

funds required for protective buying or hardship acquisitions. Provided however, that the Maryland Department of Transportation shall, to the extent feasible, make every effort to secure purchase options in lieu of the outright purchase of properties for protective or hardship acquisitions.

It is the intent of the General Assembly that, as the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) plans future highway construction projects for inclusion in the Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP), the department should take all steps necessary in the future to address the issues and concerns of elected officials in regions impacted by such projects by notifying those elected officials and providing an opportunity for their input.

Further provided that \$1,005,000 of these appropriations (\$603,000 federal funds/\$402,000 special funds), made for the purpose of completing a study to upgrade and widen existing MD 450 to a multi-lane divided highway from MD 193 to Stonybrook Drive, may only be expended if the design of this project conforms to the following parameters:

- (1) Six lanes from MD 193 to east of Bell Station Road; and
- (2) Four lanes from east of Bell Station Road to Stonybrook Drive, with a 16 foot median and no continuous load bearing turning lanes which may used as part of a future effort to expand this section of roadway to six lanes.

Further provided that given the results of traffic studies of MD 197 and MD 450 which indicate that traffic flows on MD 197 exceed MD 450, funds may not be expended until Prince George's County designates MD 197 as a funding priority for upgrading and widening to a four-lane divided