COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

2025 Legislative Session

Bill No. CB-073-2025

Chapter No. 72

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

AN ACT concerning

Public Transit Access Authorization Act of 2025

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

BY adding:

SUBTITLE 20A. TRANSPORTATION.

Sections 20A-213, 20A-214, 20A-215, 20A-215.01,

20A-216, 20A-217, and 20A-218,

The Prince George's County Code

(2023 Edition; 2024 Supplement).

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

SUBTITLE 20A. TRANSPORTATION.

DIVISION 3. PUBLIC TRANSIT AUTHORIZATION.

Section 20A-213. Purpose and Intent.

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

Section 20A-214. Definitions.

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

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

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

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

Section 20A-215. Application and Review Process.

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

(b) The application shall include:

(1) A detailed description of the proposed stop location; and

(2) Documentation of existing or anticipated ridership volume; and

(3) A safety and feasibility assessment conducted by the transit provider; and

(4) A summary of prior use (if any) of the location as a public bus stop; and

(5) Proof of notification to the property owner, including the proposed site plan and rationale.

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

(1) Review the application for completeness and accuracy; and

(2) Notify the property owner of their right to submit a written response or objection within 30 calendar days; and

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

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

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

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

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

Section 20A-216. Transit Access Permit Approval.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Section 20A-218. Implementation and Regulations.

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

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

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

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

SECTION 3. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that this Act shall take effect forty-five (45) 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

THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE HAVING FAILED TO RETURN THIS BILL WITH EITHER HER APPROVAL OR VETO WITHIN TEN (10) DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF ITS PRESENTATION TO HER, THIS BILL BECAME LAW ON DECEMBER 17, 2025.

KEY:
Underscoring indicates language added to existing law.
[Brackets] indicate language deleted from existing law.
Asterisks *** indicate intervening existing Code provisions that remain unchanged.

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