



Montgomery County

Office of Intergovernmental Relations

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HB 635

DATE: March 1, 2021

SPONSOR: Prince George's County Delegation

ASSIGNED TO: Environment and Transportation

CONTACT PERSON: Amy Samman (amy.samman@montgomerycountymd.gov)

POSITION: Support With Amendment (Department of Environmental Protection)

**Maryland Emergency Management Agency, Department of Transportation,
And Department of the Environment –
Study on Historic and Recent Flooding in Prince George's County
PG 407-21**

This bill requires the Maryland Emergency Management Agency, the Department of Transportation, and the Department of the Environment to study flooding in Prince George's County. The study would analyze historic flooding as well as flooding that occurred on September 10, 2020. In addition, the study must include an evaluation of existing and potential flood prevention and control measures, along with and an examination of environmental issues associated with flooding in Prince George's County. The Agency, the Department of Transportation, and the Department of the Environment must report findings and recommendations on or before October 15, 2021.

Montgomery County's Department of Environmental Protection (MCDEP) supports House Bill 635 with an amendment to also study the flooding in Montgomery County. This amendment was approved by the County's House Delegation.

Climate change and precipitation events are becoming more frequent and severe. The most recent event on September 10, 2020, resulted in flash floods through Bethesda, Chevy Chase, Kensington, Aspen Hill, and Takoma Park in which the Montgomery County Fire Department responded to 150 calls in three hours for drivers trapped in floodwaters. These floods not only cause property damage but present a safety hazard to our residents as well. This study could provide potential measures to help mitigate these issues in the future.

For the foregoing reasons, MCDEP respectfully requests a favorable with amendment report on House Bill 635.