

HOD - Environment & Transportation

Dear Delegate,

Please vote AGAINST SB0345. Although this concept seems nice on the surface, it's just another committee formed and more people needed to track info. and more work for people to do. Let the counties do what they need to do to implement safe roads, etc. HOWEVER, anyone who has ever driven on a road NEXT to a bike lane, especially in some parts of Montgomery County, will most likely agree that these bike lanes are DANGEROUS for both a driver of a motor vehicle as well as a bicyclist. Keep bikes OFF of roads and on side paths AWAY from motor vehicle traffic. Keep ALL lanes of paved roads available for motor vehicles. Help Marylanders get to where they need to go faster without more state regulation.

Additionally, isn't it obvious that there are never going to be as many people biking to work or around town to do their errands as there are motor vehicles?

(And building so many little town centers (*with VERY SMALL lanes for motor vehicle traffic*) which increases pedestrian traffic does NOT help as well as becoming more lax on driver's license requirements which allows unsafe drivers on the roads and the potential for those uninsured on the roads. And poor lighting at intersections also does NOT help keep pedestrians safe.)

Yes, this sounds "fatalistic" but because the drivers of motor vehicles and bicycles *are human*, there will unfortunately be fatalities.

However, by keeping significant distance between bike lanes and lanes for motor vehicles -- WITHOUT REMOVING A PAVED TRAFFIC LANE -- the number of fatalities will be significantly lowered.

Help keep Marylanders safe *and* happy. Stop finagling ways to promote bike traffic over motor vehicle traffic so Maryland residents will not be cursing under their breath all the way to work or around town and trying to figure out ways to FLEE Maryland.

Vote UNFAVORABLE on SB0345.

Sincerely,
Lee Robinson
Gaithersburg (LD-39)
Montgomery County

"Oh, say, does that *star-spangled banner* yet wave?
O'er the land of the *free* and the *home* of the *brave*!"