



WASHINGTON AREA BICYCLIST ASSOCIATION

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WASHINGTON REGION

Vision Zero Summit

FIRST REGIONAL VISION ZERO SUMMIT ON FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 2017

D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser will address Vision Zero Summit

Washington, D.C. – The Washington Area Bicyclist Association (WABA) George Washington University Hospital and AAA Mid-Atlantic will host the Washington Region's first Vision Zero Summit on Friday, March 31, 2017. The event is designed to bring attention to traffic safety and the effort to end all traffic deaths and serious injuries.

Vision Zero is grounded in the principle that traffic fatalities are preventable. More than 425 people are killed annually in the Washington region while driving, walking, and biking. Each person killed leaves behind a grieving community.

"When streets are safe for biking, they are safe for everyone." said Greg Billing, WABA Executive Director of WABA. "As the regional voice for people who bike, we advocate for safer streets for all road users. We organized this summit to bring a diverse group of stakeholders together to explore how we can collaborate across disciplines and jurisdictions to make travel in the Washington Region safe for everyone. We are incredibly excited by the energy and enthusiasm for the sold out event."

"AAA Mid-Atlantic has sponsored Vision Zero Summits in several cities because we are fully committed to the ambitious goal of eliminating deaths and injuries on our roadways. For more than 100 years, AAA has advocated tirelessly to ensure that our roads are safe for motorists, bicyclists, pedestrians," said Tom Calcagni, Director of Public & Government Affairs at AAA Mid-Atlantic. "We should never lose site of the fact that we could be a motorist this morning, a pedestrian this afternoon and a bicyclist this evening, and AAA wants everyone using our roads to get where they are going safely, no matter which mode of transportation they choose."

The Vision Zero Summit will focus on data-driven efforts to design safer streets, effectively allocate traffic enforcement resources, and improve public education around street safety. The event will feature plenary sessions and a variety of breakout panel discussions.

Summit speakers will include D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser, Montgomery County Councilmember Hans Riemer, Dr. David Yang, Executive Director of the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety, Emiko Atherton, Director of the National Complete Streets Coalition, Lucinda Babers, Director of the District of Columbia Department of Motor Vehicles, Erv Beckert, Chief of the Highway and Bridge Design Division at Prince George's County Department of Public Works and Transportation, and more than 30 other local and national speakers. The full agenda for the Summit is available online at <http://www.waba.org/vision-zero-summit/>.

"This event is designed to bring awareness to the urgent issue of traffic violence and the harm it causes in our community. We seek to achieve a regional commitment to Vision Zero to eliminate all traffic fatalities and serious injuries in the Washington region within the next decade" said Greg Billing.

The Vision Zero Summit is hosted by the Washington Area Bicyclist Association, George Washington University Hospital and AAA Mid-Atlantic. The event is sponsored by the DC Bike Ride, Menus Catering, District Department of Transportation, Lyft, Uber, car2go, and VHB.

More information, including complete agenda: <http://www.waba.org/vision-zero-summit/>.

About the Washington Area Bicyclist Association

WABA is 501(c)3 member-supported nonprofit organization founded in 1972. The organization is dedicated to creating a healthy, more livable Washington region by promoting bicycling for fun, fitness, and affordable transportation. More information about WABA can be found online: <http://www.waba.org/>