



January 27, 2025

Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
Miller Senate Office Building, 3 West Wing
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401 - 1991

SUPPORT: SB0190 Land Use - Transit-Oriented Development - Alterations

Bikemore, Baltimore City's livable streets advocacy organization representing more than 8,000 advocates and the 30% of Baltimoreans who lack access to a car, is writing in support of SB0190.

Land use and transportation are inextricably linked. Transit Oriented Development maximizes both land use and access to public transportation, and must be a top priority in a state experiencing a housing affordability crisis.

Unfortunately, there are many zoning and jurisdictional political barriers to advancing this must needed development along rail transit lines in Maryland, especially in Baltimore and Anne Arundel Counties, negatively impacting ridership of the Baltimore Central Light Rail.

As the state operates our region's rail transit system, it must ensure that this system is successful. This duty should supersede local jurisdictions' opposition or indifference to access to transit and affordable housing.

We believe this bill will strengthen our transit system, increase access to jobs and opportunity, and result in increased production of housing.

We urge the committee to support SB0190.

Sincerely,

Jed Weeks
Executive Director