

MARYLAND TRANSIT CAUCUS

marylandtransitcaucus.org ● @CaucusTransit transitcaucus@gmail.com

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Dear Members of the Maryland General Assembly,

On behalf of the Transit Caucus, we are writing to express our endorsement of HB375 / SB392: Bicycles, Play Vehicles, and Unicycles – Authorizations and Requirements. As advocates for transportation-related legislation before the General Assembly, we believe this bill is essential to our mission of ensuring a more sustainable, efficient, and accessible transit system for all residents. We are confident that its passage will have a positive impact on our communities, economy, and environment.

Currently, Maryland law forbids bicycles on sidewalks statewide, however localities can and have overridden this law for safety and other reasons. This creates inconsistency throughout Maryland, as roads will switch between state, county, and city roads and creates confusion for cyclists. This confusion is compounded by the safety issues that come with bicyclists sharing our major roads with large vehicles. HB375 / SB392 makes the law consistent, which improves safety for those commuting by bike and helps avoid confusion on which laws to follow when traveling across jurisdictions. This bill advances Maryland's Zero Deaths goals by aligning Maryland code with safe and equitable biking.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this bill. Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. We look forward to working with you as we build a better Maryland transportation system for all.

Thank you,

Senator Cory McCray, Co-Chair

Delegate Lorig Charkoudian, Co-Chair

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