COUNTY COUNCIL

OF

TALBOT COUNTY

2024 Legislative Session, Legislative Day No.:

July 23, 2024

Bill No.:

1577 *AS AMENDED*

Introduced by:

Mr. Callahan, Mr. Lesher, Mr. Stepp

AN EMERGENCY BILL TO AMEND BILL NO. 1231 FOR THE PURPOSE OF COORDINATING THE TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF MARYLAND ROUTE 662C TO FACILITATE TIMELY CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW HOSPITAL AND REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER BY SHORE HEALTH SYSTEM, INC. AND MINIMIZE IMPACTS TO VEHICULAR TRAFFIC ON OCEAN GATEWAY (U.S. ROUTE 50) DURING THE 2025 SUMMER TRAVEL SEASON

By the Council:

July 23, 2024

Introduced, read the first time, and ordered posted, with Public Hearing scheduled on <u>Tuesday</u>, <u>August 27, 2024</u>, at <u>5:30 p.m.</u> in the Bradley Meeting Room, South Wing, Talbot County Courthouse, 11 North Washington Street, Easton, Maryland 21601.

Bv order:

Susan W. Moran, Secretary

AN EMERGENCY BILL TO AMEND BILL NO. 1231 FOR THE PURPOSE OF COORDINATING THE TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF MARYLAND ROUTE 662C TO FACILITATE TIMELY CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW HOSPITAL AND REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER BY SHORE HEALTH SYSTEM, INC. AND MINIMIZE IMPACTS TO VEHICULAR TRAFFIC ON OCEAN GATEWAY (U.S. ROUTE 50) DURING THE 2025 SUMMER TRAVEL SEASON

KEY

Boldface......Heading or defined term

Double Underlining......Added by amendment

Double Strikethrough.....Deleted by amendment

* * *Existing Bill unaffected

WHEREAS, pursuant to § 213(b) of the Charter, the County Council of Talbot County, Maryland (the "County Council") is authorized to introduce and pass emergency bills affecting public health, safety, or welfare, provided that such bills shall be plainly designated as emergency bills and contain, after the enacting clause, a declaration stating that an emergency exists and describing the claimed emergency in clear and specific terms; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to § 213(d) of the Charter, an emergency bill may only be passed by an affirmative vote of at least four-fifths (4/5) of the County Council; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to § 214 of the Charter, an emergency bill shall take effect on the date of its passage; and

WHEREAS, Maryland Route 662C ("Md. Rt. 662C") is a State highway owned and maintained by the Maryland State Highway Administration ("SHA"), beginning in Easton, Maryland, and extending in a northerly direction on the west side of Ocean Gateway (U.S. Route 50) towards the village of Longwoods in the unincorporated area of Talbot County, Maryland (the "County"); and

WHEREAS, a certain portion of Md. Rt. 662C, described further below, traverses the future site of a new hospital and regional medical center (the "Project") to be constructed, owned, and operated by Shore Health System, Inc. ("SHS"); and

WHEREAS, the Project requires the realignment of Md. Rt. 662C, construction of a new, relocated section of Md. Rt. 662C ("Relocated Md. Rt. 662"), and the closure of the portion of the existing Md. Rt. 662C that traverses the Project site; and

WHEREAS, Talbot County Bill No. 1231 ("Bill 1231"), enacted March 26, 2013: (1) authorized the County to accept from SHA that portion of Md. Rt. 662C (the "Roadway") identified in a certain Road Transfer Agreement dated February 26, 2013, by and between the County and SHA (the "Agreement"), a copy of which is attached as Exhibit A to Bill 1231, following the performance of certain conditions precedent, including construction of Relocated Md. Rt. 662C and its acceptance by SHA; (2) made findings that the Roadway would no longer be needed for public use upon SHA's acceptance of Relocated Md. Rt. 662C and the County's acquisition of the Roadway from SHA; and (3) authorized the County to close the Roadway and convey it to SHS by quitclaim deed for no monetary consideration for use by SHS for the construction of the Project; and

WHEREAS, as originally envisioned, construction of Relocated Md. Rt. 662C was to occur prior to the closure of the existing Md. Rt. 662C in order to maintain continuous traffic flow during the Project development phase; and

WHEREAS, since Bill 1231's passage more than 11 years ago, development plans for the Project have evolved, requiring the closure of the Roadway earlier in the construction sequence than previously anticipated in order to keep construction of the Project on schedule; and

WHEREAS, SHS, in consultation with the County and SHA, has evaluated a range of potential options for mitigating disruption to traffic flow along Md. Rt. 662C and mitigating impacts to traffic flow on nearby County Roads and Ocean Gateway (U.S. Route 50); and

WHEREAS, the most feasible option for ensuring timely completion of the Project and minimizing impacts to traffic flow is to temporarily close the Roadway from October 1, 2024, to May 1, 2025, while simultaneously constructing Relocated Md. Rt. 662C; and

WHEREAS, the County Council desires to amend Bill 1231 to address the evolving construction schedule for the Project as aforesaid, subject to the terms and conditions herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED by the County Council of Talbot County, Maryland as follows:

Section 1. The County Council has determined that an emergency exists due to the need to facilitate timely construction of the Project, which will produce significant benefits to the public health, safety, and welfare through the delivery of state-of-the-art healthcare services to the Mid-Shore region, including the County. In order for the Project to be timely constructed and to minimize impacts to traffic flow during the 2025 summer travel season, SHA and the County must transfer the Roadway to SHS before Relocated Md. Rt. 662C can be constructed and authorize the

temporary closure of Md. Rt. 662C from October 1, 2024, to May 1, 2025. If such transfer and closure do not occur, substantial portions of the Project will not be able to be constructed on time. The anticipated delay in completion would be at least eight months unless the temporary closure occurs. To avoid such delay and deliver the full Project on time, the Roadway must be transferred to SHS no later than October 1, 2024, and the affected portion of Md. Rt. 662C must be temporarily closed until construction of Relocated Md. Rt. 662C can be completed, which is anticipated to occur by May 1, 2025. SHS, in consultation with the County and SHA, has evaluated numerous alternatives; however, the foregoing has been determined to be the only viable option to facilitate timely completion of the Project and minimize impacts to traffic flow during the 2025 summer travel season.

- **Section 2.** Bill 1231 shall be, and hereby is, amended as set forth hereinbelow. Those provisions of Bill 1231 not amended by this Bill shall remain in full force and effect; provided, however, that in the event of a conflict between any provision in Bill 1231 and this Bill, the terms of this Bill shall prevail.
- **Section 3.** Passage of this Bill authorizes the County to accept the Roadway from SHA, and to convey the Roadway to SHS upon the Effective Date of the Transfer (defined hereinbelow), subject to the terms, conditions, and contingencies set forth in the Agreement and this Bill.
- **Section 4.** Conveyance of the Roadway by SHA to the County shall be at no cost to the County, by quitclaim deed approved by SHA and the County, which quitclaim deed shall include a certified copy of this Bill as an Exhibit.
- **Section 5.** The Effective Date of the Transfer of the Roadway from SHA to the County shall occur upon the performance of or satisfaction of all of the following conditions precedent ("Contingencies"):
- (A) SHA approval of the closure of the Roadway ("Closure") commencing on October 1, 2024 ("Closure Date"), and continuing until May 1, 2025 ("Temporary Closure Period"), when construction of Relocated Md. Rt. 662C is expected to be complete;
- (B) Execution of a duly approved amendment to the Road Transfer Agreement by and between SHA and the County in substantially the form attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference as if fully set forth authorizing the Closure and transfer of the Roadway to the County and from the County to SHS prior to the Closure Date, and prior to completion of Relocated Md. Rt. 662; and
- (C) Execution of a Road Inspection and Contribution Agreement by and between the County and SHS in substantially the form attached hereto as **Exhibit B** and incorporated herein by reference as if fully set forth, which will identify the County roads that may be used in addition to the formal detour route on Ocean Gateway (U.S. Route 50) during the Temporary Closure Period and provide for a contribution from SHS to the County for improvements to such roads in

an amount to be negotiated between the County and SHS and set forth in the Road Inspection and Contribution Agreement.

- **Section 6.** Upon satisfaction of all of the Contingencies and no later than the Closure Date, the County shall accept the Roadway from SHA and transfer the same to SHS, and the President of the County Council is hereby authorized to sign and execute such deeds, instruments, and further assurances as may be requisite to accomplish the same.
- **Section 7**. Pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Local Gov't ("Local Gov't") § 10-312 and Chapter 134 (Roads Ordinance) of the Talbot County Code ("Chapter 134"), the County Council hereby makes the following findings:
- (A) The County has duly complied with the notice, hearing, and comment requirements set forth in Local Gov't § 10-312 and Chapter 134 pertaining to the disposition of County property and County roads, roadways, and rights-of-way, *i.e.*, the Roadway;
- (B) Subject to satisfaction of the Contingencies set forth in Section 5 above and as of the Closure Date, the Roadway is not needed for any present or foreseeable future public use, the Closure is hereby approved, and the County is lawfully authorized to abandon and dispose of such Roadway as provided herein; and
- (C) The President of the County Council is authorized and directed to execute a quitclaim deed no later than October 1, 2024, in a form approved by the Talbot County Office of Law, conveying the County's interest in the Roadway to SHS for no monetary consideration.
- **Section 8.** If any provision of this Bill or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid for any reason in a court of competent jurisdiction, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or any other application of this Bill which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and for this purpose the provisions of this Bill are declared severable.
- **Section 9.** The title and a summary of this Bill shall be published once on the first publication date after enactment of the Bill in accordance with § 213(c) of the Talbot County Charter. The title is not a substantive part of this Bill. If the Bill is amended, the title may be administratively revised if required to conform the title to the content of the Bill as finally enacted.
- Section 10. The Publishers of the Talbot County Code or the Talbot County Office of Law, in consultation with and subject to the approval of the County Manager, shall make non-substantive corrections to codification, style, capitalization, punctuation, grammar, spelling, and any internal or external reference or citation that is incorrect or obsolete, with no further action required by the County Council. All such corrections shall be adequately referenced and described in an editor's note following the section affected.

- **Section 11**. The recitals hereto are not merely prefatory but are a substantive part of this Bill.
- **Section 12**. This Bill is not intended to, and shall not, become part of the Talbot County Code.
 - Section 13. This Bill shall take effect immediately upon passage.

FIRST AMENDMENT TO ROAD TRANSFER AGREEMENT

THIS FIRST AMENDMENT TO ROAD TRANSFER AGREEMENT ("Amendment") made this was day of way 2024, by and between the State Highway Administration of the Maryland Department of Transportation ("SHA"), and Talbot County, Maryland, a charter county and political subdivision of the State of Maryland (the "County") (each a "Party" and collectively the "Parties").

WHEREAS, the Parties desire to amend that certain Road Transfer Agreement between the Parties dated February 26, 2013 (the "Agreement"), on the terms and conditions herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, that for good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the Parties hereby agree as follows:

- 1. The above recitals are hereby incorporated as if fully set forth herein.
- 2. Paragraph 2(B)(1)-(8) of the Agreement is hereby deleted and replaced in its entirety with the following:
 - B. The effective date of the transfer, for purposes of jurisdiction and maintenance, of the Roadway to the County shall be upon the complete approval and execution of this Agreement and after performance or satisfaction of all of the following conditions precedent:
 - (1) SHA approval of the temporary closure of the Roadway ("Temporary Closure") commencing on October 1, 2024 ("Closure Date"), and continuing until May 1, 2025 (such seven-month period being the "Temporary Closure Period"), when construction of the Relocated Maryland Route 662C, as depicted on SHA Plat Nos. 59003, 59004, 59005, 59028, 59030, 59031, and 59033, is expected to be complete;
 - (2) SHA approval of Ocean Gateway (U.S. Rt. 50) as a detour route for Maryland Route 662C traffic affected by the Temporary Closure during the Temporary Closure Period;
 - (3) County approval, in coordination with SHA, of plans for the use of County roads as detour routes for traffic affected by the closure of Ocean Gateway in the event of an emergency during the Temporary Closure Period, including alternative routes in the event any such County road(s) are simultaneously closed; and

- (4) County passage of a Bill approving the County's acceptance of the Roadway from SHA prior to the construction of Relocated Maryland Route 662C and authorizing transfer of the same to Shore Health System, Inc. prior to the Closure Date.
- 3. Paragraph 2(E) of the Agreement is hereby deleted and replaced in its entirety with the following:

The County will accept jurisdiction over and maintenance responsibilities as to the Roadway as of the effective date of transfer set forth in paragraph 2(B) above.

4. Paragraph 3 of the Agreement is hereby deleted and replaced in its entirety with the following:

SHA will hereafter prepare a quit-claim deed conveying the title to the right-of-way in and to the Roadway to the County, subject to the approval of the Board of Public Works of Maryland. A copy of the deed, plat, and this Road Transfer Agreement will be presented to the County for review and approval, which approval shall be evidenced by a duly passed County Bill, with the understanding that SHA will execute and record the deed upon SHA's determination that conditions precedent in Paragraphs 2 B. (1) through (4), above have been fully performed in accordance with their terms to SHA's reasonable determination ("SHA"), upon approval by the Maryland Board of Public Works, and upon written notification by the County to SHA that the conditions precedent in Paragraph 2 B. (4) have been fully performed to the County's reasonable satisfaction ("County Notification"). SHA will execute the deed and present the deed to the Maryland Board of Public Works ("BPW") no later than the Closure Date, and SHA promptly will record the deed following BPW approval.

- 5. This Amendment may be executed in any number of counterparts and each such counterpart hereof shall be deemed to be an original instrument, but all such counterparts together shall constitute but one document. The Parties further agree that this Amendment shall be deemed validly executed and delivered by a Party if a Party executes this Amendment and delivers a copy of the executed Amendment to the other Party by means of electronic delivery. The Parties consent to execution of this Amendment by electronic signature.
- 6. Except as expressly modified herein, all other terms and conditions of the Agreement are hereby ratified and confirmed by the Parties. To the extent that there is a conflict between this Amendment and the Agreement, the provisions of this Amendment shall govern and be binding upon the Parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have caused these presents to be executed by their proper officers thereunto duly authorized the day and year first written.

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

| Jannigh Goodman | By: Ola A. Okurla |
|--|--|
| Witness | Olu Okunola, Director Office of Real Estate |
| Darlene Koch | By: Ken Fender |
| Witness | Kenneth Fender, District Engineer Metropolitan District 2 |
| Recommended for approval: | |
| Jennifer Armes Jennifer Armes, Real Property Manager | |
| Office of Real Estate, District 2 | |
| Approved as to form and legal sufficiency: | |
| Peter Ismay, Assistant Attorney General | |

SIGNATURES CONTINUE ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE

ATTEST:

TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND

By Charles F. Callahan, III, President Talbot County, Council

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency this day of open 2024

Patrick Thomas, Esq. **County Attorney**

CONTINUES ON FOLLOWING PAGE

JOINDER

Shore Health System, Inc. ("Shore Health"), a Maryland corporation, hereby joins in the above First Amendment to Road Transfer Agreement by and between the Maryland State Highway Administration ("SHA") and Talbot County, Maryland, for the purposes of agreeing to construct Relocated Maryland Route 662C (as defined in the Road Transfer Agreement), and to work diligently to complete such construction prior to the conclusion of the Temporary Closure Period (as defined in the Road Transfer Agreement), in conformance with SHA Access Permit No. 11APTA001XX issued to Shore Health by SHA and in compliance with all permits, approvals, codes, plans, specifications and other applicable standards of SHA, except to the extent that SHA shall have approved any waivers, changes, substitutions, or other deviations, and, upon SHA's acceptance of the same, to convey to SHA by deed acceptable to SHA a fee simple interest to the roadbed and right-of-way of Relocated Maryland Route 662C, consistent with SHA Plat Nos. 59003, 59004, 59005, 59028, 59030, 59031, and 59033, for use by the general public as a State Roadway.

ATTEST:

SHORE HEALTH SYSTEM, INC.

(SEAL)
Kerneth D. Kozel, President and CEO

COUNTY COUNCIL

OF

TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND

2013 Legislative Session, Legislative Day No.:

February 12, 2013

Bill No.:

1231

Expiration Date:

April 18, 2013

Introduced by:

Mr. Bartlett, Mr. Duncan, Mr. Hollis, Mr. Pack, Ms. Price

A BILL TO AUTHORIZE FUTURE ACCEPTANCE, ROAD CLOSURE, AND TRANSFER OF A CERTAIN PORTION OF MD. RT. 662C (THE "ROADWAY") IDENTIFIED IN AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND AND THE STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION, WHICH ROADWAY SHALL NO LONGER BE NEEDED FOR PUBLIC USE AS A STATE HIGHWAY, AND THEREAFTER TO DONATE THE COUNTY'S INTEREST IN THE ROADWAY TO SHORE HEALTH SYSTEM, INC., ("SHS") FOR NO CONSIDERATION, BY CONFIRMATORY QUIT CLAIM DEED, WITHOUT WARRANTY OF ANY KIND, FOR USE BY SHS IN CONJUNCTION WITH PROPERTY OTHERWISE CONVEYED BY THE COUNTY TO SHS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW HOSPITAL AND REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

By the Council:

February 12, 2013

Introduced, read first time, ordered posted, and public hearing scheduled on <u>Tuesday, March 12</u>, <u>2013</u> at <u>2:00</u> p.m. at the Bradley Meeting Room, Talbot County Court House, South Wing, 11 North Washington Street, Easton, Maryland 21601.

By Order

Susan W. Moran, Secretary

A BILL TO AUTHORIZE FUTURE ACCEPTANCE, ROAD CLOSURE, AND TRANSFER OF A CERTAIN PORTION OF MD. RT. 662C (THE "ROADWAY") IDENTIFIED IN AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND AND THE STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION, WHICH ROADWAY SHALL NO LONGER BE NEEDED FOR PUBLIC USE AS A STATE HIGHWAY, AND THEREAFTER TO DONATE THE COUNTY'S INTEREST IN THE ROADWAY TO SHORE HEALTH SYSTEM, INC., ("SHS") FOR NO CONSIDERATION, BY CONFIRMATORY QUIT CLAIM DEED, WITHOUT WARRANTY OF ANY KIND, FOR USE BY SHS IN CONJUNCTION WITH PROPERTY OTHERWISE CONVEYED BY THE COUNTY TO SHS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW HOSPITAL AND REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

KEY

Boldface..... Heading or defined term

<u>Underlining</u>..... Added to existing law by original bill

Strikethrough..... Deleted from existing law by original bill

Double underlining...... Added to bill by amendment

Double strikethroughDeleted from bill by amendment

Recitals

WHEREAS, Transportation Article § 8-304 Md. Ann. Code, authorizes the Maryland Department of Transportation, State Highway Administration ("SHA") and any political subdivision of Maryland to agree to transfer title to a State highway or portion thereof to a political subdivision, and the political subdivisions of Maryland are authorized to accept title to such State highway, or portion thereof, from SHA; and,

WHEREAS, SHA and Talbot County (the "County") desire to transfer a portion of Maryland Route 662C from SHA to the County, subject to certain terms, conditions, and contingencies, for the purposes set forth in a certain Road Transfer Agreement by and between SHA and the County, which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and incorporated by reference herein, but not made a part of this ordinance.

SECTION ONE: BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND, that

1. Adoption of this ordinance authorizes the County to accept from SHA that portion of Maryland Route 662C identified in the Road Transfer Agreement (the "Roadway"), upon

- the effective date of the transfer, subject to the terms, conditions, and contingencies set forth in the Road Transfer Agreement and this ordinance.
- 2. Conveyance of the Roadway by SHA to the County shall be at no cost to the County, by deed approved by SHA and the County, which deed shall include a certified copy of this ordinance as an Exhibit.
- 3. The effective date of the transfer of the Roadway to the County shall be after performance or satisfaction of all of the following conditions precedent:
 - (A) Shore Health System, Inc. ("SHS") shall have constructed or caused to be constructed Relocated Maryland Route 662C in accordance with an Access Permit No. 11APTA0001XX issued to SHS by SHA.
 - (B) Relocated Maryland Route 662C shall have been constructed in compliance with all permits, approvals, codes, plans, specifications, and other applicable standards (collectively the "Highway Construction Standards") of SHA except to the extent that SHA shall have approved any waivers, changes, substitutions, or other deviations.
 - (C) SHA shall have determined that Relocated Maryland Route 662C is substantially complete and has been constructed in compliance with all Highway Construction Standards except as set forth in Subparagraph 3 (B) above.
 - (D) SHA shall have accepted Relocated Maryland Route 662C into the State Highway System and permanently opened Relocated Maryland Route 662C for use by the general public as a State Roadway.
 - (E) SHS shall have constructed or caused to be constructed a new entrance to the Talbot County Community Center (herein "New TCC Entrance") in accordance with all permits, approvals, contracts, codes, plans, specifications, and other applicable standards (collectively the "Entrance Construction Standards") of County and the Town of Easton (herein the "Town"), and in accordance with certain plans and specifications referred to or incorporated in a certain Development Rights and Responsibilities Agreement (DRRA) that will be processed no later than 120 days after the full execution of the Road Transfer Agreement, except to the extent that County, as owner, and Town, as the municipality having administrative and enforcement authority for building ordinances, codes, and standards, shall have approved any waivers, changes, substitutions, or other deviations.
 - (F) County and Town shall have determined that the New TCC Entrance has been completed and has been constructed in compliance with all Entrance Construction Standards.
 - (G) County shall have accepted the New TCC Entrance and opened the New TCC Entrance for use by the general public for access to the Talbot County Community Center.

- 4. County will accept title to and jurisdiction over said Roadway as of the effective date of transfer set forth in Paragraph 3 above.
- 5. Public purpose and terms of proposed disposition: The Road Transfer Agreement recites that SHA acknowledges that the County does not intend to open the Roadway for use by the general public as a County road, roadway, or highway, and that the County intends to close the Roadway and dispose of the right-of-way upon a finding that the Roadway is not needed for public use as a County road, roadway, or highway, and that SHA further acknowledges it is aware that, upon conclusion of such proceedings as are required by Article 25A § 5 (B), Md. Ann. Code or otherwise, the County intends to convey title and possession of the right-of-way for no consideration to SHS by confirmatory quitclaim deed, for use by SHS in conjunction with property otherwise conveyed by the County to SHS for construction of a new Hospital and Regional Medical Center. The Roadway shall be quitclaimed by the County to SHS "as-is," without warranty of title, with all faults applicable to the existing right-of-way, the existing condition of the roadway or appurtenances, subject to outstanding claims or interests of any kind held or claimed by third parties, if any, and subject to all existing utility easements held by third parties, if any, and without any other warranty of any kind.
- 6. By the terms of the Road Transfer Agreement, the County, at its election, is authorized to initiate proceedings immediately upon execution of said Agreement or at any time thereafter in accordance with Article 25A § 5 (B): (A) to approve acquisition of the Roadway from SHA subject to and contingent upon full performance or satisfaction of all conditions precedent set forth in Paragraph 3 above, and further subject to compliance with the terms and provisions of the Road Transfer Agreement; and, (B) to authorize the County, either simultaneously or sequentially, to close the right-of-way in accordance with requirements of law and thereafter to dispose of the Roadway as set forth in Paragraph 5 above and in the Road Transfer Agreement.
- 7. In the event the County elects to initiate proceedings to close the Roadway prior to SHA's transfer of the Roadway to the County, this ordinance shall authorize the County to transfer and convey to SHS the County's after-acquired title to the Roadway, subject to and contingent upon full performance or satisfaction of all conditions precedent set forth in Paragraph 3 above, and further subject to compliance with the terms and provisions of the Road Transfer Agreement.
- 8. Nothing in this ordinance shall prevent the County and SHA from amending the terms of the Road Transfer Agreement by mutual consent, at any time and from time to time, either before or after adoption of this ordinance, as the County and SHA may deem necessary or expedient to fulfill or achieve the original purposes of the Agreement or to address changed or unanticipated circumstances. Provided, however, that no such amendment shall amend the express terms or conditions contained in this ordinance without compliance with applicable legal requirements to either amend or modify this ordinance or to enact a new ordinance.

SECTION TWO: BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, that if any provision of this Ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid for any reason in a court of competent jurisdiction, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or any other application of this Ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and for this purpose the provisions of this Ordinance are declared severable.

SECTION THREE: AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, that the title and a summary of this Bill shall be published once on the first publication date after enactment of the Bill in accordance with County Charter § 213 (c). The title is not a substantive part of this Bill. If the Bill is amended, the title may be administratively revised if required to conform the title to the content of the Bill as finally enacted.

SECTION FOUR: AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, that the Publishers of the Talbot County Code or the Talbot County Office of Law, in consultation with and subject to the approval of the County Manager, shall make non-substantive corrections to codification, style, capitalization, punctuation, grammar, spelling, and any internal or external reference or citation to the Code that is incorrect or obsolete, with no further action required by the County Council. All such corrections shall be adequately referenced and described in an editor's note following the section affected.

SECTION FIVE: AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, that the recitals are adopted and incorporated as a substantive part of the ordinance.

SECTION SIX: AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, that this ordinance shall take effect sixty (60) days from the date of its passage.

EXHIBIT "A" to Bill No. 1231

ROAD TRANSFER AGREEMENT

THIS ROAD TRANSFER AGREEMENT made this 26 day of February, 2013, by and between the State Highway Administration (SHA) of the Maryland Department of Transportation, (hereinafter referred to as the "Highway Administration"), and Talbot County, Maryland, (hereinafter referred to as the "County").

WHEREAS, under authority contained in Transportation Article Title 8-304 of the Annotated Code of Maryland, the Highway Administration is empowered to agree to transfer title to, jurisdiction over, or responsibility for the maintenance of any State highway, or portion thereof, to the political subdivisions of Maryland, and the political subdivisions of Maryland are empowered to agree to accept title to, jurisdiction over, or the responsibility for the maintenance of said State highway, or portion thereof, from the Highway Administration.

WHEREAS, the Highway Administration has agreed to transfer to the County title to and jurisdiction over the hereinafter described section of road which was constructed by the State and the County has agreed to accept the same, subject to the terms and conditions of this Road Transfer Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, THIS AGREEMENT WITNESSETH, that for and in consideration of One (\$1.00) Dollar payable by each party unto the other, the receipt and adequacy of which is hereby acknowledged by the parties hereto, and in further consideration of the conditions hereby set forth, the parties hereto agree as follows:

1. The Highway Administration does hereby agree to transfer unto the County, and the County does hereby agree to accept from the Highway Administration, title to and jurisdiction over the following described section of State Highway, hereinafter referred to as the "Roadway", as also shown the Exhibit attached hereto and incorporated herein.

SHA to Talbot County, Maryland

Part of Maryland Route 662C described as follows: All that portion of existing MD662C Longwood Road between a point west of the Relocated MD662C right of way at Baseline of Right of Way Station 6+28.10, shown on right of way plat no. 59003 running in a northerly direction along a tangent to intersect the Relocated MD662C right of way at Baseline of Right of Way Station 36+21.18 shown on right of way plat no. 59005 including all of the easements associated with the existing MD662C between these stations. Attached hereto is Exhibit 1 & 2 depicting the beginning and end point of the tangent section of existing MD662C that shall be transferred to the County.

- 2. Conveyance of the Roadway is subject to the following conditions:
 - A. Conveyance of the Roadway by Highway Administration to County shall be for no consideration, at no cost to the County, by deed approved by Highway Administration and County, which deed shall include as an Exhibit a certified copy of the Ordinance identified in Paragraph Three (3), below, and;
 - B. The effective date of the transfer of the Roadway to the County shall be upon the complete approval and execution of this Agreement and after performance or satisfaction of all of the following conditions precedent:
 - (1) Shore Health System, Inc. ("Shore Health System") shall have constructed or caused to be constructed Relocated Maryland Route 662C in accordance with an Access Permit No. 11APTA001XX issued to Shore Health System by the Highway Administration;
 - (2) Relocated Maryland Route 662C shall have been constructed in compliance with all permits, approvals, codes, plans, specifications, and other applicable standards (collectively the "Highway Construction Standards") of Highway Administration except to the extent that the Highway Administration shall have approved any waivers, changes, substitutions, or other deviations;

- (3) Highway Administration shall have determined that Relocated Maryland Route 662C is substantially complete and has been constructed in compliance with all Highway Construction Standards except as set forth in Subparagraph (2) above;
- (4) Shore Health System shall have conveyed to Highway Administration by deed acceptable to Highway Administration a fee simple interest in and to the roadbed and right-of-way of Relocated Maryland Route 662C;
- (5) Highway Administration shall have accepted Relocated Maryland Route 662C into the State Highway System and permanently opened Relocated Maryland Route 662C for use by the general public as a State Roadway;
- (6) Shore Health System shall have constructed or caused to be constructed a new entrance to the Talbot County Community Center (herein "New TCC Entrance") in accordance with all permits, approvals, contracts, codes, plans, specifications, and other applicable standards (collectively the "Entrance Construction Standards") of County and the Town of Easton (herein the "Town"), and in accordance with certain plans, and specifications referred to or incorporated in a certain Development Rights and Responsibilities Agreement (DRRA) that will be processed no later than 120 days after the full execution of the Road Transfer Agreement except to the extent that County, as owner, and Town, as the municipality, having administrative and enforcement authority for building ordinances, codes, and standards, shall have approved any waivers, changes, substitutions, or other deviations;
- (7) County and Town shall have determined that the New TCC Entrance has been completed and has been constructed in compliance with all Entrance Construction Standards;
- (8) County shall have accepted the New TCC Entrance and opened the New TCC Entrance for use by the general public for access to the Talbot County Community Center.
- C. Subject to action by the County to close and dispose of the Roadway as set forth below in Paragraphs 4 through 6, inclusive, the Roadway will not be included in the County road inventory and the basis for allocations of funds to the County will not include the Roadway.
- D. Transfer of the Roadway to the County is made on an "as-is" basis, including the existing right-of-way, the existing condition of the roadway and all appurtenances.

- E. County will accept title to and jurisdiction over said Roadway as of the effective date of transfer set forth in Paragraph 2 (B) above.
- 3. The Highway Administration will hereafter prepare a quit-claim deed conveying the title to the right-of-way in and to the Roadway to the County, subject to the approval of the Board of Public Works of Maryland. A copy of the deed, plat, and this Road Transfer Agreement will be presented to the County for review and approval, which approval shall be evidenced by a duly adopted County Ordinance, with the understanding that the Highway Administration will execute and record the deed upon Highway Administration's determination that conditions precedent in Paragraphs 2 B. (1) through (5), above have been fully performed in accordance with their terms to Highway Administration's reasonable determination ("Highway Administration Determination") and upon approval by the Maryland Board of Public Works, and upon written notification by County to Highway Administration that conditions precedent in Paragraphs 2 B. (6) through (8) have been fully performed in accordance with their terms to County's reasonable satisfaction ("County Notification"). Highway Administration will execute and record the deed within thirty (30) business days after the later of the Highway Administration Determination or County Notification.
- 4. Highway Administration acknowledges that the Roadway transfer to the County is for a valid public purpose of the County in connection with Shore Health System's relocation and construction of a new Hospital and Regional Medical Center.
 Highway Administration acknowledges that County intends to initiate proceedings to close the Roadway and dispose of the right-of-way in furtherance of the public

- purposes of the County in accordance with the requirements of Article 25A § 5 (B), Md. Ann. Code and other applicable legal requirements.
- 5. Highway Administration acknowledges that the County does not intend to open the Roadway for use by the general public as a County road, roadway, or highway, and that the County intends to close the R oadway and dispose of the right-of-way upon a finding that the Roadway is not needed for public use as a County road, roadway, or highway. Highway Administration further acknowledges it is aware that, upon conclusion of such proceedings as are required by Article 25A § 5 (B), Md. Ann. Code or otherwise, the County intends to convey title and possession of the right-of-way for no consideration to Shore Health System by confirmatory quitclaim deed, for use by Shore Health System in conjunction with property otherwise conveyed by the County to Shore Health System for construction of the new Hospital and Regional Medical Center. The Roadway shall be guitclaimed by the County to Shore Health System "asis", without warranty of title, with all faults applicable to the existing right-of-way, the existing condition of the roadway or any appurtenances, subject to outstanding claims or interests of any kind held or claimed by third parties, if any, and subject to all existing utility easements held by third parties, if any, and without any other warranty of any kind.
- 6. Highway Administration acknowledges that County may elect to initiate proceedings immediately upon execution of this Road Transfer Agreement, or at any time thereafter, in accordance with Article 25A § 5 (B), Md. Ann. Code or otherwise, to authorize the County to: (A) approve acquisition of the Roadway from Highway Administration subject to and contingent upon full performance or satisfaction of all

conditions precedent set forth in Paragraph 2, above, and further subject to compliance with the terms and provisions of this Road Transfer Agreement, and (B) to authorize the County, either simultaneously or sequentially, to close the right-of-way in accordance with requirements of law and thereafter to dispose of the Roadway as set forth in Paragraph 5, above. Hi ghway A dministration further acknowledges that County may initiate such proceedings at any time, either prior to Highway Administration's transfer of the Roadway to the County, in which case the Ordinance shall authorize the County's transfer and conveyance of after-acquired title, or at any time after said transfer by Highway Administration to the County, in either event subject to and contingent upon full performance or satisfaction of all of conditions precedent set forth in Paragraph 2, above, and further subject to compliance with the terms and provisions of this Road Transfer Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused these presents to be executed by their proper officers thereunto duly authorized the day and year first written.

THE STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Gregory I. Slater, Director,

Office of Planning and Preliminary Engineering

Date:

RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency this

James E. Franklin, Chief

Property Asset Management

Janet Bush Handy, Assistance Attorney General

Attorney General Office

TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND

Signature Page

ATTEST:

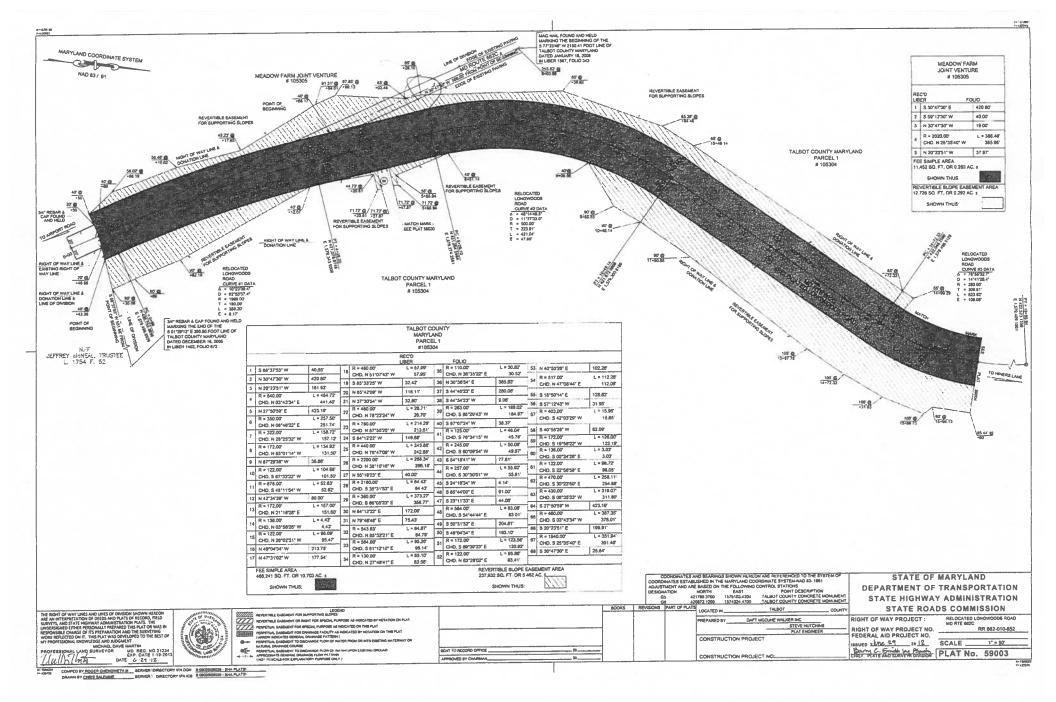
TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND

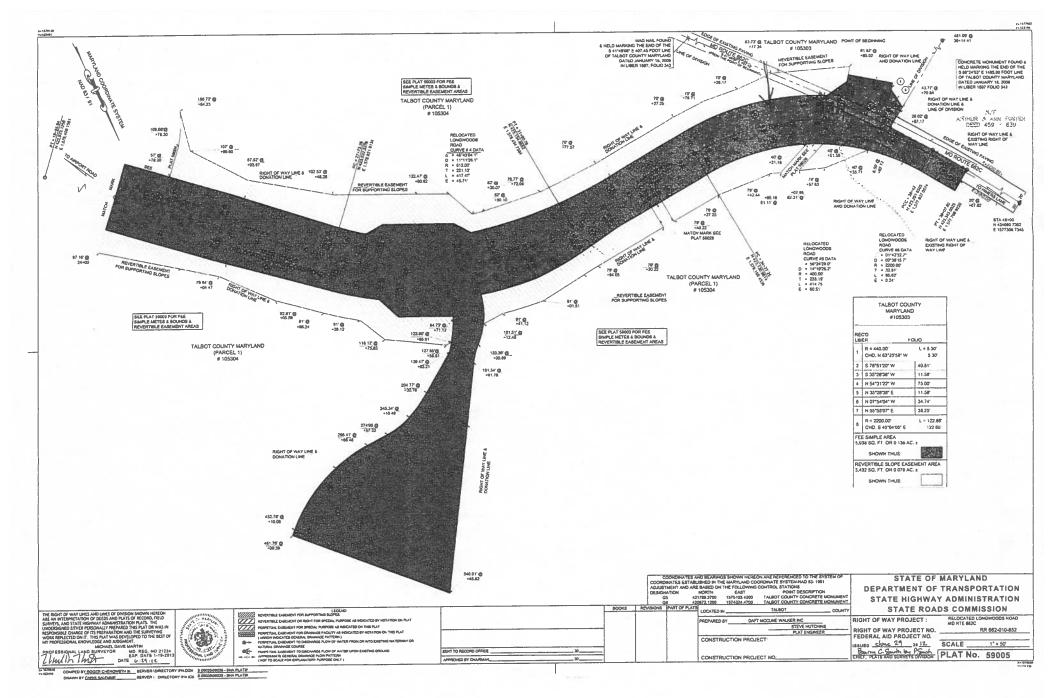
en W. Moran

Talbot County Council

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency this 13th day of known, 2013

Legal Counsel for Talbot County, Maryland





PUBLIC HEARING

Having been posted and Notice of time, date, and place of hearing, and Title of Bill No. 1231 having been published, a public hearing was held on Tuesday, March 12, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. in the Bradley Meeting Room, South Wing, Talbot County Courthouse, 11 N. Washington Street, Easton, Maryland 21601.

BY THE COUNCIL

Read the third time.

ENACTED: March 26, 2013

By Order Susan W. Moran, Secretary

Bartlett - Aye

Hollis - Aye

Pack - Aye

Price - Aye

Duncan - Aye (via absentee ballot)

ROAD INSPECTION AND CONTRIBUTION AGREEMENT

THIS ROAD INSPECTION AND CONTIBUTION AGREEMENT (this "Agreement") is made this 5 day of \$2024, by and between SHORE HEALTH SYSTEM, INC., a Maryland corporation (the "Developer"), and TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND, a charter county and political subdivision of the State of Maryland (the "County") (Developer and the County are also each individually referred to herein as a "Party," and collectively as the "Parties").

RECITALS

WHEREAS, a certain portion of the existing Md. Rt. 662C, described further below, traverses the future site of a new hospital and regional medical center (the "Project") to be constructed, owned, and operated by Developer, which portion of Md. Rt. 662C is shown and described as "EX. MD RTE 662 (To Be Relocated)" on Exhibit A hereto (the "Roadway");

WHEREAS, the Project requires the realignment of Md. Rt. 662C (the "Realignment"), construction of a new, relocated section of Md. Rt. 662C ("Relocated Md. Rt. 662"), and the closure (the "Closure") of the portion of the existing Md. Rt. 662C that traverses the Project site; and

WHEREAS, as originally envisioned, construction of Relocated Md. Rt. 662C was to occur prior to the Closure in order to maintain continuous traffic flow during the Project development phase; and

WHEREAS, in the past 11 years, development plans for the Project have evolved, requiring the Closure earlier in the construction sequence than previously anticipated in order to keep construction of the Project on schedule; and

WHEREAS, the Developer, in consultation with the County and SHA, has evaluated a range of potential options for mitigating disruption to traffic flow along Md. Rt. 662C and mitigating impacts to traffic flow on nearby County Roads and Ocean Gateway (U.S. Route 50) ("Rt. 50"); and

WHEREAS, the most feasible option for ensuring timely completion of the Project and minimizing impacts to traffic flow is to temporarily close the Roadway from October 1, 2024, to May 1, 2025 (the "Temporary Closure Period"), while simultaneously constructing Relocated Md. Rt. 662C; and

WHEREAS, during the Temporary Closure Period, traffic normally associated with the Roadway is officially planned to be rerouted to a detour route along Rt. 50, but the parties acknowledge that certain portions of traffic that would use the Roadway may utilize the following nearby County roads: Hiners Lane, Hailem School Road, Goldsborough Neck Road (between

Airport Road and Hailem School Road), and Airport Road (the "County Roads") instead of Rt. 50 (collectively, the "Alternative Route"); and

WHEREAS, the Parties desire to establish certain terms and conditions with respect to the County Roads and the Alternative Route to ensure the safe and efficient use thereof during the Temporary Closure Period.

- NOW, THEREFORE, WITNESSETH, that in consideration of the mutual premises and for good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the Parties hereby agree as follows:
 - Section 1. Recitals. The above recitals are hereby incorporated as if fully set forth herein.
- Section 2. <u>Description of Alternative Route</u>. The Alternative Route is depicted by the "Maintenance of Traffic Plan Detour Plan" attached hereto as <u>Exhibit B</u> and incorporated by reference herein.
- Section 3. <u>Approval of Use of Alternative Route</u>. Subject to the terms and conditions herein, the County hereby agrees to support the Developer's efforts to obtain SHA approval for temporary closure of Md Rt. 662C and formal detour of traffic using Md. Rt. 662C to Rt. 50 during the Temporary Closure Period.
- Section 4. <u>Responsibilities of Developer</u>. The Developer shall be responsible for the following:
- 4.1 Upon transfer of the Roadway to the Developer, no later than October 1, 2024 (the "Closure Date"), delivering a check payable to Talbot County, Maryland in the amount of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000.00) (the "Contribution"), which shall be applied to the costs incurred by the County for providing an asphalt overlay on the County Roads in an effort to mitigate impacts resulting from additional traffic. Except as otherwise provided herein, the Developer shall have no further financial responsibility apart from the Contribution in connection with such improvement; provided, however, that nothing herein shall be deemed to exempt Developer from other financial obligations imposed by applicable laws or regulations, such as impact fees.
- 4.2 If requested by the County, participating in a pre-construction meeting hosted by the County with representatives from the Talbot County Department of Public Works, Talbot County Sheriff's Office, Talbot County Public Schools, Talbot County Department of Emergency Services, and/or other agencies the County deems appropriate.
- 4.3 Cooperating with the County and/or SHA, as appropriate and as requested, in developing the traffic plans described in Subsection 5.4 below.

- 4.4 In coordination with SHA, providing notice to the public of the Closure in advance of the Closure Date, with appropriate signage to be placed at both ends of the Roadway at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the commencement of the Temporary Closure Period. The proposed signage shall be in substantially the same form as "Sign #20" shown on Exhibit B hereto and placed in locations marked "1" as shown in such Exhibit, which signs shall remain in such locations for the duration of such Closure Period. The County shall have the right to comment upon and approve the signs' content, provided that the County provides such comments and/or approval within five (5) business days following receipt of the signs' content from Developer.
- 4.5 During the Temporary Closure Period and construction of the Project, avoiding the use of the County Roads for ingress and egress of Developer's construction vehicle traffic to and from the Project site.
- Section 5. <u>Responsibilities of the County</u>. The County shall be responsible for the following:
- 5.1 Preparing pre-construction videos and photographs to document the existing conditions of the County Roads.
- 5.2 Establishing such weight limit restrictions, if any, for vehicle traffic on the Alternative Route as the County deems appropriate to prevent tractor trailers from using the same and, in coordination with SHA, posting all advance signage prior to the Closure.
- 5.3 Except as otherwise provided herein, installing such signage and providing such public notice of the detour of traffic to Rt. 50 and of considerations related to use of the Alternative Route as the County may deem appropriate or as otherwise required by law and in coordination with SHA.
- 5.4 In coordination with SHA, developing and approving plans for the use of the County Roads and/or other County roads as detour routes for traffic affected by the closure of Ocean Gateway in the event of an emergency during the Temporary Closure Period, including alternative routes in the event any such County road(s) are simultaneously closed.
- Section 6. <u>Road Maintenance</u>. Nothing herein shall limit or impair the County's authority to upgrade, repair, maintain, or improve any of the County Roads as it deems necessary and appropriate during the Temporary Closure Period.

Section 7. Non-Liability and Indemnity of County.

7.1 The Developer acknowledges and agrees (1) that the County is not, and shall not be, in any way liable for any damages or injuries that may be sustained as the result of the County's review and approval of any plans for the Alternative Route or the improvements thereto contemplated herein, or as a result of the issuance of any approvals, permits, certificates, or acceptances for the

same, and (2) that the County's review and approval of any such plans and issuance of any such approvals, permits, certificates, or acceptances do not, and shall not, in any way be deemed to insure the Developer, or any of its successors, assigns, tenants, or licensees, or any third party, against damage or injury of any kind at any time.

7.2 The Developer agrees to, and does hereby, hold harmless and indemnify the County, and all of its elected and appointed officials, officers, employees, agents, representatives, engineers, and attorneys, from any and all claims for damages that may be asserted at any time against any of such parties in connection with (1) the County's review and approval of any plans for the Alternative Route or the improvements thereto contemplated herein, (2) the development or construction by Developer of any portion of such improvements, (3) the maintenance of any such improvement until the same is accepted by the County, and (4) the performance or default by the Developer of its obligations under this Agreement.

Section 8. <u>Nature, Survival, and Transfer of Obligations.</u> The Developer agrees that the terms of this Agreement shall be binding upon it personally, and upon any and all of its contractors, successors, and assigns.

Section 9. <u>Time of Essence</u>. Time is of the essence in the performance of all terms and provisions of this Agreement.

Section 10. <u>Notices.</u> All notices and other communications in connection with this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be delivered to the representatives of the Parties with delivery effective in accordance with the Development Rights and Responsibilities Agreement between Developer, the County, and the Town of Easton dated October 14, 2014, which is recorded among the Land Records of Talbot County, Maryland in Liber M.A.S. 2206, folio 226, as amended from time to time.

Section 11. <u>Amendments.</u> This Agreement may be amended from time. No amendments to this Agreement shall be effective unless it is in a written agreement signed all parties.

SIGNATURES ON FOLLOWING PAGES

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the County and Developer have executed this Agreement under seal on the dates set forth below.

ATTEST:

TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND

Chuck F. Callahan, President

County Council of Talbot County, Maryland

(SEAL)

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency

by Patrick Thomas, Esq., County Attorney

STATE OF MARYLAND, COUNTY OF TALBOT, TO WIT:

I HEREBY CERTIFY, that on this 5 W day of September 2024, before me, the subscriber, a Notary Public of the State of Maryland, personally appeared Chuck F. Callahan, who acknowledged himself to be the President of the County Council of Talbot County, Maryland, the chief executive of TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND, a charter county and political subdivision of the State of Maryland, and that he as such President, being authorized so to do, executed the foregoing Agreement for the purposes therein contained by signing the name of said Talbot County, Maryland, by himself as President.

AS WITNESS my hand and Notarial seal.

My commission expires: 3 6 2025

Swan W. Moray Notary Public ATTEST:

SHORE HEALTH SYSTEM, INC.

Catherine Weight

By: (SEAL)
Kenneth D. Rozel, President and CEO

STATE OF MARYLAND, COUNTY OF TALBOT, TO WIT:

I HEREBY CERTIFY, that on this 3rd day of September, 2024, before me, a Notary Public of the aforesaid State, personally appeared Kenneth D. Kozel, President and CEO of SHORE HEALTH SYSTEM, INC., who was known to me (or satisfactorily proven) to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing Agreement, and acknowledged that he executed the same for the purposes therein contained as the fully authorized agent of said Shore Health System, Inc.

WITNESS my hand and Notarial Seal.

My Commission expires: July 30, 2028

Notary Public

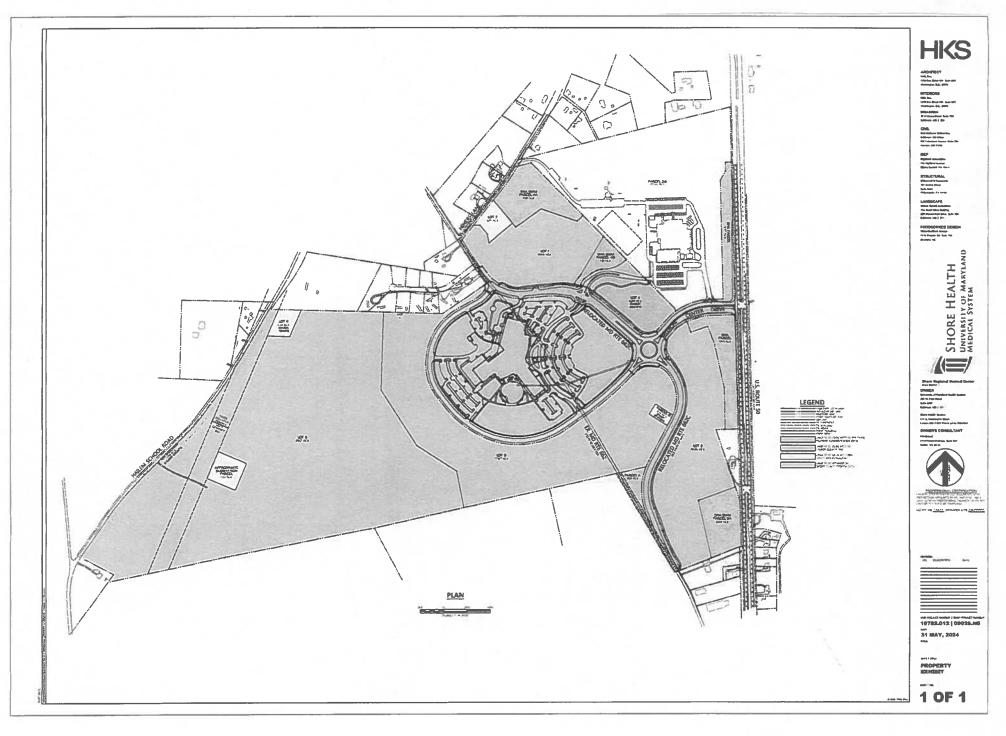
Notary Public

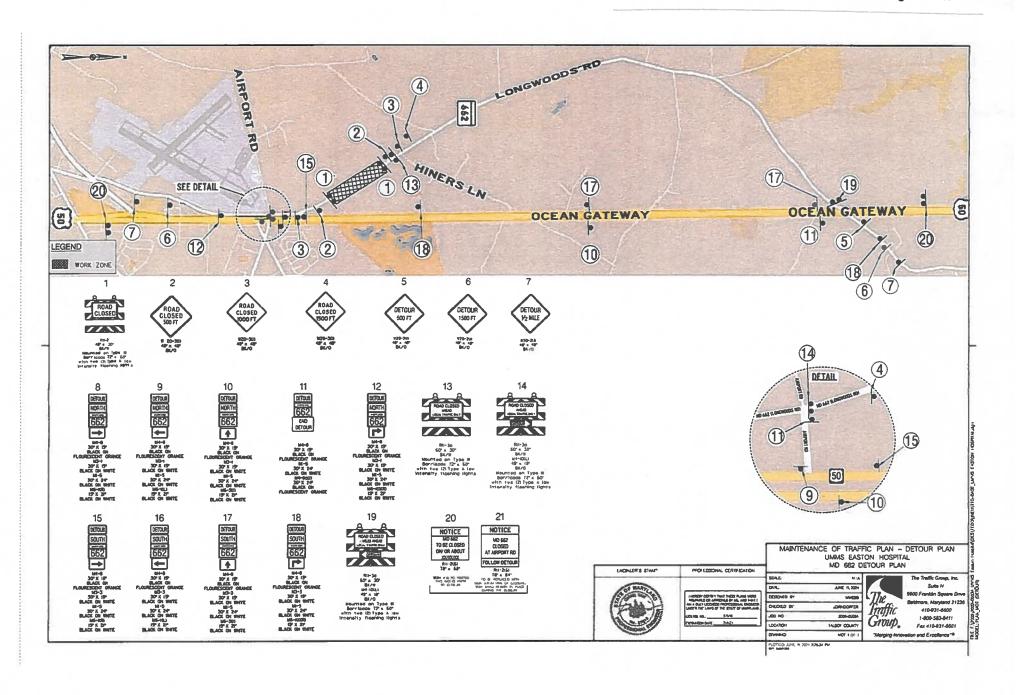
NOTAR DE SUBLIC

OUR DE SUBLIC

MARYLAND NOTARY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT (INDIVIDUAL)

| State of Maryland County of Talbot (or City of B | Baltimore), to wit: |
|--|--|
| On this 3rd day of September, appeared Kenneth Koze acknowledgement), known to me (or s | 20_24, before me, the undersigned officer, personally // [name of person(s) who make atisfactorily proven) to be the person(s) whose name(s) nent and acknowledged that he/she/they executed the |
| In witness whereof, I hereunto set my | |
| [Notary Seal] | [Signature of Notary Public] |
| [Notary Coun] | . 6 |
| AMY B LOWE Notary Public - State of Maryland Dorchester County My Commission Expires Jul 30, 2028 | [Printed Name of Notary Public] Notary Public |
| | My Commission Expires: July 30, 2028 |
| | |





PUBLIC HEARING

Having been posted and Notice, Time, and Place of Hearing and Title of Bill No. 1577 having been published, a public hearing was held on <u>Tuesday</u>, <u>August 27, 2024</u>, at 5:30 p.m. in the Bradley Meeting Room, South Wing, Talbot County Courthouse, 11 N. Washington Street, Easton, Maryland.

BY THE COUNCIL

Read the second time:

Enacted:

August 27, 2024 * AS AMENDED*

By Order:

Susan W. Moran, Secretary

Callahan - Aye

Stepp - Aye

Lesher - Aye

Mielke - Nay

Haythe - Aye

Effective: August 27, 2024