


<b>F R O M</b>	<b>Name &amp; Title</b>	<b>Dr. Leana Wen, Commissioner</b> <i>Leana Wen</i>	<b>Health Department</b>  <b>AGENCY REPORT</b>	
	<b>Agency Name &amp; Address</b>	<b>Health Department 1001 E. Fayette Street Baltimore, Maryland 21201</b>		
	<b>Subject</b>	<b>17-0102 – Land Use and Transportation – Complete Streets</b>		

**To: President and Members  
of the City Council  
c/o 409 City Hall**

**March 15, 2018**

The Baltimore City Health Department (BCHD) is pleased to have the opportunity to review #17-0102 – Land Use and Transportation – Complete Streets. The purpose of this legislation is to require the Transportation Department to construct and operate a comprehensive Complete Streets Transportation System. This legislation would require the establishment of street design standards and the creation of a Complete Streets Coordinating Council to aid in the ordinance’s enactment.<sup>1</sup>

Research shows that certain demographics are more at risk than others of pedestrian collisions. Notably, people of color, elderly citizens and those in areas with high incidences of poverty are at more risk of pedestrian danger nationally and in Maryland.<sup>2</sup> These disparities are particularly concerning as marginalized communities already face higher levels of public health concerns. Baltimore City’s citizenry is comprised of many of the groups that are most impacted by pedestrian danger.<sup>3</sup> Complete Streets programs may mitigate compounded harm to marginalized communities by addressing dangerous pedestrian conditions.

While programs like Complete Streets seek to improve health outcomes, much of Council Bill #17-0102 deals in the implementation of transportation policy specifics. As such, the Health Department defers to the Department of Transportation.

<sup>1</sup> <https://baltimore.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=3105004&GUID=D84D8A72-1C20-494D-A909-7503F044A56F&Options=&Search=>

<sup>2</sup> Dangerous by Design, <https://nextcity.org/pdf/dangerous-by-design-2016.pdf>, 16-24

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/baltimorecitymarylandcounty/AGE295216>, 1-3