



HB 836 – Transportation and Climate Act 2024

**House Appropriations Committee
March 6, 2024**

Position: Favorable

Greetings Chair and Members of the Committee:

Our mission is to promote bicycling, increase safety, improve conditions, and provide a voice for bicyclists in Maryland who use bicycles for both transportation and recreation. We partner with advocacy organizations to promote vulnerable road user safety legislation and safe infrastructure on the state, county and municipal level.

To achieve both Maryland’s climate and transportation goals, there is a need to create a safe transportation system which allows all people to get to their destinations safely on foot or wheels. The Transportation and Climate Act would create resources to design Complete Streets that are safe for all forms of transportation. Mitigation projects would build trails, sidewalks, and safe intersections across the state enabling people to get to jobs, school, shopping, and recreation using non-motorized transportation, which reduces vehicle miles travelled and greenhouse gas emissions. This bill helps Maryland achieve bold goals for multi-modal transportation, public health, and environmental restoration.

Planners and policymakers in Colorado and Minnesota report that increased bike and pedestrian funding as a result of similar legislation will have a “game changing” effect on the safety and convenience of active transportation. Mitigation actions could fund shovel ready bike lanes and trail projects that are ready to be built but lack funding. Investments in non-motorized transportation will reduce traffic congestion, improve health through increased physical activity, and reverse the alarming growth in bike and pedestrian fatalities, toward Maryland’s goal of VISION ZERO.

Please support House Bill 836 to align Maryland’s Transportation and Climate Goals.

Bicycle Advocates for Annapolis & Anne Arundel County (BikeAAA)

Eastern Shore Trails Network

Talbot Thrive

Worcester County Bike and Pedestrian Coalition

Baltimore Bicycling Club (BBC)

Frederick Bicycle Coalition

Terps for Bike Lanes

Washington Area Bicyclist Association (WABA)

Bike HoCo

Bikemore