

Please accept these written comments in support of the proposed bill enabling Stop Sign cameras in Maryland. My spouse and I have lived on Queensbury Road in Hyattsville for over 30 years. Traffic on our street was always an issue, but over the last several years the situation has become significantly worse. I can sit on our front steps almost any time or day of the week and watch multiple vehicles run our Stop sign at the corner of Queensbury and 41st. Having our HPD monitor this sort of thing is just not a reasonable use of their time and training. Cameras issuing tickets for running Stop signs could greatly increase the safety of ourselves, our neighbors, and especially our neighborhood children, who wait for school buses on that corner.

I would like to offer two examples of what we observe. The Monday before Christmas, I was on our front sidewalk during early morning rush hour. A Metro bus was at the bus stop, loading passengers, on Queensbury at 41st, facing east. A PG County THE Bus passed the Metro bus, blowing through the Stop sign and intersection headed east. Right behind it, a large work pickup, pulling a long trailer of equipment, passed the Metro bus, blowing through the Stop sign and intersection. A passenger car followed the truck.

This week, during morning rush hour, a Metro bus was loading passengers at the bus stop on Queensbury at 41st, heading west. A car length and a half or so behind the first bus was a second Metro bus, waiting to stop at the bus stop. A passenger car travelling west approached both and passed both, crossing the double yellow line, and blowing through the Stop sign.

Over the decades many vehicles have crashed at our intersection. In one some years ago, the woman was passing multiple cars and a stopped Metro bus, lost control, and ran over a pedestrian. A half hour earlier, the elementary school children were waiting for their bus in that exact location. The woman who was hit has never fully recovered and is still in pain, according to a mutual friend. A friend of ours was hit crossing a side street off Queensbury. After several years, she has not recovered and is still in pain.

I apologize for not being able to comment in person, but my spouse and I are both over 70 and he has serious health issues, a terminal lung disease.

Please enact this legislation which will make our neighborhood and many others safer. Cameras are a simple and less labor intensive way of enforcing laws that people are routinely breaking. Thank you very much for your time and attention.

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