



Legislative and Fiscal Summary of Administration Legislation

To: Members, Anne Arundel County Council

From: Ethan Hunt, Director of Government Affairs /s/

Date: January 14, 2025

Subject: Bill No. 1 -25: AN ORDINANCE concerning: Branches of County Government – Executive Branch – Reorganization – Office of Transportation – Public Ethics – Transportation Officer

This summary was prepared by the Anne Arundel County Government Relations Office for use by members of the Anne Arundel County Council during consideration of Bill No. 1 -25.

Summary

The Administration seeks approval of legislation codifying the Office of Transportation in the Anne Arundel County Code. Pursuant to Article V of the Anne Arundel County Charter, the County Council “[o]n the recommendation of the County Executive...by an ordinance known as a reorganization ordinance, may create new offices...or other units of the executive branch [and] may reorganize other units of the executive branch...”. The Charter further provides that “Except as provided otherwise by a reorganization ordinance, the executive branch shall consist of the offices and departments” specified in the County Charter.

Prior to the current administration, responsibility for transportation mobility and transportation planning was divided between the Department of Aging and the Office of Planning & Zoning. Due to retirements of some staff members involved in transportation mobility and planning, responsibility was assigned to one individual, referred to as the Transit Officer, however the office that the officer oversees was never codified. During discussions of Bill 61-24 (“Anne Arundel County Transit Development Plan 2024”) it was discovered that the Office of Transportation had never been codified in the County Code, which is what this legislation seeks to rectify.

Purpose

Note: This Legislative and Fiscal Summary provides a synopsis of the legislation as introduced. It does not address subsequent amendments to the legislation.

This legislation codifies the Office of Transportation in the County Code. It specifies that the Office of Transportation “shall provide transportation mobility and planning services to promote a multi-modal transportation network throughout the county and shall perform other transportation related duties as periodically assigned by the county executive.” It also renames the “Transit Officer” to “Transportation Officer” to accurately reflect the role of the position, and specifies the qualifications for the position (knowledge and experience in planning and development aspects of transit, as well as the operation of public transit systems).

Fiscal Impact

Please see the Fiscal Note the Budget Office has prepared for an explanation of the fiscal impact of this Bill.

Additional Information

The Government Relations Office is available to answer any additional questions regarding this Bill. Specific questions should be directed to Lori L. Blair Klasmeier, Office of Law, or Sam Snead, Transit Officer. Thank you.

cc: Honorable Steuart Pittman, County Executive
Christine Anderson, Chief Administrative Officer
Jenny Proebstle, Chief of Staff
Gregory Swain, County Attorney
Chris Trumbauer, Budget Officer
Sam Snead, Transit Officer