

MC 17-25 – Montgomery County – Speed Monitoring Systems – High–Risk Highways Washington Area Bicyclist Association – FAVORABLE

December 9, 2024

Chairs Kramer and Palakovich Carr and Members of the Montgomery County Delegation,

The Washington Area Bicyclist Association (WABA), a regional nonprofit with over 1,100 Maryland members, supports bill MC 17-25.

MC 17-25 would require that the balance of automated speed monitoring system fines collected in Montgomery County be used to fund the study, design, and construction of safety-related projects on roadways or intersections in Montgomery County that have been identified as high risk for motor vehicle collisions that result in serious bodily injury or death, and would facilitate automated enforcement at those high-risk locations.

Automated speed monitoring systems are a safety tool, typically placed in locations with significant non-compliance. According to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), "Studies clearly show that higher speeds result in greater impact at the time of a crash, which leads to more severe injuries and fatalities." We need to appropriately reduce speeds on our roadways via safety redesign and by speed-limit enforcement that encourages driver compliance with speed limits. Automated speed monitoring systems are an effective tool toward this end.

It is entirely appropriate that the balance of enforcement fines be targeted to enhance safety at our county's most dangerous roadway locations, as identified by the resources cited in bill MC 17-25.

WABA recommends you advance MC 17-25 and work in Annapolis in the coming months to enact this legislation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this legislation.

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