



**HB0437 - SUPPORT**

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**HB 0437**

**Transportation - Major Highway Capacity Expansion Projects and Impact Assessments (Transportation and Climate Alignment Act of 2026)**

Environment and Transportation  
March 24, 2026

Dear Chair Korman, Vice Chair Guyton, and members of the Environment and Transportation Committee:

The Climate Communications Coalition is a Maryland-based grassroots climate and environmental justice non-profit, a member of the Mid-Atlantic Justice Coalition, and of the Maryland Climate Justice Wing, among others. The Climate Communications Coalition strongly supports HB 0437.

Maryland must develop a more efficient transportation infrastructure. Transportation is Maryland's largest source of climate pollution, accounting for 35% of Maryland's Greenhouse Gas emissions in 2020 with most emissions (82%) in this sector coming from on-road vehicles powered by gasoline or diesel. These emissions contribute directly and significantly to the biggest threat of our times: the climate crisis. As of February 6, 2026 the average level of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) in the atmosphere was 427.7 parts per million (ppm), up from 280 ppm under which humanity was able to safely evolve. Accumulating additional greenhouse gases impacts our physical and mental health, our environment, our food and water, biodiversity, and exacerbates deadly and expensive weather events.

The Transportation and Climate Alignment Act (TCA) improves transportation planning to increase healthier and less polluting means of mobility while helping reduce pollution from the proliferation of highway projects and vehicle emissions. New analysis shows Maryland could achieve approximately \$550 million per year in net savings by 2050 by building out bus rapid transit, protected bike lanes, and passenger rail – funding that the state could redirect to improving climate resiliency.

The Climate Communications Coalition respectfully requests a favorable report on HB 0347.

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