

## House Bill 1204 - Transportation Equity Analyses and Assurances Act of 2021

**POSITION: SUPPORT**

### **Testimony of Marissa Dahl**

I am a Baltimore City resident and I strongly **support House Bill 1204**, sponsored by Delegate Sheila Ruth, and I urge the House Environment and Transportation Committee to issue a favorable report on this bill.

I would like to see transit in Maryland improve to help support and increase access to good jobs, schools, education, and food. I have seen the effects of what access to these essential things can do for a community and I believe it is time to truly invest in the areas that need it most. I would like to see equity as a primary goal in the Maryland Transportation Plan, supported by not only data, but action that follows.

Ultimately, there is a need for greater transparency, accountability and community input. Equity should not be an afterthought. Real people's lives are impacted by transportation. All Marylanders, regardless of race, income, zip code, or disability, should have an equal right to the benefits of a well-planned transportation system.

I strongly **support HB 1204** and urge the Committee to issue a favorable report.

Sincerely,

Marissa Dahl