



**MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCIL**  
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

DAWN LUEDTKE  
COUNCILMEMBER  
DISTRICT 7

February 4, 2025

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

RE: House Bill 439, *Vehicle Laws - Fully Autonomous Vehicles - Human Safety Operators and Reporting Requirements*

Dear Chair Korman,

I urge the Committee to support House Bill 439, Vehicle Laws - Fully Autonomous Vehicles - Human Safety Operators and Reporting Requirements, which would require critical safety information about crashes or collisions involving autonomous vehicles to be reported to the State so that we can collectively make our roadways safer.

The introduction and anticipated increase in the use of autonomous vehicles have the potential to support safety of our roadways. However, we have seen reported incidents across the country in which autonomous vehicles end up injuring roadway users, owing to technology in need of further refinement, the dynamics of interactions with human-controlled vehicles or other human roadway users, or other factors. As an elected leader in a local jurisdiction investing heavily and making significant policy changes in pursuit of our Vision Zero policy,<sup>1</sup> we cannot risk going backward. We must gather all of the information possible regarding incidents involving this growing technology to preserve the gains we have made toward our goal of zero traffic deaths and severe injuries.

Thank you Delegate Stewart for introducing this legislation and I wholeheartedly support it so we can continue to make the most informed decisions possible when it comes to roadway safety policy at both the State and local levels. Based on the foregoing, I respectfully urge the committee to adopt a favorable report on HB 439.

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/visionzero/>

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dawn Luedtke', with a large, stylized initial 'D'.

Dawn Luedtke  
Montgomery County Councilmember  
District 7

cc: Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee