



City of  
**Salisbury**  
John "Jack" R. Heath, Mayor

January 31, 2023

**Committees:** Environment and Transportation & Appropriations

**Testimony on:** HB70 – Safe Access for All (SAFE) Roads Act of 2023

**Position:** Favorable

Dear Members of the Environment and Transportation and Appropriations Committees,

As you consider the merits of **HB70**, I ask that you **support** this vital legislation and vote to give **HB70** a **Favorable** Committee Report.

The City of Salisbury supports HB70, which will improve roadway safety and help to prevent pedestrian, biker and vehicular fatalities. This bill is important because it prioritizes public safety and makes critical investments in improving the safety of roadways throughout Maryland.

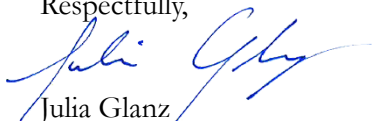
In Salisbury, we continue to prioritize the safety of our residents, and we have taken numerous steps to make our city more walkable and increasingly more bike-friendly. Whether constructing bike lanes that allow cyclers and pedestrians to traverse through our city to the heart of Downtown Salisbury, 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. Most recently we engaged in MOVE SBY, Salisbury's first ever mobility masterplan, focusing on solving mobility challenges through micro-mobility, transit, and pedestrian and cycling solutions.

If enacted, the SAFE Roads Act of 2023 will prioritize the safety of Marylanders across our state. Roadway fatalities are wholly preventable, yet we must actively work to ensure that our roads remain safe for all modes of transportation, whether via a vehicle, on a bicycle, or by foot. As we work to embrace safer roads, our work prioritizing public safety will also yield dividends in the fight against climate change. As we reduce our dependence on fossil fuels for transportation, safer roads will encourage Marylanders to reduce their carbon footprint by walking or biking.

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

Respectfully,



Julia Glanz  
City Administrator

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