



City of Salisbury

Jacob R. Day, Mayor

16 February 2022

Committee: Finance

Testimony on: SB 874 – State Highway Administration - Pedestrian and Bicyclist Fatalities - Infrastructure Review (Vision Zero Implementation Act of 2022)

Position: Favorable

Dear Members of the Finance Committee,

As you consider the merits of **SB 874**, I ask that you **support** this vital legislation and vote to give **SB 874** a **Favorable** Committee report.

The City of Salisbury supports SB 874, which will improve roadway safety and help to prevent pedestrian and biker fatalities. This bill is important because it prioritizes public safety and makes critical investments in transportation infrastructure while enhancing the safety of roadways throughout Maryland.

SB 874 will:

- Help to identify crash reduction countermeasures consistent with Federal Highway Administration best practices and Maryland's Vision Zero Program
- Require that an infrastructure review be conducted following pedestrian or bicyclist fatalities on or at the intersection of a State highway.
- Add pedestrian signals, crosswalks, and lighting at intersections when such improvements are warranted following an infrastructure review.


In Salisbury, we continue to prioritize the safety of our residents, and we have taken numerous steps to make our City walkable and increasingly more pedestrian and bike-friendly. Whether constructing bike lanes that allow cyclers and pedestrians to traverse through the core of our City to the heart of Downtown Salisbury, to implementing traffic calming patterns in residential areas, Salisbury is proud to serve as a leader amongst Vision Zero cities as we proactively work to make our streets a safer place to drive, bike, and walk.

Taking meaningful action, we created a Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) in 2014 to advise elected leaders and staff and to help shape our Vision Zero Action Plan as we work to realize our mission of ending traffic fatalities and serious injury by 2030. The work of Salisbury's BPAC led to the creation of our Vision Zero Taskforce in 2019 as we demonstrated our commitment to adopting Vision Zero best practices in our traffic and engineering policies.

If enacted, the Vision Zero Implementation Act of 2022 will prioritize the safety of Marylanders across our state. Roadway fatalities are wholly preventable, yet we must actively work to ensure that our State highways, intersections, and municipal roads remain safe for all modes of transportation, whether via a vehicle, on a bicycle, or by foot. As we embrace safer roads, our work prioritizing public safety will help save lives and make Maryland an even safer place to live, work, and visit.

I ask for your **support** of this vital public safety and transportation legislation.

Respectfully,



Jacob R. Day
Mayor