



*Bicycle Advocates for Annapolis & Anne Arundel County  
Testimony to Anne Arundel County Council on Resolution 6-14  
February 18, 2014*

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Bicycle Advocates for Annapolis and Anne Arundel County (BikeAAA) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization formed in 2013. We are focused on creating a healthier, more livable Annapolis and Anne Arundel County by promoting safe bicycling for transportation, recreation and fitness. BikeAAA advocates for better bicycling conditions and transportation choices; and educates children, adults, and motorists about safe bicycling. We have 60 paid members, over 200 people on our Facebook page, and are connected to all the bike clubs in the County. BikeAAA participated in the County's 2013 Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan update and our Board Member, Alex Pline, is a member of the County's Transportation Commission.

We strongly support Council Resolution 6-14 to encourage a Complete Streets Program for Anne Arundel County. Adoption of this resolution is the first step to including a complete streets policy within the County's Transportation Functional Master Plan, an element identified in the 2013 Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan Update.

Traditionally biking has been seen as a form of recreation and fitness, but now bicycle use is on the rise for transportation. According to State Smart Transportation Initiative, per capita vehicle miles per year peaked in 2004 and have been declining each year since. Cumulatively, from 2004 to 2012, per capita vehicle miles driven has decreased by 7.5%. Complete streets ensure that all users of our transportation network, not just cars, are able to travel safely and conveniently.

In addition to items identified in the resolution, BikeAAA recommends that a complete streets program include recommendations for using the best and latest design criteria; performance measures; and implementation steps.

BikeAAA recommends that the Resolution be revised to provide for a complete streets program that includes planning, construction, maintenance and operations. In particular, without construction and maintenance, the County will make little to no progress in providing complete streets.

BikeAAA would like to be included in a Complete Streets Working Group and strongly recommends the County establish a permanent bicycle advisory group.

Smart Growth America and the National Complete Streets Coalition have just published "The Best Complete Streets Policies of 2013." Of the 80 communities that adopted complete streets policies in 2013, Baltimore County ranked sixth in the nation for its complete streets policy. BikeAAA would like to see Anne Arundel County make the top 15 in 2014.

**Board Members**

Jon Korin, President

Cathy Rich, Treasurer

Alex Pline

Joe Piette, Vice President

Alice Christman, Secretary

Christina Pompa, AICP, LEED AP

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