House Environment & Transportation Committee   February 8, 2017

Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

RE: SUPPORT House Bill 192

Dear Chairman and Members of the Committee,

I am a resident of District 33, president of Bicycle Advocates for Annapolis and Anne Arundel County ("BikeAAA"), Chair of the recently appointed Anne Arundel County Bicycle Advisory Commission and an avid Maryland cyclist for over 20 years. On behalf of BikeAAA and it's more than 700 members, I support House Bill 192. Maryland has a strong history of support for safe bicycling but has slipped recently in the League of American Bicyclists state ranking from #7 to #10. Safe biking is important not only for Maryland's health and environment, it is also critical for economic competitiveness as millennials favoring active transportation over cars choose places to live, work and start businesses.   It is also a transportation equity concern for Marylanders for whom a bike is the only affordable option

This Task Force is **different but complementary to the Maryland Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Commission in three important ways**:

1. **Composition – This task force includes ALL road users including Automobiles and Trucks as well as legislators from the House and Senate.**
2. **Mission – The Task Force should focus on formulating and recommending legislation.   The MBPAC monitors but does not formulate and recommend legislation.**
3. **Legislative Efficiency – I participated in a very similar and effective task force convened by Del. Lafferty on a particular bill last year.   The parties were able to reach consensus before a bill was filed and brought to committee.**

Safe bicycling promotes health, reduces traffic, improves the environment and stimulates economic growth.   We urge your support for passage of HB192.

Sincerely,

Jon Korin

President, Bicycle Advocates for Annapolis & Anne Arundel County   Tel: 443-685-4103