



Support HB193 Speed Reduction Saves Lives

Bicycle Advocates for Annapolis & Anne Arundel County
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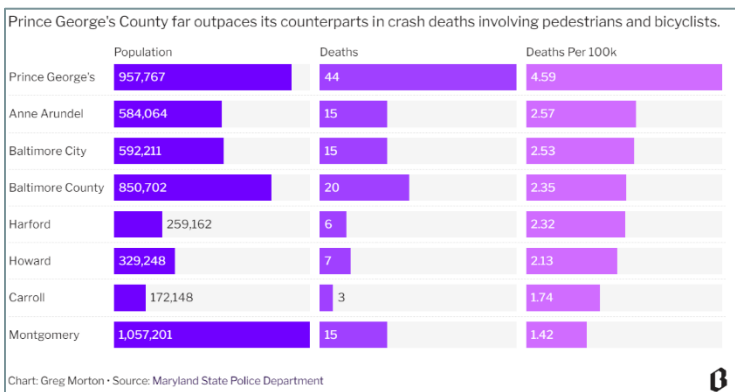
House Environment & Transportation Committee
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

January 17, 2024

RE: SUPPORT House Bill 193

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am a resident of District 30, president of Bicycle Advocates for Annapolis and Anne Arundel County (“BikeAAA”), Chair of the Anne Arundel County Bicycle Advisory Commission, Member of the 2017 Maryland Bicycle Safety Task Force and avid Maryland cyclist for over 20 years. On behalf of BikeAAA and it’s more than 1,000 members, we support HB193. This bill will empower Anne Arundel County to assess and reduce speed limits. This is especially important for vulnerable road users such as pedestrians, cyclists, the elderly, people with disabilities and schoolchildren who may cross or travel along our roads to access schools, parks, shopping areas and other destinations. Local jurisdictions are most aware of the use and context of local roads and should have the authority to reduce speed limits to increase safety. This bill also aligns with Anne Arundel County’s and Maryland’s commitment to Vision Zero.



2023 was a particularly bad year for Maryland and Anne Arundel County crashes and fatalities, especially for pedestrians and cyclists. Maryland had over 600 road fatalities, the highest since 2007. Anne Arundel County was listed as second worst in Maryland for pedestrian/cyclist fatalities per population according to recently released state data [as reported in The Banner](#).

Speed reduction reduces both the likelihood of a crash and the severity of injury if a crash occurs. Please support HB193 to improve safety, especially for our most vulnerable.

Sincerely,

Jon Korin
President, Bicycle Advocates for Annapolis & Anne Arundel County