



February 26, 2020

The Honorable William C. Smith, Jr
The Honorable Jeff Waldstreicher
Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Support for SB0976 Speed Monitoring Systems - School Zones - Hours and Days of Operation

Dear Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee:

Bikemore is Baltimore City's Livable Streets Advocacy organization representing over 5,000 supporters and the hundreds of thousands of Baltimoreans who walk, bike, roll, and take transit through Baltimore City daily. We write in support of SB0976 Speed Monitoring Systems - School Zones - Hours and Days of Operation, which will repeal a requirement that speed monitoring systems only operate between 6:00am and 8:00pm.

Baltimore City experiences significant injury and death on city roadways. Speed cameras are proven through an extensive body of research to reduce injury and fatal crashes.

Our city lacks a yellow school bus system, and children must use Maryland Transit Administration bus service in order to access their schools of choice, as well as after school activities. In practice, this means students are often in transit to or from school and related activities well into the evening hours, and then waiting at transit stops for transfers or walking the last few blocks home after cameras are shut off.

One third of our city lacks access to a vehicle entirely. Half of our city regularly lacks access to a vehicle. In our poorest neighborhoods, zero car households approach eighty percent. These residents are reliant on walking, biking, and public transportation as their primary means of accessing opportunity. They are placed in harm's way the second speed camera systems turn off. In practice, this means our most vulnerable road users are disproportionately injured and killed along our roadways.

We know cameras work. We know that this legislation would save additional lives. We support it and we urge the committee to support it as well.

Sincerely,

Jed Weeks
Policy Director