

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2007

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Legislative Document

No. 1720

H.P. 1203

House of Representatives, March 23, 2007

**Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation and the Maine Turnpike Authority To Conduct a Study of Possible Western Connector Roads to Municipal Centers in Cumberland and York Counties**

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Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

*Millicent M. MacFarland*  
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND  
Clerk

Presented by Representative BARSTOW of Gorham.  
Cosponsored by Senator COURTNEY of York and  
Representatives: BOLAND of Sanford, TUTTLE of Sanford, Senators: BARTLETT of  
Cumberland, NASS of York.

1           **Sec. 1. Study of existing infrastructure and future capacity needs west of**  
2 **Route 1 in York and Cumberland counties. Resolved:** That the Department of  
3 Transportation, or “the department,” and the Maine Turnpike Authority, or “the  
4 authority,” shall conduct a study of existing highway infrastructure and future capacity  
5 needs west of Route 1 in York and Cumberland counties, including the greater Gorham  
6 and Sanford areas. The purpose of this study is to develop a series of recommendations  
7 to enhance, expand and preserve highway connections between Route 1 and the Maine  
8 Turnpike and communities in western Cumberland County and York County. In  
9 conducting the study, the department and the authority shall review existing and potential  
10 new routes from the Maine Turnpike to municipal centers in western Cumberland County  
11 and York County that, in the determination of the department and the authority, would, if  
12 constructed, significantly decrease congestion on state and local roads in the area and  
13 improve access from communities in western Cumberland County and York County to  
14 the Maine Turnpike. The study must be designed and conducted in a manner that will  
15 allow the results to be used during future state and federal permitting of any proposal that  
16 may proceed to construction, and any potential project must be compatible with state  
17 transportation policy in accordance with Maine's Sensible Transportation Policy Act and  
18 the federal National Environmental Policy Act. In evaluating and prioritizing strategies  
19 for study, the department and the authority shall consider, at a minimum, the following  
20 factors:

21           1. The feasibility of expanding the existing highway infrastructure to accommodate  
22 future traffic and economic demands of the region;

23           2. The role of transit and other alternative modes of transportation in managing the  
24 transportation demand in the region;

25           3. The feasibility and effectiveness of the new proposed transportation infrastructure  
26 strategies to meet the future traffic and economic needs, including:

27           A. The traffic impact of the new infrastructure on the existing road network;

28           B. Environmental impacts;

29           C. Traffic toll revenue projections on any new infrastructure and the effects on toll  
30 revenues on the existing turnpike; and

31           D. Construction and maintenance costs;

32           4. Coordinating with area communities and regional planning agencies to evaluate  
33 land use impacts of all strategies studied, and developing recommendations to  
34 communities for land use controls to protect their community character, economic vitality  
35 and future investments in the transportation system; and

36           5. Any other factors determined relevant by the department and the authority; and be  
37 it further

38           **Sec. 2. Report. Resolved:** That the department and the authority shall report the  
39 results of their study to the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation no later than

1 February 28, 2008. Upon its receipt and review of the report, the committee may submit  
2 legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature.

3

### **SUMMARY**

4 This resolve directs the Department of Transportation and the Maine Turnpike  
5 Authority to study the potential strategies for enhancing connections from Route 1 and  
6 the Maine Turnpike to municipal centers in York and Cumberland counties and to report  
7 their findings back to the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation by February 28,  
8 2008.