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Legislative District 22
Prince George's County

Chair
Rules and Executive
Nominations Committee

Environment and Transportation
Committee

Chair
Local Government and
Bi-County Agencies Subcommittee



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Testimony in Support of HB 628 – Highways – Sidewalks and Bicycle Pathways – Construction and Reconstruction February 11, 2025

Chair Korman and Colleagues of this committee,

For the record, I am Delegate Anne Healey, seeking a favorable report on HB 628.

This bill simply requires that the State Highway Administration prioritize funding for the construction or reconstruction of sidewalks and bicycle pathways that are adjacent to highways that are subject to complete streets policy or similar Vision Zero program. The purpose of this bill is to ensure the safety of our bicyclists and pedestrians by continuing to reach the goal of our Vision Zero programs, which is Zero Deaths in Maryland for drivers and passengers of motor vehicles, bicyclists, and pedestrians.

A complete streets policy provides information on how to design features that keep pedestrians and bicyclists safe in protected bicycle lanes and sidewalks, among other things, like crosswalks, share-the-road signage and pedestrian control signals. All of this is already in the law.

Our state's Vision Zero program plans and develops a State roadway system that has zero vehicle-related deaths or serious injuries. The goal is to have Zero deaths by 2030.

Citizens rely on walking and bicycling as alternative modes of transportation for health, the environment, and sometimes for necessity. The issue of keeping sidewalks and pathways well-maintained is not new and is necessary to meet our goal of zero deaths.

This bill simply prioritizes funding for the construction and reconstruction of sidewalks that are adjacent to highways that are subject to a complete streets policy and vision zero program.

So, I ask for a favorable report of HB 628.