THE PROJECT'S ALIGNMENT OR CONSTRUCTION.