



CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND

**SB 431
Oppose**

Budget and Taxation Committee

Thursday, February 9, 2017

**SB 431 Transportation - State Highway Administration - Sale or Lease of
Highway Naming Rights**

**Contact: Jason Damweber, Deputy City Manager
jasond@takomaparkmd.gov, 301-891-7202**

The City of Takoma Park opposes SB 431, which authorizes the State Highway Administration to sell or lease to a private entity naming rights for all or part of a State highway, which would include Maryland Route 410, a major thoroughfare in the City, as well as other State highways bordering the City.

While the bill would not impact the City financially if passed, it could adversely impact the aesthetics and add to clutter along State highways. Even with a requirement for SHA to make specified determinations, the bill would permit companies to put advertisements up where they do not currently exist. Simply put, we do not believe we need more unnecessary signage and advertisements in general, and especially not along Maryland roadways.

The City urges an Unfavorable Report on SB 431.