

Dakota Soda

From: Paul Selden <paul@bikefriendlykalamazoo.org>
Sent: Sunday, April 21, 2024 9:30 AM
To: Dakota Soda
Cc: Rep. Julie Rogers (District 41); board@bikefriendlykalamazoo.org
Subject: Bike Friendly Kalamazoo Supports HR4223 and HR5224

Dear Committee Chair Shannon, Clerk Soda, and Members of the House Transportation, Mobility and Infrastructure Standing Committee,

This past week we learned that House Bills 5223 and 5224, bills related to protecting vulnerable roadway users, will be on your agenda this coming Tuesday April 23, 2024 at a meeting of the House Transportation, Mobility and Infrastructure Standing Committee.

Bike Friendly Kalamazoo, a Michigan non-profit with IRS status as a 501(c)3, respectfully supports both bills for many compelling reasons, two of which we will briefly mention.

Vulnerable Roadway User (VRU) legislation would extend protections to bicyclists and other vulnerable roadway users that are already given to groups like road construction workers. We believe such legislation affords equal protection under the law to groups who are no less vulnerable than those currently protected.

Bike Friendly Kalamazoo also believes that the publicity surrounding such laws, once enacted, would have a favorable effect on increasing the awareness of need to use the roads in a safe manner. In particular, we support HR5223 and HR5224 since they contain important refinements to the body of the legislation.

We appreciate the opportunity your committee offers to communicate our strong support for HR5223 and HR5224 and thank all those who have worked to bring these bills before your committee.

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Respectfully,

Paul Selden

(269) 598-8301 (cell)

Chair at Large

Bike Friendly Kalamazoo

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Helping to make our greater community even more bicycle friendly

Please note my new preferred email address; emails sent to president@bikefriendlykalamazoo.org are shared with BFK's newly elected president, Tom Hohm