



**Maryland
Interagency Commission
on School Construction**

**Wes Moore | Governor
Edward J. Kasemeyer | Chair
Alex Donahue | Executive Director**



Correspondence - February 7, 2024

**Delegate Vanessa E. Atterbeary, Chair
Ways and Means Committee
House Office Building
Room 131
Annapolis, MD 21401**

Dear Chair Atterbeary,

The Maryland Center for School Safety (MCSS) and the Maryland Interagency Commission on School Construction (IAC) jointly and respectfully submit the following information in addition to fiscal note materials previously submitted to the Department of Legislative Services regarding HB472/SB540. MCSS and the IAC strongly support efforts to improve the quality and utility of school mapping data, as well as its availability to authorized users such as first responders, for the purpose of ensuring the safety and security of school occupants and communities.

MCSS and the IAC also acknowledge that school mapping data is currently being generated by school districts and the State for other purposes including multiple aspects of facilities management such as facilities maintenance, facilities-portfolio planning, and capital budgeting and funding. To prevent the duplication of efforts by various State and local agencies and the waste of scarce local and State resources, it is essential that all school-mapping efforts conform to standards that support all of the uses of such data described above. MCSS and the IAC respectfully suggest that, as the two agencies primarily responsible for conducting or facilitating the activities described above, MCSS and the IAC be tasked with identifying the standards under which school mapping be conducted.

MCSS and the IAC agree with the comments of the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) in its fiscal note submission in which it suggested that, in light of the expertise of MCSS and MCSS's ongoing administration of the Maryland School Safety Grant Program (SSGP), MCSS is best positioned and equipped to administer any school-mapping grant program.

Respectfully,

Alex Donahue
Executive Director, IAC

Kate Bryan
Executive Director, MCSS