



January 27, 2025

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

SUPPORT: SB0020 Locally Operated Transit Systems - Mandatory Funding - Inflation Adjustment (Local Transit Sustainability Act)

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 SB0020.

Residents in Baltimore City and across Maryland rely on our Locally Operated Transit Systems to move throughout their communities and reliably access jobs, childcare, groceries, entertainment, and other needs in life. In Baltimore, ridership on just the Purple Line of the Charm City Circulator exceeded the ridership of Washington, DC, Cleveland, Dallas, Milwaukee, Memphis, and Atlanta streetcar systems.

Indexing funding for Locally Operated Transit Systems against the consumer price index will help insulate these systems from inflation and fund critical needs like state of good repair.

We are grateful for Senator McCray's introduction of this bill and his dedication to improving the lives of Baltimoreans who rely on transit.

We urge the committee to vote favorably on SB0020.

Sincerely,

Jed Weeks
Executive Director