



CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND

HB 1184 Support

Environment and Transportation

February 2020

HB 1184: Vehicle Laws - Pedestrian Safety

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The City of Takoma Park supports and urges favorable consideration of HB 1184.

This legislation would expand existing protections for bikes, assistive mobility devices, and motor scooters, to also include pedestrians. It would require drivers to exercise care to avoid colliding with a pedestrian, maintain a safe distance of at least 3 feet when passing a pedestrian, prohibit a person from throwing any object at or in the direction of any pedestrian, and prohibit opening a door with the intent to strike, injure, or interfere with a pedestrian.

The City of Takoma Park is committed to pedestrian safety and accessibility. This legislation is an important expansion of protections. It is essential that we protect our most vulnerable roadway users -- pedestrians -- so we can create safe, comfortable, and welcome spaces for them. Pedestrians need to feel that drivers are accountable for looking out for and protecting them.

The City of Takoma Park is working to promote the use of alternative modes of transportation such as walking to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and traffic congestion, as well as promote healthy lifestyles. In order to achieve these goals, we need to ensure that pedestrians are safe and protected.

In sum, the City of Takoma Park supports HB 1184 and encourages a favorable vote.