



## **2024 LEGISLATIVE RECAP**

PRESENTED BY

Peter Gray  
Chair, Bike Maryland Board of Directors



## OUR MISSION

To promote bicycling, increase safety, improve conditions, and provide a voice for bicyclists in Maryland. Established in 1999, we are 100% volunteer-driven.

## WHO WE WORK WITH & WHY

Advocacy organizations, state and local government, universities, businesses and communities to make bicycling a safe form of transportation and a fun recreational opportunity for all.



## OUR LEGISLATIVE WORK

Bike Maryland spends significant time advocating in Annapolis for stronger state bicycling policies and legislation.

This year's legislative session ended on Monday, April 8th. Several Bike Maryland-supported bills passed both chambers and have gone to the Governor for signature!



2024

# Legislative Recap

DECEMBER 2023

(Before the 2024 Legislative Session began)

Set priorities on what bills to back

Met with potential bill sponsors

Sent our budget priorities letter to the Governor and MDOT Secretary





## KEY DATES FOR THE 2024 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

**JANUARY 10**

Session opens.

**JANUARY 17**

Deadline for the Governor to introduce budget bills.

**JANUARY 19**

Deadline to request a bill to guarantee a committee hearing.

**FEBRUARY 5**

Senate bill introduction deadline.

*(But Senate Rules Committee may consider late bills.)*

**FEBRUARY 7**

Governor delivers State of the State address.

**FEBRUARY 9**

House bill introduction deadline.

*(But House Rules Committee may consider late bills.)*



## KEY DATES FOR THE 2024 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

FEBRUARY 15

Bike Maryland Symposium in Annapolis.

MARCH 18

Crossover Day

*A bill must pass out of one chamber to guarantee a hearing in the other chamber.*

APRIL 1

Deadline to pass budget out of both chambers.

APRIL 8

Sine Die

*(General Assembly adjourns at midnight.)*





## Priority Bills

- 5 bills passed and were signed by Governor Moore
- 3 bills passed the House only
- 4 bills did not pass either chamber



PRIORITY BILLS THAT WERE

# Passed and Signed by Gov. Moore

HB0337 / SB0315

Sarah Debbink Langenkamp Memorial Act

SB0345 / HB0344

Vision Zero Implementation

SB0943

Better Bus Service Act

HB0337 & HB0193

Local bills for Prince George's and Anne Arundel Counties



HB0337 / SB0315

# SARAH DEBBINK LANGENKAMP MEMORIAL ACT

## ABOUT THE BILL

Named for Sarah Debbink Langenkamp, who was killed while riding in a bike lane in Bethesda, the bill enhances penalties for vehicle drivers who injure/kill a cyclist in a bike lane, matching penalties for drivers who hit people walking in crosswalks.

## SPONSORED BY

Delegate Sarah Love & Senator Arianna Kelly

## RESULT

Passed House 138-0. Passed Senate 47-0.  
Signed by Governor Moore on May 9, 2024.



**SB0345 / HB0344**

# **VISION ZERO ADVISORY COORDINATOR**

## **ABOUT THE BILL**

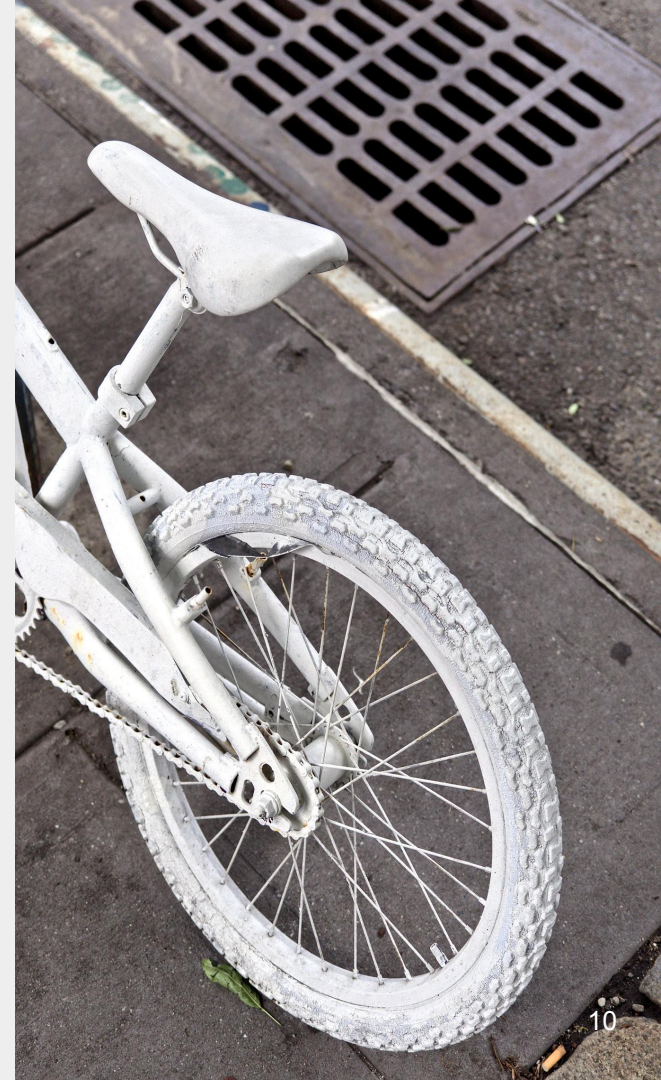
Requires an MDOT Vision Zero Coordinator to collaborate with state agencies and local authorities and hold quarterly public meetings.

## **SPONSORED BY**

Delegate Julie Palakovich Carr & Senator Jeff Waldstreicher

## **RESULT**

Passed the Senate 46-0. Passed the House 137-0.  
Signed by Governor Moore on May 9, 2024.



**SB0943**

# **BETTER BUS SERVICE ACT OF 2024**

## **ABOUT THE BILL**

Allows automated traffic enforcement of vehicles stopping, standing or parking in bus-only lanes (which bicyclists may use).

## **SPONSORED BY**

Delegate Robyn Lewis & Senator Arianna Kelly

## **RESULT**

Passed the Senate 44-0. Passed the House 108-28. Approved by Governor Moore on May 16, 2024.



**HB0364**

## **PRINCE GEORGE'S STOP SIGN MONITORING**

### **ABOUT THE BILL**

Allows automated enforcement at stop signs in school zones in Prince George's County.

### **RESULT**

Passed the House 110-30. Passed the Senate 37-10. Signed by Governor Moore on May 9, 2024.



**HB0193**

## **ANNE ARUNDEL SPEED LIMITS**

### **ABOUT THE BILL**

Enables Anne Arundel County to lower speed limits to 15 mph after doing a traffic study

### **RESULT**

Passed the House 129-0. Passed the Senate 45-2. Signed by Governor Moore on May 9, 2024.





PRIORITY BILLS THAT

# Passed the House Only

HB0111 / SB0077

Bikes on Sidewalks

HB0511 / SB0826

Bicycle Safety Yield

HB0836 / SB0681

Transportation and Climate  
Alignment Act

*Why did these bills stall in the Senate?*



# BIKES ON SIDEWALKS

## ABOUT THE BILL

Makes legally riding bikes on sidewalks the default statewide. (Currently, biking is allowed on sidewalks *only* if the local county/city passes a law legalizing biking on sidewalks.)

Seeks to avoid disproportionate policing impacts for people of color riding safely on sidewalks.

## SPONSORED BY

Delegate Dana Jones & Senator Jeff Waldstreicher

## RESULT

Passed the House 134-2. The Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee did not vote on the bill.



*A good example of why some bills take 2+ years to pass through the legislature.*

HB0511 / SB0826

# BICYCLE SAFETY YIELD

## ABOUT THE BILL

Would have allowed bikes to treat stop signs as yield signs, making biking through intersections safer by making cyclists more visible to cars.

Followed [guidance](#) from the National Highway Traffic Administration endorsing such current state laws adopting this policy. 11 other states and DC now have such laws.

## SPONSORED BY

Senator Will Smith & Delegates Elizabeth Embry and Regina Boyce

## RESULT

Passed the House 119-13. The Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee did not vote on the bill.





# TRANSPORTATION & CLIMATE ALIGNMENT ACT

## ABOUT THE BILL

Would have required MDOT and regional planning agencies to measure and mitigate increased climate pollution and Vehicle Miles Travelled (VMT) caused by highway expansion projects over \$50 million.

Mitigations included expanding transit access, building protected bike infrastructure, expanding remote work options, or locating jobs and amenities near residential housing.

## SPONSORED BY

Delegate Mark Edelson & Senator Clarence Lam

## RESULT

Passed the House 101-37. The bill passed out of the Senate Finance Committee and passed a second reading in the Senate, but did not receive a third reading vote before the end of session.



PRIORITY BILLS THAT

# Did Not Pass Either Chamber

HB0530 / SB0645

Great Maryland  
Trails Act

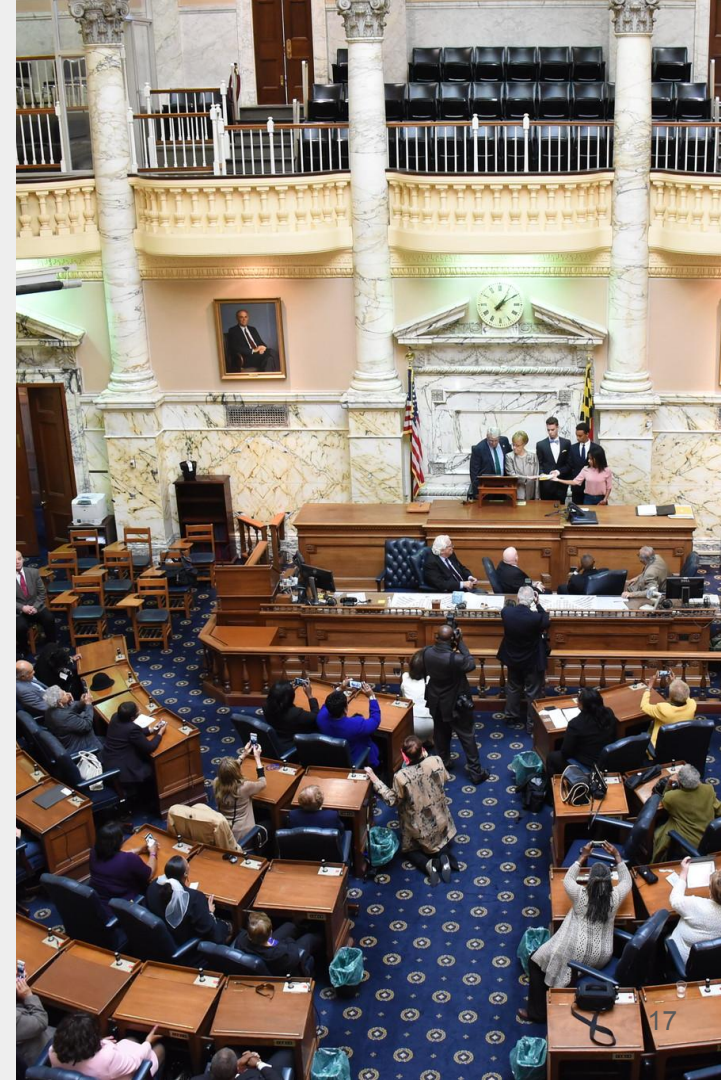
HB0156

E-bike rebate  
program

HB0135 / SB0593

Maryland  
Transportation  
Authority - Pedestrian  
and Bicycle Safety

*Why did these bills fail to progress?*



HB0530 / SB0645

# GREAT MARYLAND TRAILS ACT

## ABOUT THE BILL

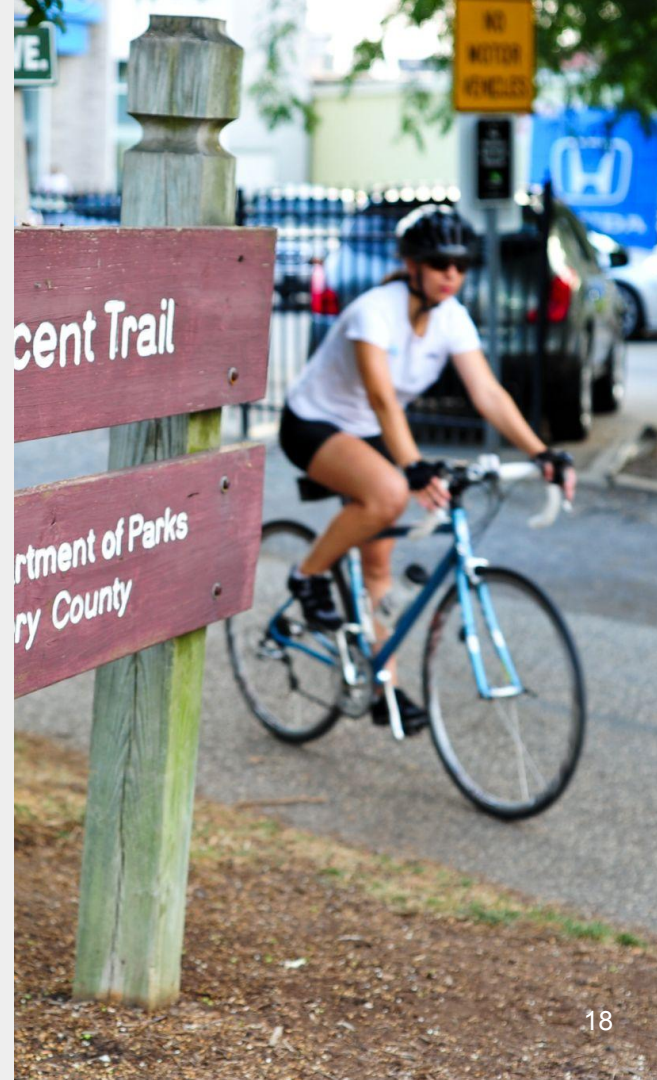
Would have created:

- A State Trails Office
- An inventory of current trails
- A plan for a statewide trail network
- A Maryland Trails Advisory Commission

...all under MDOT with DNR involvement.

## SPONSORED BY

Senator Sarah Elfreth & Delegate Regina Boyce





# GREAT MARYLAND TRAILS ACT

## STATUS

- We began discussions with Senator Elfreth in February 2023 at Bike Maryland Symposium
- Made contact with MDOT and DNR
- Enlisted support from Mid-Atlantic Off Road Enthusiasts (MORE), East Coast Greenway (ECG), Eastern Shore trails advocates & Rails-to-Trails Conservancy (RTC)
- Got bills cross-filed in both Senate and House prior to session start
- Neither version got voted on in the respective committees



HB0135 / SB0593

# MARYLAND TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY - PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE SAFETY

## ABOUT THE BILL

Would have repealed the prohibition on use of MDTA bridges by people walking and biking, and  
Would have required MDTA to build separated bike/ped infrastructure on certain MDTA structures

## SPONSORED BY

Delegate Lorig Charkoudian & Senator Jeff Waldstreicher

## STATUS

Neither version got voted on in the respective committees



HB0156

# ELECTRIC BIKE REBATE AND VOUCHER PROGRAM

## ABOUT THE BILL

Creates program to subsidize purchase of ebikes, focussed on lower income residents, with \$100,000 initial outlay.

## SPONSORED BY

Delegate Robbyn Lewis

## STATUS

The bill did not get voted on in the committee





HB0389 / SB0514

# STATE ROAD TRAIL AND SIDEWALK MAINTENANCE

## ABOUT THE BILL

Would allow state agencies (MDOT SHA) to maintain bike/ped infrastructure (sidepaths, off road trails) within SHA's right-of-way, reversing the current prohibition against such state funding for maintenance of such projects.

## SPONSORED BY

Delegates Anne Healy, Ashanti Martinez & Nicole Williams and Senator Alonzo Washington

## STATUS

Did not pass either chamber







OUR BIKE MARYLAND

# Committee Work in Both Houses

## House of Delegates

### Environment & Transportation (ENT):

- Chair Marc Korman (D-16)
- Vice Chair Regina Boyce (D-43B)

## Senate

### Judicial Proceedings (JPR):

- Chair Will Smith (D-20)
- Vice Chair Jeff Waldstreicher (D-18)



# WHAT'S NEXT?

- Create list of bills for next year - crowdsource ideas from advocates
- Re-submit some of the bills from the 2024 session
- Talk to key legislators on ENT (House) and JPR (Senate) committees
- Enlist support from MDOT, DNR, and MdTA
- Invite advocates to join Monday evening meetings
- Scope out events where State Delegates and Senators will be in attendance
- Post reminders on social media about our recent successes
- Host an in-person summer event and invite electeds?
- Meet with climate advocates to encourage better partnerships?
- Meet with MORE leadership to discuss priorities/overlap/challenges of 2024
- **Change how we decide our legislative priorities in future sessions – let's have a more inclusive approach.**



# RESOURCES & FURTHER READING

- [Bike Maryland website](#)
- [Bike Maryland's full 2024 legislative update](#)
- [General Assembly 2024 calendar](#)
- [NHTSA guidance on bicyclist stop-as-yield](#)

## PHOTO CREDITS

Slide 4/Joe Flood on [Flickr](#) (CC BY-NC-ND 2.0); Slide 7/ ????; Slide 9/ Dan Lagenkamp via cnn.com; Slide 10/Rich Renomeron on [Flickr](#) (CC BY-NC-ND 2.0); Slide 11/via MDOT; Slide 12 Stop sign/Charleston's TheDigitel on [Flickr](#) (CC BY 2.0), Speed limit/Claire McDonough on [Flickr](#) (CC BY-NC-ND 2.0); Slide 13/Payton Chung on [Flickr](#) (CC BY 2.0); Slide 14/Dan Behrend; Slide 15/Cycle Luxembourg on [Flickr](#) (CC BY-NC 2.0); Slide 17/Maryland GovPics on [Flickr](#) (CC BY 2.0); Slide 18/eddie welker on [Flickr](#) (CC BY-SA 2.0); Slide 19/Maryland GovPics on [Flickr](#) (CC BY 2.0); Slide 20/Bossi on [Flickr](#) (CC BY-SA 2.0); Slide 21/Richard Masoner on [Flickr](#) (CC BY-SA 2.0); Slide 22/Sébastien Launay on [Flickr](#) (CC BY 2.0).



Become a member!

<https://www.bikemaryland.org/support/join/become-a-member/>

Volunteer!

<https://www.bikemaryland.org/support/volunteer/>