



HB 437 - SUPPORT
Kristin Cook
350 Montgomery County
350MoCo@gmail.com

Transportation – Major Highway Capacity Expansion Projects and Impact Assessments
(Transportation and Climate Alignment Act of 2026) HB 437

Budget and Taxation Committee
March 24, 2026

Dear Chair Guzzone and Committee Members,

On behalf of 350 Montgomery County (350MoCo.org), I urge a favorable report on HB 437, The Transportation and Climate Alignment Act of 2026 (TCA).

350MoCo was founded in 2014 by local climate activists driven by a single goal: to solve the climate crisis by working to address its root causes, including economic and social inequity. We are the Montgomery County chapter of the citizens' activist group 350.org, with nearly 2,000 *local* supporters.

HB 437's profound goal is to avoid waste of transportation dollars through better design of major highway expansion projects. Additionally, it aims to afford people substantially more transportation choices while reducing vehicle congestion by diverting more cars off highways.

It has been determined that transportation is the second largest expense for most households. Fortunately, TCA will lower household costs and provide residents more transportation options.

Please note that retaining the requirement that MDOT take into account project level evaluations is critical to this bill. The TCA applies only to those few highway expansion projects that cost over \$100 million.

Thank you for your careful consideration.

Sincerely,

Kristin Cook
Steering Committee Member of 350MoCo