



CECIL COUNTY, MARYLAND

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

FISCAL NOTE

SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION

SPONSOR: Council President Meffley at the request of the County Executive

BILL NO. 2019-15 – ROADS & BRIDGES CAPITAL BUDGET-TRANSFER BOND FUNDS BETWEEN CAPITAL PROJECTS – REHABILITATION OF BETHEL CHURCH ROAD BRIDGE

SYNOPSIS: A bill to amend the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Cecil County, Maryland for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 to transfer existing bond appropriation authority within the Roads & Bridges Capital Projects Budget in the amount of \$75,000 from the following completed projects: a portion of the savings from the Upgrade Nottingham Roads Facility Project(\$13,050.11), the Racine School Road Improvements Project(\$11,081.64), and the Replace Bohemia Church Road Culverts Project(\$50,868.25) to go towards the Rehabilitation of Bethel Church Road Bridge Project(\$75,000). The Department of Public Works is requesting the Bill be considered for expedited legislation under the Council's Policy #5-19 as approved by Resolution No. 49-2015 due to the need to complete the project before weather related conditions impede completion.

FISCAL IMPACT SUMMARY: Net fiscal impact to the County will be zero for Fiscal 2020. The bill transfers \$75,000 of existing bond appropriation authority from projects completed under budget to the bridge rehabilitation project on Bethel Church Road.

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

The FY2020 Roads & Bridge Capital Improvement Program supports the rehabilitation of the bridge located on Bethel Church Road. The scope approved in the FY2020 Capital Improvement Program reads as follows:

This is a single span steel beam bridge constructed in 1968, has an overall length of 60 feet, and clear roadway width of approximately 27 feet. The bridge is currently not load posted and carries 889 vehicles per day. The concrete bridge deck has had extensive repairs over the years and the underlying original concrete deck is showing advanced deterioration resulting in several closures for concrete deck repairs. The project will replace the concrete deck and make it an integral (composite) with the steel beams, replace the substandard concrete and steel bridge railings, and upgrade the approach w-beam and end treatments, and includes miscellaneous steel repairs.

As analysis and engineering work on the bridge has been ongoing throughout the last few months, the scope has been expanded to include replacing the steel bearings which were heavily corroded and not functioning as intended. The additional budget requested is to accommodate the expanded scope and engineering estimates for the project and **will not increase** the overall debt incurred by Cecil County. The needs of the bridge project can be addressed with existing bond expenditure authority remaining on three completed projects that were finished on time and under budget.

The second request of the Bill is the need to expedite the legislation in order to finish the project prior to the onset of winter. The Cecil County Department of Public Works is requesting that this legislation be considered using the Council's expedited procedures (Policy# 5-19 as approved by Resolution No. 49-2015) which would allow the Council to vote on the legislation at the same meeting as the public hearing.

Per Director Flanigan:

Expedited consideration is being sought due to project schedule considerations. Bid opening for the Bethel Church Road Bridge project is currently scheduled for August 8, 2019. The project schedule calls for Notice to Proceed to be issued to the successful bidder on September 4, 2019, i.e. the day after the September 3, 2019 Council meeting. With Notice to Proceed on September 4, 2019, DPW expects the project to be completed on or about the end of November 2019.

If expedited procedures are not employed and the Council does not vote on the legislation until its September 17, 2019 meeting, then issuance of the Notice to Proceed would be delayed two weeks which, in turn, would delay completion by two weeks, pushing it to the middle of December. The final stages of the project will include paving of the approaches to the bridge and the risk of adverse weather impacting paving operations increases as mid-December approaches. Being able to start work two weeks sooner will help to reduce the weather-related risk on the Bethel Church Road Bridge project.