

the public; prohibiting a member of the Advisory Council from receiving compensation; requiring the Advisory Council to advise the Administrator on certain major policy matters surrounding the Baltimore Corridor Transit Study - Red Line; requiring the Advisory Council to limit its review to certain matters; requiring the Advisory Council to report to the Governor and the General Assembly on its activities on or before a certain date each year; requiring the Administration to provide staff for the Advisory Council, solicit the advice of the Advisory Council at certain times, and prepare a certain report at certain times; and generally relating to the Baltimore Corridor Transit Study - Red Line.

Preamble

WHEREAS, The Maryland Transit Administration has undertaken the Baltimore Corridor Transit Study - Red Line for a proposed 10-mile rapid transit line for the Baltimore metropolitan area; and

WHEREAS, The Red Line transit corridor encompasses a large number of residents, small and large businesses, schools, churches, and other community institutions, all of which are deeply concerned about the future of their communities; and

WHEREAS, Effective, high quality public transportation is important to these communities; and

WHEREAS, Public transit must be frequently available, reliable, and safe, and must provide an efficient and economical means to connect community members to major destinations throughout the Baltimore metropolitan area; and

WHEREAS, First and foremost, the Red Line should improve the public transportation system in the Baltimore metropolitan region and in the communities surrounding the Red Line transit corridor, and should be planned in a manner to serve those communities and foster economic development; and

WHEREAS, It is the intent of the General Assembly that, during the course of planning and constructing the Red Line project, the Administration adhere to the best practices of transit planning and implementation; and

WHEREAS, It is the intent of the General Assembly that community members participate in good faith in the planning process for the Red Line project and seek to fairly represent the interests of all community members; now, therefore

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That, in conducting the transit project referred to in the Maryland Consolidated Transportation Program for fiscal years 2006 through 2011 as the Baltimore Corridor Transit Study - Red Line, the Maryland Transit Administration shall:

(1) Consider the establishment of a dedicated fund within the construction budget of the Red Line transit project to compensate property owners whose property is damaged during the construction of any Red Line project;