
February 8, 2024

The Honorable Marc Korman
Chair, House Environment and Transportation Committee
251 House Office Building
Annapolis MD 21401

Re: *Letter of Information – House Bill 156 –Transportation – Electric Bicycle Rebate and Voucher Program - Establishment*

Dear Chair Korman and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) offers the following information for the Committee’s consideration on House Bill 156.

House Bill 156 proposes to establish an Electric Bicycle Rebate and Voucher Program (Program) to provide rebates and vouchers for qualified individuals who purchase electric bicycles and related items, like helmets, locks or maintenance. House Bill 156 requires MDOT to administer the e-bicycle rebate program and requires \$100,000 for the Program starting in Fiscal Year (FY) 2026. To meet the requirements set forth in House Bill 156, MDOT estimates the total annual cost of operating the program, including administrative costs, at \$220,000.

While MDOT supports the intent of House Bill 156, the current constraints on the Transportation Trust Fund limit the available resources to support this Program in FY 26. Under the Moore-Miller Administration, MDOT is committed to finding safe, sustainable modes of transportation for all system users. To that end, the Department has created the Office of Active Transportation and Micromobility within the Secretary’s Office; this office is tasked with reviewing current MDOT practices surrounding the various ways in which people ride, walk, bike, or any combination thereof. The Office of Active Transportation and Micromobility is also looking at industry best practices, as well as the laws and policies of other states, to see how Maryland can expand programs that the State can offer to encourage the use of micromobility devices and other technology for commuting sustainably.

The Maryland Department of Transportation respectfully requests that the Committee consider this information when deliberating House Bill 156.

Respectfully submitted,

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