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Governor  
Aruna Miller  
Lieutenant Governor  
Kathryn Thomson  
Secretary

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April 3, 2026

The Honorable William C. Smith Jr.  
Chair, Judicial Proceedings Committee  
2 East Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

***RE: Letter of Support – House Bill 1381 – Vehicle Laws – Stopping, Standing, or Parking in a Bike Lane or Bicycle Path – Prohibition***

Dear Chair Smith and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) supports House Bill 1381 as an important step toward making bicycling safer throughout the State of Maryland.

HB 1381 prohibits stopping, standing, or parking a vehicle in a bike lane or bicycle path. The bill would not apply to an authorized emergency vehicle, a transit vehicle, a vehicle picking up or dropping off persons with disabilities, a severely disabled vehicle, or a vehicle loading or unloading goods for less than 30 minutes with a parking permit or with flashing hazard warning lights displayed. Local jurisdictions may opt out of this bill through local laws.

HB 1381 would reduce conflicts between bicyclists and motorists while providing local jurisdictions with flexibility to manage highway operations. As the State Highway Administration and local jurisdictions continue to expand Maryland's bicycle network, this bill would enhance the safety for all users and support the State's efforts to reduce serious injury and fatal crashes. Stopped, standing, or parked vehicles in a bike lane or bicycle path impede the flow of travel in a space dedicated to vulnerable road users and may unnecessarily place these individuals into conflict with drivers if they must enter a vehicular travel lane.

MDOT appreciates the willingness of the sponsor to accept amendments that clarify when vehicles may be allowed to stop in a bicycle path. The Maryland Department of Transportation respectfully requests the Committee consider this information during its deliberations and issue House Bill 1381 a favorable report.

Respectfully submitted,

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Maryland Department of Transportation  
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