



Request for Public Comment

Section 4(f) of the US Department of Transportation Act - *de minimis* Finding

*MD 222 (Main Street) from 2,500 feet South of High Street to Mill Street
Sidewalk and Drainage Improvements, Cecil County*

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) is proposing an Urban Reconstruction Project on MD 222 from 2,500 feet south of High Street to Mill Street, in Cecil County, Maryland. This project would impact Marina Park, Rice Tot Lot Playground & Dog Park, and Mid-Town Basketball Court, each owned and managed by the Town of Port Deposit and protected under Section 4(f) of the US Department of Transportation Act of 1966 (Section 4(f)).

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THE PROJECT

Why is this work necessary and what improvements are proposed?

MD 222 from 2,500 feet south of High Street to Mill Street is in need of sidewalk and drainage improvements to address drainage deficiencies that contribute to frequent flooding during rain events, improve pedestrian connectivity and accessibility, and provide a state of good repair for fixed assets. The proposed work includes:

- Installation of new storm drain structures and replacement of the non-standard existing storm drain structures;
- Installation of new Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)-compliant sidewalk and curb, upgrading the existing sidewalk to meet ADA requirements and replacing existing granite sidewalks;
- Installation of curb and gutter for inlet placement locations;
- Improvements to the roadway cross slope and profile to maintain positive flow throughout the project corridor;
- Pavement resurfacing;
- New stormwater management facilities; and
- Modification of driveways to meet standards and to maintain positive flow.

Temporary construction easements would be needed, but no new right-of-way would be permanently acquired by SHA.

Why are comments being requested?

23 CFR 774.5(b) of Section 4(f) allows the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to determine that certain transportation uses of Section 4(f) land would have no adverse effect on protected resources. With respect to publicly owned parks and recreation areas, a finding of *de minimis* impact may occur if a transportation project, including any proposed mitigation, does not "adversely affect the activities, features and attributes" of the Section 4(f) resource. When this is the case, public notice and opportunity for public review and comment on the finding is required. In addition, the finding of FHWA requires written concurrence from the officials with jurisdiction over the resource. Before concurring, the officials with jurisdiction must consider any public comments received.

What are the impacts to protected Section 4(f) resources?

There are three facilities protected under Section 4(f) that will be impacted by the project: Marina Park, Rice Tot Lot Playground & Dog Park, and Mid-Town Basketball Court.

A proposed drainage facility will be partially located within Marina Park resulting in minor impacts to the park property. Marina Park consists of grass, trees, a boat ramp, floating docks, a jetty, a gazebo, picnic areas, a pavilion, monuments, open space, a playground, a fishing area, and a parking lot. In the vicinity of the proposed drainage facility is some open space and the gazebo within Marina Park. The impacted area totals less than 0.2 acre (5,740 square feet) and includes open space. Impacts would be minor and would not adversely affect the activities, features and attributes of Marina Park.

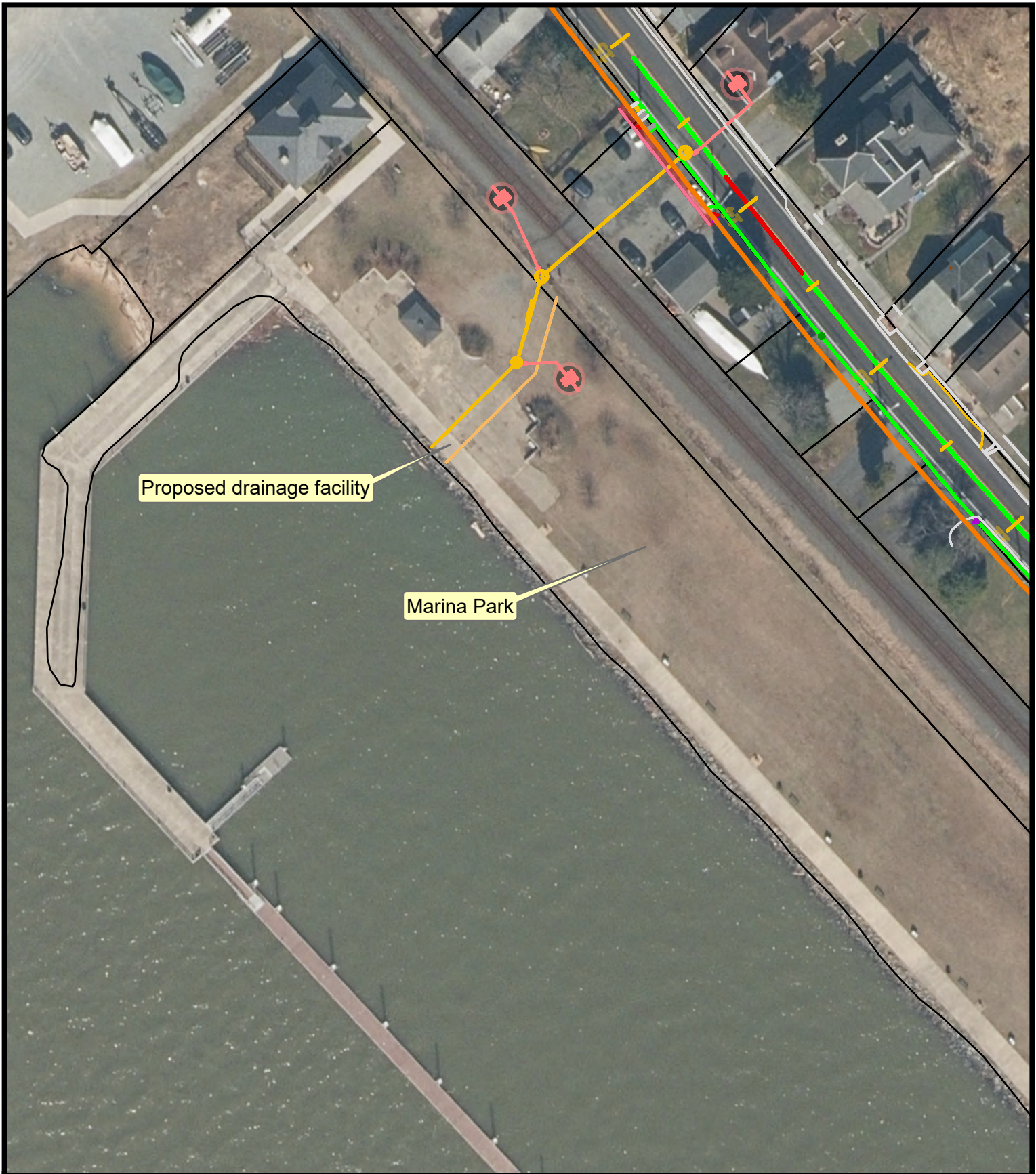
Sidewalk reconstruction is proposed within the boundary of Rice Tot Lot Playground & Dog Park resulting in minor impacts to the park property. Rice Tot Lot Playground & Dog Park consists of grass, trees, a gazebo, a playground, and a dog park. In the vicinity of a portion of the sidewalk reconstruction for this project is the street facing portion of Rice Tot Lot Playground and Dog Park. The impacted area totals less than 0.1 acre (891 square feet) and includes only the sidewalk in front of the property. Impacts would be minor and would not adversely affect the activities, features and attributes of Rice Tot Lot Playground & Dog Park.


Sidewalk reconstruction is proposed within the boundary of Mid-Town Basketball Court resulting in minor impacts to the park property. Mid-Town Basketball Court consists of a fenced basketball court. In the vicinity of a portion of the sidewalk reconstruction for this project is the street facing portion of Mid-Town Basketball Court. The impacted area totals less than 0.01 acre (224 square feet) and includes only the sidewalk in front of the property. Impacts would be minor and would not adversely affect the activities, features and attributes of Mid-Town Basketball Court.

SHA, through this notice, is notifying the public that it will request that FHWA make a *de minimis* (or minor) impact finding, in accordance with Section 4(f). The Town of Port Deposit is being informed of SHA's intent to seek a Section 4(f) *de minimis* impact finding. With this notice, the public is afforded the opportunity to provide comments on this finding.

How do I comment?

Please contact Mr. John Delaney, SHA Project Manager at (410) 545-8053 or jdelaney@mdot.maryland.gov, or Mr. Ed Donovan, SHA Environmental Manager at (410) 545-0371 or edonovan@mdot.maryland.gov; or visit us at www.roads.maryland.gov.



<p>Date: 5/29/2025</p> <p>County: Cecil</p> <p>Topo Quad: Havre De Grace</p> <p>Coordinates (Decimal Degrees): 76.112318°W 39.60089°N</p>	<p>MD 222 From 2,500 ft South of High St to Mill St</p> <p>Marina Park Section 4(f) Impacts</p> <p>N</p> <p>1:750</p> <p>0 25 50 100 150 Feet</p> <p>*Note Locations are Approximate Scale: 1:750</p>	<p>Legend</p> <p> Parcel Boundaries</p>
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Date: 5/29/2025	MD 222 From 2,500 ft South of High St to Mill St Mid-Town Basket Ball Court Section 4(f) Impacts 1:500 0 25 50 100 Feet *Note Locations are Approximate Scale: 1:500	Legend □ Parcel Boundaries
County: Cecil		
Topo Quad: Havre De Grace		
Coordinates (Decimal Degrees): 76.121229°W 39.610151°N		



Date: 5/29/2025	<p>MD 222 From 2,500 ft South of High St to Mill St Rice Tot Lot & Dog Park Section 4(f) Impacts</p> <p>1:500</p> <p>0 25 50 100 Feet</p> <p>*Note Locations are Approximate Scale: 1:500</p>	<p>Legend</p> <p>Parcel Boundaries</p>
County: Cecil		
Topo Quad: Havre De Grace		
Coordinates (Decimal Degrees): 76.116954°W 39.605971°N		