



[SB 1005](#)– Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission General Counsel and Powers of Local Planning Boards – UNFAVORABLE

March 24, 2026

Chair Feldman and Members of the Committee,

The Washington Area Bicyclist Association (WABA) envisions a just and sustainable transportation system where walking, biking, and transit are the best ways to get around the Washington region. This testimony is submitted on behalf of the thousands of members and supporters in Montgomery and Prince George's counties.

WABA does not support SB 1005 and urges the committee to vote unfavorably on this bill.

This bill will destabilize the Bi-County entity, MNCPPC, and create administrative duplication and will incur additional significant costs on top of the costs already involved in operating the Commission. The efficiencies that the Commission enjoys with its current Bi-County structure will be eliminated.

Worse still, this bill will be a potential step towards destroying the political independence that the Montgomery and Prince George's County Planning Boards and Parks Departments currently enjoy as they are separate from the County Executives in both counties. That independence has led to the Planning Boards creating new and innovative plans, such as the [Montgomery County Bicycle Master Plan](#) and other county-wide and more localized master plans, as well as investments in County Parks and multi-use trails in both counties.

Please vote against passing SB 1005 and preserve the positive efficiencies and independence that exists in the current MNCPPC structure.

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