



BRANDON M. SCOTT
MAYOR

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Legislative Priority – House Bill 284

Bill: [HB0284](#) - Vehicle Laws – Dedicated Bus Lanes – Enforcement

Sponsor: Delegate Robbyn Lewis, 46th District

What:

- HB0284 authorizes the City of Baltimore to implement automated dedicated bus lane (DBL) enforcement cameras.
- The Baltimore City Department of Transportation's (DOT) Automated Traffic Violation Enforcement System (ATVES) Division, which operates red light and speed camera programs, would operate the automated bus lane enforcement program.
- HB0284 is a local bill that only authorizes automated dedicated bus lane enforcement within the boundaries of Baltimore City.

Why:

- The intent of automated enforcement is to discourage non-transit vehicles from utilizing DBLs.
- Keeping DBLs clear of non-transit vehicles helps to improve on-time performance and the overall reliability of Baltimore's bus transit network.
- Automated DBL enforcement reduces burden on existing law enforcement and regulatory bodies including Baltimore City Police Department, MTA Police, and Baltimore City DOT Safety Division's Traffic Enforcement Officers.

Best Practices:

- Per the 2019 DBL report, New York City's automated enforcement system with stationary cameras that monitor traffic in DBLs most closely resembles the manner in which the program would be implemented in Baltimore.
- San Francisco also has an automated DBL enforcement program, though that program differs in that the cameras are mounted on the buses themselves.

Background:

- During the 2019 Legislative Session, [HB0130](#) - Maryland Transit Administration and Baltimore City Department of Transportation – Study of Dedicated Bus Lanes passed & was signed into law. The legislation mandated a joint study, comprised of representative from MTA Maryland, Baltimore City DOT and Baltimore Police, reviewing best practices of DBL enforcement across the US.
- The study was conducted and published ahead of the 2020 Legislative Session (study included with email as a pdf attachment). The study recommends automated enforcement of DBLs, helping to relieve enforcement pressure off Baltimore City Police Department, MTA Police, and Baltimore City DOT Safety Division's Traffic Enforcement Officers.
- Baltimore City DOT's ATVES Division was recommended as the program operator due to an extensive automated enforcement program for speed, red lights and truck traffic already being operational.
- During the 2020 Legislative Session, [HB1492](#) was introduced, seeking authorization for automated DBL enforcement.

Position: The Administration of Mayor Brandon M. Scott respectfully requests your support for HB0284 - Vehicle Laws – Dedicated Bus Lanes – Enforcement.

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