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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

March 30, 2022

Senator Wayne Langerholc Jr. Senate Box 203035 Harrisburg, PA 17120-3035

Senator Marty Flynn Senate Box 203022 Harrisburg, PA 17120-3022

Dear Senators Langerholc and Flynn:

I write today to indicate our support for HB140, The Parking Protected Bike Lane and Pedestrian Plaza Bill -Susan's and Emily's Law, and urge you to call for a Senate Transportation Committee vote on this bill.

The Central Philadelphia Transportation Management Association (CPTMA), a subsidiary of the Central Philadelphia Development Corporation (CPDC), focuses on making travel to, from, and within Center City accessible, convenient, efficient, reliable, and safe for commuters, residents and visitors. We promote transit use, work to improve conditions for pedestrians and bicyclists, and ameliorate traffic congestion.

For more than twenty years, we have worked to implement and promote safe, reliable, and affordable means of commuting and traveling to and within Philadelphia.

Both PennDOT and municipalities in Pennsylvania lack the ability to easily install parking protected bike lanes and pedestrian plazas on state roads. A parking protected bike lane uses parked cars to physically separate pedestrians and bicyclists from automobile traffic. Pennsylvanians are presently denied this life-saving tool, which is successfully used in other states across the country, because of a technicality in the Pennsylvania Vehicle Code that requires cars to be parked within twelve inches of the curb. While parking protected bike lanes are not expressly forbidden by the Vehicle Code, the Code is written in such a way that such lanes are noncompliant.

Legislation is, therefore, needed to modify the Pennsylvania Vehicle Code. Representative David Maloney (R-130), introduced HB140 on January 8, 2021 and it passed on March 18, 2021 (201-0). The Senate Transportation Committee has yet to take the bill up for a vote.

Benefits of the bill include:

• Expanding traffic engineering tools available to implement roadway designs that calm traffic

and increase roadway safety for users including bicyclists and pedestrians,

Support for municipalities in implementing Complete Streets efforts that increase equitable

access for users of all transportation modes, and,

Permitting, but not mandating, the use of parking protected bike lanes.

I urge you to bring this bill to a vote as soon as possible in order to provide PennDOT, engineers, and communities with a valuable tool for enhancing transportation safety and access across the Commonwealth.

Sincerely,

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Prema Katari Gupta Executive Director



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