



Support SB925 Crosswalk Safety For Bicycles

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

Senate Finance Committee
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

March 10, 2017

RE: SUPPORT Senate Bill 925 – Crosswalk Safety for Bicycles

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 Bill 997. 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. SB925 clarifies the rights and responsibilities of bicyclists to enable safe passage through crosswalks. This is especially important where trail users cross busy roads.**
- 2. This corrects an anomaly in the current law treats bicyclists as vehicles even when crossing in a crosswalk between 2 trails. It provides bicyclists with the same rights and requires the same responsibilities as pedestrians using crosswalks.**

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 SB925.

Sincerely,

Jon Korin

President, Bicycle Advocates for Annapolis & Anne Arundel County

Tel: 443-685-4103