



Support HB527 & HB578 Crosswalk Safety & Signals

*Bicycle Advocates for Annapolis & Anne Arundel County
P.O. Box 208, Arnold, MD 21012 www.bikeaaa.org*

House Environment & Transportation Committee
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

February 18, 2017

RE: SUPPORT House Bills 527 and 578 – Crosswalk Safety and Signals

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 its more than 700 members, I support House Bills 527 and 578. 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.

- 1. HB527 clarifies the current ambiguous laws for drivers and bicyclists to enable safe passage of bicyclists through crosswalks. This is especially important where trail users cross roads.**
- 2. HB578 allows the use of improved pedestrian and bicyclist activated signals at crossings**

Safe bicycling promotes health, reduces traffic, improves the environment and stimulates economic growth. To encourage more bicycle transportation, Maryland must make crossings safer. We urge your support for passage of HB527 and HB578.

Sincerely,

Jon Korin

President, Bicycle Advocates for Annapolis & Anne Arundel County

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