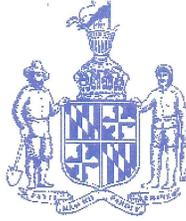


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New Feasibility Study Gives Green Flag to Allegany Motorsports Park Concept

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The Maryland Stadium Authority today released the final study of the proposed Allegany Motorsports Park. The report, which includes the concept and costs for the facility, is posted on the MSA website at: www.mdstad.com.

Encouraging data from a preliminary 2006 market and economic impact study indicated a motorsports multiplex at the historic Allegany County Fairgrounds has potential to increase use of the existing race track facility "The Rock" and provide a greater range of recreational activities for residents and visitors in the tri-state area while continuing to host the popular events that occur regularly. Based on these findings, the Maryland Stadium Authority contracted HOK International of Kansas City to design a multi-use motor sports complex.

HOK has extensive experience in the design of motor sports facilities ranging from the Daytona International Speedway to the Kentucky Speedway. Most recently they were retained to develop a motorsports park in Alabama in partnership with the Earnhardt family.

Their vision for Allegany Motorsports Park incorporates existing facilities into an improved oval track, restored infrastructure, new road course, drag strip, and multi-use infield arena.

Finally, the fairground itself will be given a new gateway entrance, with landscaping and storyboards relating its history along a pedestrian plaza and midway promenade. Improvements to the restrooms and other facilities will enhance the visitor's experience and make the historic site a more attractive venue for festivals and other events.

The estimated cost for new construction and restoration of the existing premises is \$31 million. The study recommends that Allegany County partner with a private enterprise to help finance and operate the facility.

In recent years, outdoor activities, natural resources, and spectacular scenery have made the mountains of Maryland an increasingly popular tourist destination. Rocky Gap State Park, the newly opened Allegheny Highlands Trail and Adventure Sports in Garrett County (slated to open in April) are more recent additions to the seasonal attractions of Deep Creek Lake and Wisp Resort.

State and local economic development officials consider expanded activities and improved amenities at “The Rock” are an opportunity to build on this regional appeal. Environmental enhancements will create a park like setting, and redesign of the entrance and fabled “midway” will give greater versatility to the county fairgrounds for increased use year round.

The Stadium Authority officials and project consultants conducted workshops to determine how the existing fairground could be improved, and what new features should be added for the motor complex to boost attendance, participation, and audience development.

Based on this research, the study suggested the following upgrades to the motor park:

- An improved, banked surface for the existing 5/8 mile dirt track
- A go-kart track
- A two mile road course
- ¼ mile drag strip
- Area suitable for motorcross, BMX racing, and skateboard competitions
- Concession and restroom pavilion
- Improved fan amenities and VIP suites
- Berm seating for enhanced viewing
- Car barn and paddock area
- Pit areas for existing track.

The County has previously studied a second access to the fairground, and improved railroad crossings.

The release of the feasibility study was timed to coincide with the annual PACE Reception in Annapolis. The event, which promotes economic development activities in Allegany and Garrett counties, is traditionally one of the highlights of the legislative session in the state capital. It is a well attended showcase of Western Maryland business, government, and educational sectors and an appropriate audience for this eagerly anticipated project.

In addition to the design, economic impact, and cost of the motorsports project, the study also outlines steps that must be taken to bring it to fruition. These include securing a private sector partner, an archeological study of the property, and reaching an accord on relocation of the athletic fields on fairground property.

“The Maryland Stadium Authority was pleased to assist Allegany County in planning a facility that will attract visitors to Western Maryland while enhancing a treasured

community resource,” Chairman Robert L. McKinney said of the feasibility study. “The proposed park appeals to those who enjoy watching and participating in a variety of exciting motorsports activities and in the process also restores a historic landmark, providing more opportunity for year round use.”

“This project contributes to both quality of life and economic development”, McKinney added. “That is the goal of the Maryland Stadium Authority.”

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