



Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Governor
Michael S. Steele, Lt. Governor

Robert L. Flanagan, Secretary
Neil J. Pedersen, Administrator

Maryland Department of Transportation

August 21, 2006

Please copy
BOCC, Doug,
Planning Staff

August 16, 2006

The Honorable Jan H. Gardner
Frederick County Board of County Commissioners
Winchester Hall
12 East Church Street
Frederick, Maryland 21701

Dear Commissioner Gardner:

Thank you for your letter requesting that the State Highway Administration (SHA) verify the proposed costs of the State-owned highway improvements that would be required by the most recent version of the New Market Regional Plan. It is my pleasure to respond to your request.

The enclosed table, *SHA Preliminary Cost Summary for Road Improvements in the New Market Region*, summarizes the costs of State highway improvements that were outlined in the New Market Regional Plan. The cost estimates were generated based on SHA's regional cost-per-mile factors for various improvement types. The total costs assumed undertaking SHA's planning, engineering, and construction phases, but did not include right-of-way costs. The SHA applied a percent contingency factor to account for other unknown conditions. Known structures within the limits of the improvements were applied a separate cost-per-mile factor.

Based on these cost estimates, we anticipate that the State-owned highway improvements for the New Market Region, not including right-of-way costs, are estimated to total approximately \$138 million in 2006, \$181 million in 2015, and \$259 million in 2030. Please note that these estimates are very preliminary and were generated for comparative purposes only. A detailed project planning study would be necessary to determine the full extent of improvements needed. The cost of right-of-way impacts would also need to be further analyzed during detailed study and could be expected to be several tens of millions of dollars, if not more, for any highway-capacity improvements, especially in developed or developing areas such as New Market.

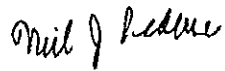
My telephone number/toll-free number is 410-545-0400 or 1-800-206-0770
Maryland Relay Service for Impaired Hearing or Speech: 1-800-735-2258 Statewide Toll Free

Street Address: 707 North Calvert Street • Baltimore, Maryland 21202 • Phone: 410.545.0300 • www.marylandroads.com

The Honorable Jan H. Gardner
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Thank you, again, for your letter. If you have any further questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Jamie M. Lake, Regional Planner, State Highway Administration, at 410-545-5674, toll-free 888-204-4828, or via email at jlake@sha.state.md.us. SHA will be pleased to assist you. Of course, you should never hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,



Neil J. Pedersen
Administrator

Enclosure

cc: Mr. David Coyne, District Engineer, SHA
Mr. Jamie M. Lake, Regional Planner, SHA

Preliminary Cost Summary for Road Improvements in the New Market Region
 (NOTE: Cost estimates do not include quantities or right-of-way costs)

Improvement	Improvement Type	Centerline Length (Miles)	Cost by Year (In \$000's)		
			2006	2015*	2030**
MD 144 FA from Linganore Road to Quinn Orchard Road	4 lane univided highway reconstruct	0.93	22	29	41
MD 144 FA from Quinn Orchard Road west to MD 870G	4 lane univided highway reconstruct	0.85	8	11	16
MD 144 from MD 75 to Boyers Mill Road	2 lane univided highway reconstruct	1.41	10	13	19
MD 75 from Gashouse Pike to Lime Plant Road	4 lane univided highway reconstruct	2.54	27	36	51
MD 75 from Old National Pike to I-70	6-10 lane divided reconstruction - outside widening	0.24	36	47	67
MD 75 from Old National Pike to New Market BP	6-10 lane divided reconstruction - outside widening	1.14	19	25	36
MD 75 from North of Gashouse Pike to Old Annapolis Road	4 lane divided reconstruction	1.07	16	21	30
TOTALS:			138	181	259

NOTES

* - Approximate 30 percent inflation factor applied to 2006 estimated cost

** - Approximate 87 percent inflation factor applied to 2006 estimated cost