

March 25, 2025

HB0084: Transportation – Major Highway Capacity Expansion Projects and Impact Assessments (Transportation and Climate Alignment Act of 2025)

Chair Guzzone and members of the Budget and Taxation Committee,

I support HB0084, which requires the Department of Transportation to perform an impact assessment of a project in planning and implementation phases and implement a corresponding multimodal program.

While many studies show that if you build it, they will come, I'll point to one local study which shows that having Capital Bikeshare in the DC area neighborhoods can reduce congestion by upwards of 4%.<sup>1</sup> It should come as no surprise that we need to start building out our pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure to support active transportation over cars. Additionally, we know that air and noise pollution from electric vehicles is just as high as combustion-engine vehicles.<sup>2</sup> Instead of creating more space for cars, let's all look deeply at what is necessary and offset these expansions with some life-saving pollution free alternatives.

I urge a favorable report on HB0084 so that it can be brought to the floor for a vote.

Sincerely,

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0095069616300420?via%3Dihub#s0070>

<sup>2</sup> <https://grist.org/transportation/electric-vehicles-are-a-climate-solution-with-a-pollution-problem-tire/>