

BALTIMORE COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY  
*People ♦ Planet ♦ Prosperity*

January 24, 2022

Delegate and Committee Chair Barve  
Members of the House Environment and Transportation Committee

RE: **Support** for HB 141, Equity in Transportation Sector - Guidelines and Analyses

Dear Chair Barve and Members of the House Environment and Transportation Committee,

We are writing in support of HB 141, titled Equity in Transportation Sector - Guidelines and Analyses.

The Baltimore Commission on Sustainability is a body appointed by the Mayor to oversee the creation and implementation of the Baltimore Sustainability Plan. The 2019 Baltimore Sustainability Plan addresses a wide range of social, economic and environmental goals for the City, and it does so through an equity lens.

The Baltimore Commission on Sustainability has a strong interest in the success of HB 141, which will enable a proactive and anticipatory approach to equity in transit. This will ensure that changes in MDOT MTA service do not disproportionately impact transit-reliant populations. The history of MDOT MTA service changes, including the proposed service cuts in 2020 that would have severely cut service for predominantly poor and black communities in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic, point to the need for the provisions contained in HB 141. We encourage the Commission on Transportation Equity to go a step further and to add requirements that it put forth mode share goals and transportation demand management strategies for MDOT MTA, either via amendment to this Bill or through parallel efforts.

We urge the Committee to support HB 141.

Sincerely,

Miriam Avins  
Mia Blom  
Co-chairs, Commission on Sustainability

Cc: Delegate Ruth