



Wes Moore
Governor
Aruna Miller
Lieutenant Governor
Paul J. Wiedefeld
Secretary

February 29, 2024

The Honorable Marc Korman
Chair, House Environment and Transportation Committee
251 House Office Building
Annapolis MD 21401

RE: Letter of Information – House Bill 761 – Montgomery County – School Bus Monitoring Cameras – Distribution of Fines MC 6-24

Dear Chair Korman and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) offers the following information on House Bill 761 for the Committee's consideration.

House Bill 761 requires that any balance remaining from the fines collected by Montgomery County for violations enforced by school bus monitoring cameras on State highways, after repayment of the costs of implementing and administering the school bus monitoring cameras, be remitted to the Comptroller for distribution to the State Highway Administration (SHA). The balance of the fines shall be used only to enhance pedestrian safety at locations in Montgomery County where the violations occurred.

The SHA was pleased to learn the Montgomery County delegation adopted an amendment that would allow the fines from violations enforced by school bus monitoring cameras on State highways to be pooled and used county-wide to enhance safety at locations where students: 1) board or exit a school bus; or 2) subject to a certain condition, travel to or from a destination where they board or exit a school bus. By pooling the funds for any of the locations where violations occurred, SHA believes more meaningful safety enhancements can be implemented to help Montgomery County students.

The SHA thanks the delegation for its efforts to make Montgomery County a safer place and for working with the Administration to improve upon the provisions in the bill. We look forward to our continued partnership with the Montgomery County delegation to reach Vision Zero in Maryland.

The Maryland Department of Transportation respectfully requests the Committee consider this information during its deliberations of House Bill 761.

Sincerely,

Matthew Mickler
Deputy Director (Acting)
Office of Policy and Research
Maryland State Highway Administration
410-545-5629

Pilar Helm
Director
Office of Government Affairs
Maryland Department of Transportation
410-865-1090