



How one Legislator's Public Health Bill Closed the Gap

Funding Transportation in a Time of Scarcity

Delegate Robbyn Lewis
Maryland District 46
29 August 2024



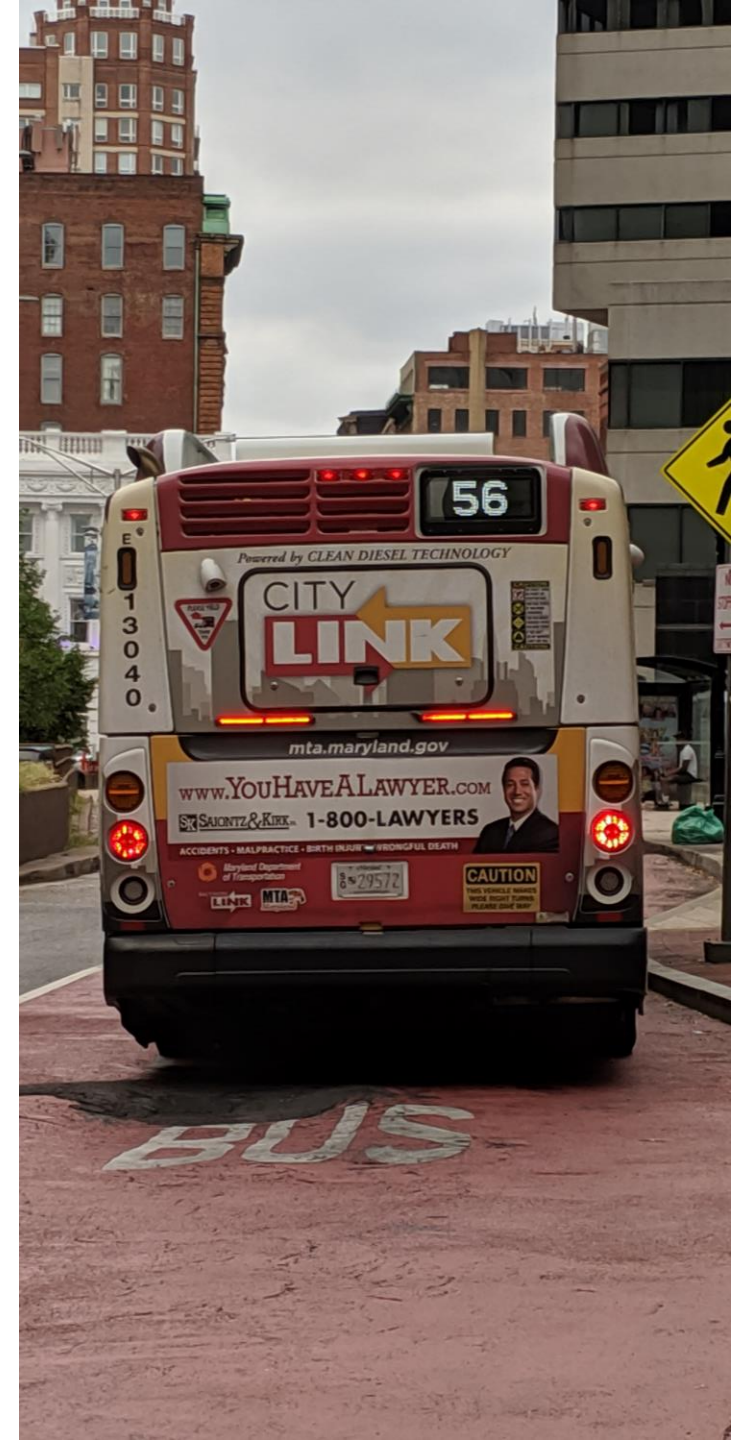
AGENDA

A Story

The Battle of the Budget

Centering Public Health

Way Forward



WHAT WE WANT



Buses



Bikes



Accessibility



Walkability



What We Don't Want

Traffic Violence
Hostile Public Space
Segregation
Pollution

WHAT WE NEED, BUT DON'T HAVE



GOV & POLITICS TRANSPORTATION

House and Senate leaders say they have a budget agreement

BY: BRYAN P. SEARS - APRIL 3, 2024 10:20 PM

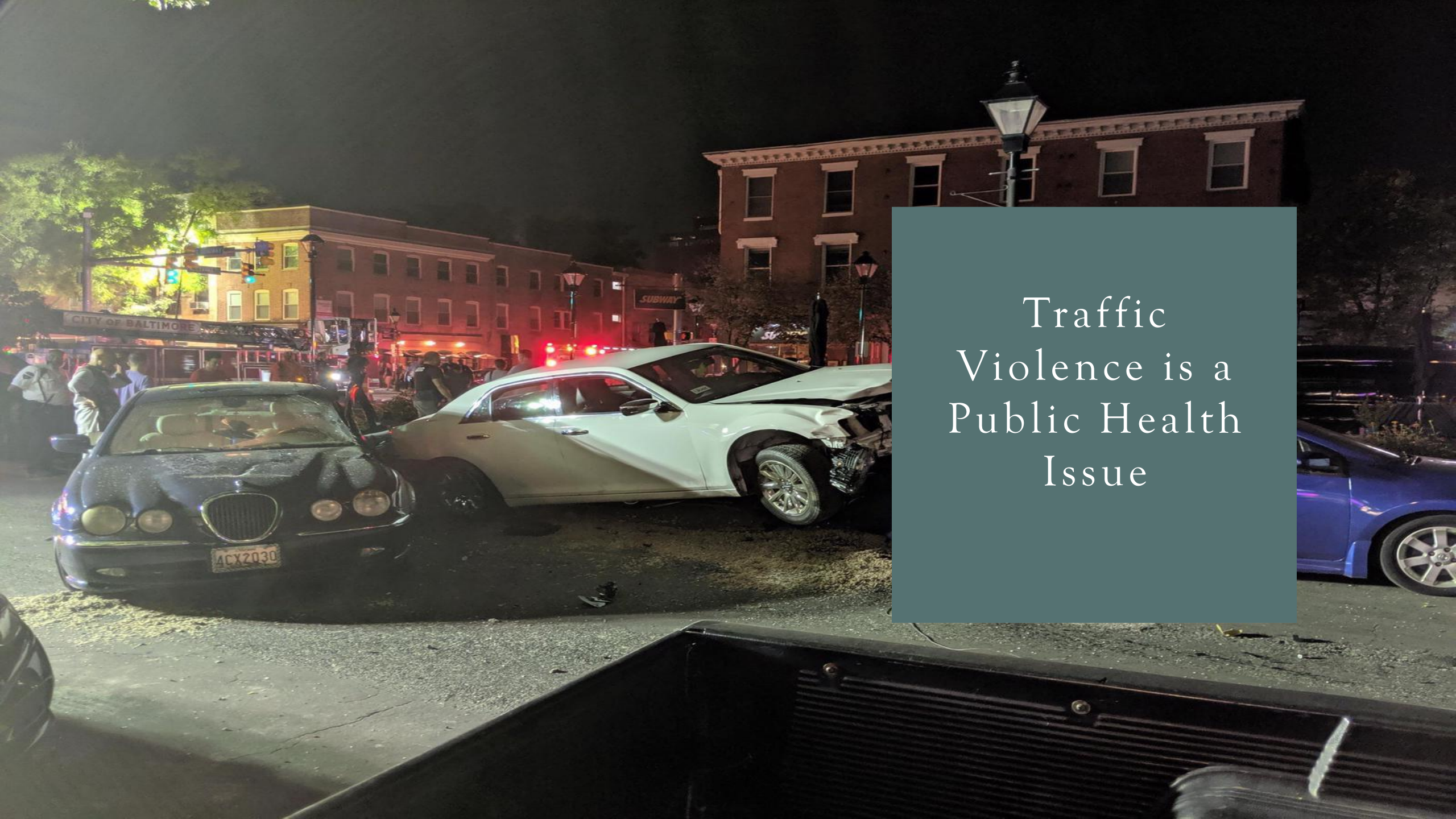


State Budget

A Bill

Where Money Comes From

Negotiated



Traffic
Violence is a
Public Health
Issue

NATIONAL

Taller cars and trucks are more dangerous for pedestrians, according to crash data

NOVEMBER 14, 2023 · 5:00 AM ET

Joel Rose



GMC pickup trucks on a lot at a General Motors dealership in Austin, Texas. The average U.S. passenger vehicle has gotten about 8 inches taller in the last 30 years, according to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety.

THE PROBLEM

Tall and heavy vehicles are more likely to kill pedestrians

SUV/Trucks proliferating

Needless death and injury

2 / 1 / 20XX

THE SOLUTION

PUT A PRICE
ON THE NEGATIVE
EXTERNALITIES
CAUSED BY HUGE, HEAVY
SUV/TRUCKS

USE REVENUE TO PAY FOR
COMPLETE STREETS



SO, WHAT HAD HAPPENED WAS

Drafted the Big Car Tax bill based on 2022 article by Yonah Freemark, also similar policy in France. Sought feedback, support from transit advocates. Set up legislative strategy. Revenues go to Complete Streets.

Public Health Approach

I introduced the bill early, i.e., pre-filed in November 2023 to ensure an early and fair hearing during the 2024 session. Increase registration fee based on weight and height

Pre-File

HB28 Passenger, Truck, and Multipurpose Vehicles - Annual Registration Fees (Pedestrian Fatality Prevention Act of 2024). I like to call it the Big Car Tax. Heard in ENT on Feb 1st. Fiscal Note: generate \$200mil/year . gets attention.

Hearing

Governor introduced Budget bill first week of session, which cut transportation funding by \$3billion. Gov. bill heard first in the Senate, no transport \$. House assembles funding package in the BRFA that centers my bill. Revenue goes to TTF

Budget Process

My bill did not pass: instead it was made a centerpiece in the BRFA, making the Senate-House budget deal possible. In total the budget funds \$330 million per year for transportation.

Victory

A public health approach to transportation funding



n is not shared equally
an danger by race and ethnicity

