

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
2025 Legislative Session

Bill No. CB-073-2025
 Chapter No. _____
 Proposed and Presented by Council Member Oriadha
 Introduced by Council Members Oriadha, Hawkins, Dernoga and Watson
 Co-Sponsors Council Members Blegay and Fisher
 Date of Introduction October 21, 2025

BILL

1 AN ACT concerning

2 Public Transit Access Authorization Act of 2025

3 For the purpose of establishing a formal process for public transportation agencies to request and
 4 obtain access to private residential or commercial property for the purpose of installing or
 5 operating a public bus stop within Prince George's County; providing for certain definitions;
 6 providing for an application and review process; providing for a certain property owner consent
 7 and public transit provider approval; providing for certain shuttle service [efforts] under certain
 8 circumstances; providing for certain approval; providing for property owner rights and
 9 protections; providing for implementation and regulations; and generally regarding public transit
 10 access authorization.

11 BY adding:

12 SUBTITLE 20A. TRANSPORTATION.

13 Sections 20A-213, 20A-214, 20A-215, 20A-215.01,
 14 20A-216, 20A-217, and 20A-218,

15 The Prince George's County Code
 16 (2023 Edition; 2024 Supplement).

17 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED by the County Council of Prince George's County,
 18 Maryland, that Sections 20A-213, 20A-214, 20A-215, 20A-215.01, 20A-216, 20A-217, and
 19 20A-218 of the Prince George's County Code be and the same are hereby added:

20 SUBTITLE 20A. TRANSPORTATION.

21 **DIVISION 3. PUBLIC TRANSIT AUTHORIZATION.**

1 **Section 20A-213. Purpose and Intent.**

2 The purpose of this Act is to facilitate equitable access to public transportation by creating a
 3 structured process through which public transit providers may request access to private property
 4 to install, maintain, or continue a public bus stop, subject to legislative approval. This Act seeks
 5 to balance the transportation needs of County residents with the property rights of private
 6 owners.

7 **Section 20A-214. Definitions.**

8 (a) For the purposes of this Act, the following definitions shall apply:

9 (1) **Public Transit Provider** means any regional or local public transportation
 10 agency, including the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA), Prince
 11 George's County DPW&T TheBus, or their designees.

12 (2) **Private Property** means land owned or controlled by a non-governmental entity,
 13 including apartment complexes, private developments, commercial centers, or private roads not
 14 otherwise dedicated for public use.

15 (3) **Transit Access Permit** means the formal approval issued pursuant to a County
 16 Council Resolution authorizing a public transit provider to operate a stop on private property.

17 **Section 20A-215. Application and Review Process.**

18 (a) A public transit provider may submit a Transit Access Application to the Department of
 19 Public Works and Transportation (DPW&T), requesting permission to access private property
 20 for transit service.

21 (b) The application shall include:

22 (1) A detailed description of the proposed stop location; and
 23 (2) Documentation of existing or anticipated ridership volume; and
 24 (3) A safety and feasibility assessment conducted by the transit provider; and
 25 (4) A summary of prior use (if any) of the location as a public bus stop; and
 26 (5) Proof of notification to the property owner, including the proposed site plan and
 27 rationale.

28 (c) Within 30 days of receipt, DPW&T shall:

29 (1) Review the application for completeness and accuracy; and
 30 (2) Notify the property owner of their right to submit a written response or objection
 31 within 30 calendar days; and

1 (3) Refer the application and any owner response to the County Council for
 2 consideration.

3 **Section 20A-215.01. Consent, Authorization, and Service.**

4 (a) Locating bus stops on private property is a collaborative effort between the County, the
 5 property owner, and the public transit provider.

6 (b) Locating bus stops on private property requires property owner consent and public
 7 transit provider approval.

8 [(c) In the event of a disruption in service, a public transit provider shall make a good faith
 9 effort to provide shuttle service to the nearest Metro station.]

10 **Section 20A-216. Transit Access Permit Approval.**

11 (a) The County Council may, after considering the application, any written responses, and
 12 the public interest, and upon property owner consent and public transit provider approval, adopt
 13 a Resolution authorizing the issuance of a Transit Access Permit.

14 (b) The Council may impose reasonable conditions upon the permit, including hours of
 15 operation, noise mitigation, signage, or maintenance responsibilities.

16 (c) As part of approving a permit, if the property owner does not allow bus service, when
 17 the Council adopts a permit Resolution, the Council can mandate that the applicant provide
 18 shuttle service to the nearest Metro station.

19 [(c)] (d) Upon adoption of a Resolution, the permit shall be deemed approved and the
 20 transit provider may proceed with installation and operation of the bus stop, consistent with the
 21 terms of the permit.

22 **Section 20A-217. Property Owner Rights and Protections.**

23 (a) This Act does not grant a permanent or transfer of ownership rights to the transit
 24 provider.

25 (b) The transit provider shall indemnify and hold harmless the property owner from
 26 liability for injuries, damages, or claims arising directly from transit operations on the site, to the
 27 extent permitted by law.

28 (c) The County may offer mediation services if a dispute arises between a property owner
 29 and a transit provider.

30 **Section 20A-218. Implementation and Regulations.**

31 (a) DPW&T, in consultation with the Office of Law, shall develop implementing

1 regulations, including application forms, review standards, and a model indemnity agreement,
2 within 90 days of the effective date of this Act.

3 (b) DPW&T shall publish an annual report to the County Council summarizing all
4 applications received, permits issued, and transit stop locations approved under this Act.

5 SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that the provisions of this Act are hereby
6 declared to be severable; and, in the event that any section, subsection, paragraph, subparagraph,
7 sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional by a court of
8 competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the remaining
9 words, phrases, clauses, sentences, subparagraphs, paragraphs, subsections, or sections of this
10 Act, since the same would have been enacted without the incorporation in this Act of any such
11 invalid or unconstitutional word, phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph, subparagraph, subsection,
12 or section.

13 SECTION 3. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that this Act shall take effect forty-five (45)
14 calendar days after it becomes law.

Adopted this 17th day of November, 2025.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: _____
Edward P. Burroughs III
Chair

ATTEST:

Donna J. Brown
Clerk of the Council

APPROVED:

DATE: _____ BY: _____
Aisha N. Braveboy
County Executive