



**Testimony on HB 437  
Transportation and Climate Alignment Act of 2026  
House Appropriations Committee**

**Date: February 10, 2026**  
**Position: SUPPORT**

Homes for America strongly supports HB 437, which would cut pollution from Maryland's highway system by investing in public transit, walking, and biking.

Transportation is Maryland's #1 source of climate pollution and the second largest expense behind housing. Maryland families deserve more affordable, accessible, and sustainable transportation choices. By prioritizing projects that expand public transit and active transportation infrastructure, the **Transportation and Climate Alignment Act** will ensure that every Marylander has equitable access to opportunities like jobs, education, and healthcare.

**HB 427** would require the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) to measure the greenhouse gas emissions of all major transportation projects and align the state's capital transportation budget with Maryland's climate goals, as required by the Climate Solutions Now Act. For major highway expansion projects over \$100 million, MDOT must offset pollution with cleaner transportation options - like public transit, bike paths, and pedestrian infrastructure - and prioritize investments in overburdened and underserved communities.

Homes for America is a nonprofit housing organization with a mission to build and preserve quality, service-enriched, sustainable housing that provides opportunities for residents to thrive. We serve residents throughout the state with low and moderate incomes who would benefit from this bill with greater investments in transit and options to access economic opportunity without reliance on a car.

Homes for America also supports this bill because it aligns the goal of addressing the housing shortage with the goals of MDOT. Increasing investments in Transit-Oriented-Development will be critical to the state's ability to address the housing shortage. Homes for America, along with our partner Questar, has been selected to develop a mixed-income, mixed-use community at the Odenton MARC station. In order to realize the vision of ensuring affordability, retail services, robust community amenities and integration with the transit station, additional funding will be needed. The TCA can help to ensure that the exciting opportunities for TOD throughout the state can provide new housing opportunities at a range of income levels and boost transit ridership.

In addition to reducing climate pollution, **HB 437** would protect our health, reduce traffic congestion, and save consumers money - [an average of more than \\$3,000 per household each year on vehicle costs](#). Investing in more efficient, lower-maintenance infrastructure can also reduce the state's long-term costs. New analysis shows Maryland could achieve approximately **\$550 million per year in net savings by 2050** by building out bus rapid transit, protected bike lanes, and passenger rail.

We strongly urge a **favorable report on HB 437**.