

# **ACT Testimony\_HB0665\_Speed Monitoring Systems - Hi**

Uploaded by: Amy Frieder

Position: FAV



## Montgomery County's Advocates for Better Transportation

P.O. Box 7074, Silver Spring MD 20907 • [admin@actfortransit.org](mailto:admin@actfortransit.org)

February 11, 2024

Re: SUPPORT for HB0665 Montgomery County - Speed Monitoring Systems - High-Risk Highways

Dear Members of the House Environment and Transportation Committee:

My name is Michael Larkin, and I am submitting this testimony on behalf of the Action Committee for Transit (ACT), a Montgomery County-based organization. ACT strongly supports HB0665, which authorizes the placement of speed cameras on highways within the county that are at the highest risk for crashes that result in a fatality or a severe injury and allocates the fines collected for the funding of safety initiatives. This bill will also mandate that the data from the cameras be reviewed every five years to determine how effective the cameras are at reducing dangerous speeding.

According to the [Federal Highway Administration](#), speeding puts pedestrians, bicyclists, and other vulnerable road users at severe risk of death or long lasting injury whenever they are struck. Every additional amount of speed increases the impact and decreases the chance of survival. It is imperative to discourage this behavior because speeding drivers kill and injure our fellow community members whenever they are going about their daily lives. Moreover, Montgomery County identified Equity Focus Areas (EFA) and the data clearly shows [EFAs suffer higher rates of crashes that result in a fatality or severe injury](#). Community members of color and lower incomes are bearing the brunt of unsafe walking, rolling, and biking conditions. Many of the most dangerous streets are along state highways where people walk to the Metro, bus stops, grocery stores, and schools. It truly is a cruel fate to die or be severely injured due to a speeding driver while trying to access public transportation.

A great feature of this legislation is the positive use of fines to fund more traffic calming and other safety projects where they are most needed. Communities are left waiting for too many years for improvements due to budgetary constraints. Directing fines to fund infrastructure that prevents dangerous speeding is one way to redress the cruelty of risking life and limb for just going to the local bus stop. This bill empowers Montgomery County to redesign its streets for safety.

I have participated in pedestrian and bike safety audits, and I know members of the General Assembly or your staff have gone to these audits. We have all gone to or at least read about white shoe and ghost bike memorials after a fatal crash. We all know many residents are navigating narrow sidewalks and dangerous roads to access transit and other amenities. I was almost hit by a speeding driver while going to my volunteer election worker shift. It is imperative to bring dangerous speeding under control and HB0665 is a tool to do it with. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Michael Larkin  
On Behalf of Action Committee for Transit

# HB 665 Support.pdf

Uploaded by: Dawn Luedtke

Position: FAV



**MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCIL**  
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

DAWN LUEDTKE  
COUNCILMEMBER  
DISTRICT 7

EVAN GLASS  
COUNCILMEMBER  
AT LARGE

February 27, 2024

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

RE: House Bill 665, *Montgomery County - Speed Monitoring Systems - High-Risk Highways MC 15-24*

Dear Chair Korman:

We support House Bill 665 and ask the Committee to provide a Favorable report for this legislation that will reduce dangerous driving on some of Montgomery County's most dangerous roads. Thank you to the Montgomery County Delegation for putting forward this measure, which would enable Montgomery County to place a speed monitoring system on certain roads that have been identified as high risk because of a demonstrated history of fatal or severe injury crashes.

Last year, the County Council unanimously approved the Safe Streets Act<sup>1</sup>, which requires proven traffic safety engineering improvements including a comprehensive plan to expand use of automated speed camera enforcement throughout the County. We approved this law knowing that if the State provided greater flexibility for placement of speed cameras, this provision would be even more effective. House Bill 665 would provide that flexibility on high risk roadways that do not meet one of the currently established parameters for speed monitoring systems.

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[apps.montgomerycountymd.gov/ccllms/DownloadFilePage?FileName=2786\\_1\\_25280\\_Bill\\_11-23\\_Signed\\_20230927.pdf](https://apps.montgomerycountymd.gov/ccllms/DownloadFilePage?FileName=2786_1_25280_Bill_11-23_Signed_20230927.pdf)

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A prominent example of this type of high risk roadway is Shady Grove Road, where we have been working with residents, community leaders, and the Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) to provide traffic calming solutions. Shady Grove Road from Frederick Road (MD 355) to Midcounty Highway has consistently been identified as part of the County's "high injury network" because of its significant history of fatal and severe injury crashes, including in the County's 2030 Vision Zero Action Plan.<sup>2</sup> According to the Montgomery County Planning Department's Interactive Crash Map,<sup>3</sup> there have been five fatal crashes and eight severe injury crashes involving pedestrians and motorists on this section of Shady Grove Road since 2015.

The speed limit for this section of roadway is 45 miles per hour and there is no established School Zone, making it ineligible for speed camera deployment under current law. MCDOT has started the Facility Planning process for a Shady Grove Bikeway & Safety Improvements project<sup>4</sup> that will take some time to complete in order to have a cost estimate to be considered in future County capital budgets. It is clear more urgent action is needed on Shady Grove Road and many other similarly situated roads in Montgomery County. We believe allowing for speed camera enforcement gives Montgomery County a tool that can more quickly reduce the dangerous levels of speeding and change driving behavior that contributes to fatal and severe injury crashes. We urge the Committee to support this legislation.

Very truly yours,



Dawn Luedtke  
Councilmember, District 7



Evan Glass  
Councilmember, At-Large  
Chair, T&E Committee

cc: Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee

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<sup>2</sup> [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/visionzero/Resources/Files/vz2030-plan.pdf](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/visionzero/Resources/Files/vz2030-plan.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [montgomeryplanning.org/planning/transportation/vision-zero/montgomery-county-interactive-crash-map/](http://montgomeryplanning.org/planning/transportation/vision-zero/montgomery-county-interactive-crash-map/)

<sup>4</sup> [montgomerycountymd.gov/dot-dte/projects/ShadyGroveStudy/index.html](http://montgomerycountymd.gov/dot-dte/projects/ShadyGroveStudy/index.html)

# **HB665\_Solomon\_FAV.pdf**

Uploaded by: Jared Solomon

Position: FAV

JARED SOLOMON  
Legislative District 18  
Montgomery County

DEPUTY SPEAKER PRO TEM

Appropriations Committee

*Subcommittees*

Chair, Oversight Committee  
on Personnel

Capital Budget

House Chair, Joint Audit and  
Evaluation Committee



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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

**HB 665**

**Montgomery County – Speed Monitoring Systems – High-Risk Highways**  
**House Environment and Transportation Committee**

**February 29<sup>th</sup>, 1:00pm**

Chair Korman, Vice Chair Boyce, colleagues, thank you for the opportunity to present on my bill HB665, a bill to provide safer streets throughout Montgomery County, Maryland.

HB 665 will:

1. place speed cameras on High Injury Network (HIN) locations in Montgomery County that are at high risk for motor vehicle crashes;
2. require any fines collected to be used to fund the study, design, and construction of safety-related efforts; and
3. require an evaluation of the speed monitoring systems to determine their efficacy every 5 years.

In 2022, Montgomery County had [3,629 collisions result in injury and 44 result in death](#), both of which have increased from 2021. From 2011 through 2020, the number of speeding related fatalities in Maryland is higher than the national average – [29 percent in Maryland versus 26 percent nationwide](#).

In its commitment to eliminate transportation fatalities and serious injury by 2030, the Montgomery Countywide Policy and Planning Vision Zero team studied the [county's crash history](#) and conditions that lead to incidents on our roadways. There were two key findings from these studies:

1. Most serious injuries and fatalities are located along the county's arterials, such as Georgia Avenue, Old Georgetown Road, and Veirs Mill Road.
  - a. These roads have speed limits that [exceed 35 mph](#) in most if not all segments and these roads also include both residential and business districts. To limit the

placement of speed cameras to residential areas and school zones, ignores the fact that *“On a per-intersection or per-roadway segment basis, crash risk is highest in the county’s urban areas, particularly for pedestrian and bicycle crash types.”*<sup>1</sup>

2. While bicycle and pedestrian crashes are less frequent than motor vehicle crashes, they are more likely to result in a serious injury or fatality.

[As speed increases, so does the risk of severe injury and death.](#) The risk of death for a pedestrian hit at 23 mph is 10 percent but jumps up to 50 percent at 42 mph. So even if a driver goes at the posted speed limit of 40 or 45 mph, in a crash involving a pedestrian, that pedestrian has approximately a 50 percent chance of death. Now, if the driver is going 50 mph (so driving anywhere between 5-10 mph over the speed limit), that same pedestrian has a 75% chance of death. Once speeds hit 58 mph, the risk of death is 90%. With 45 percent of the U.S. population admitting to driving more than 15 mph over the posted speed limit, in areas in which the speed limit is 40 or 45 mph, we can expect drivers going at speeds of 55 to 60 mph – meaning a pedestrian struck on those roads is likely to have a 90% risk of death.

Luckily, Montgomery County already has a successful automated speed enforcement program. The program began in 2007 on streets with speed limits of 35mph or lower and school zones. In 2009, the state increased the enforcement threshold from 11 to 12mph over the speed limit. And, in 2012, the county launched its corridor approach, in which cameras are moved periodically along a roadway segment. The long-term effects of the program were [studied and found](#):

- Speed cameras were associated with a 10% reduction in mean speeds and a 62% reduction in the likelihood that a vehicle was traveling more than 10 mph above the speed limit at camera sites.
- The overall effect of the camera program in its modified form, including both the law change and the corridor approach, was a 39% reduction in the likelihood that a crash resulted in an incapacitating or fatal injury. <sup>2</sup>

While there are varying factors that can contribute to crash injuries and fatalities, we have seen an increase in the number of collisions total (and injuries and fatalities), we know nearly a third of fatalities were speeding-related, and when a collision involves a non-motorist, it is more likely to result in severe injury or death. MC 15-24 would address these issues on our most dangerous roadways and increase compliance with speed limits. If we are going to meet Vision Zero, we need to take every step to ameliorate the dangerous conditions on our roads.

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<sup>1</sup> “Montgomery County traffic study highlights most dangerous roads in effort to reduce future crashes.” July 26, 2022 <https://www.wusa9.com/article/traffic/predictive-safety-analysis-final-report-explores-dangerous-roadways-in-montgomery-county/65-7caa0f50-59a6-424e-b3a9-2f55d98bdcda>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.iihs.org/news/detail/speed-cameras-reduce-injury-crashes-in-maryland-county-iihs-study-shows>



Montgomery County is prioritizing High Injury Network Projects in their [Vision Zero 2024-2025 Work Plan](#) that focuses on implementing safety countermeasures on identified high-risk road segments and intersections which the County must coordinate with the State for state-maintained portions of the network. Vision Zero requires a proactive approach to place limited resources in areas with the highest return on safety and equitable distribution compared to request-driven programming. Road safety audits can reduce crashes upwards of 60%.

I'm proud to be partnering with the Montgomery County Police Department, the Montgomery County Department of Transportation, and community advocates to advance this legislation and I urge a favorable report.

**HB 665 - MoCo\_Morningstar\_FWA (GA 24).pdf**

Uploaded by: Sara Morningstar

Position: FWA



# Montgomery County

## Office of Intergovernmental Relations

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**HB 665**

**DATE: February 29, 2024**

**SPONSOR: Montgomery County Delegation**

**ASSIGNED TO: Environment and Transportation**

**CONTACT PERSON: Sara Morningstar (Sara.Morningstar@montgomerycountymd.gov)**

**POSITION: SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT**

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### Montgomery County – Speed Monitoring Systems – High-Risk Highways MC 15-24

This bill is a revised version of a bill introduced in the 2023 Session. House Bill 665 authorizes the placement and use of speed cameras on Montgomery County roads identified in the County's Local Strategic Highway Plan (or Vision Zero Action Plan) as roads that are at high risk for vehicle crashes resulting in bodily injuries or death. Speed camera revenue would be required to be directed toward safety studies and safety-related projects on the high-risk roads. Additionally, the County would be required on or before October 1, 2029, and every five years thereafter, to evaluate the effectiveness of new cameras under the new high injury network clause. An amendment was approved by the Montgomery County Delegation to include municipalities in the bill. Montgomery County supports House Bill 665, as amended.

On November 17<sup>th</sup>, Montgomery County published its [Vision Zero FY2023 Annual Report](#) which provides highlights from the fiscal year and details work completed between July 1, 2022, and June 30, 2023. Looking ahead, the County has identified in its [Vision Zero Action Plan](#) specific activities and projects with implementation deadlines over the next two years. The plan intends to build on prior successful initiatives and develop new policies and programs to further the County's goal of ending traffic deaths and serious roadway injuries. An important element of the County's future progress in this area includes the expansion of automated speed and red-light camera enforcement – two speed management programs which the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reports to be highly effective in reducing speeding violations and crashes. By utilizing a hybrid approach that includes both automated enforcement and officer-initiated enforcement, drivers will be encouraged to travel at or below posted speed limits which will improve roadway safety.

House Bill 665, as amended, will provide the local authority needed to pursue this Vision Zero priority. Therefore, Montgomery County supports the bill and urges the Committee to adopt a favorable report.

**HB665\_Holland\_FWA.pdf**

Uploaded by: Wade Holland

Position: FWA

**Bill:** HB 665 Montgomery County – Speed Monitoring Systems – High-Risk Highways MC 15-24

**Testimony Date:** February 29, 2024

**Committee:** Environment and Transportation Committee

**Speaker:** Wade Holland

**Representing:** Montgomery County Government, Vision Zero Initiative

**Position:** Favorable with Amendment

Good afternoon Chair Korman, Vice Chair Boyce, and members of the Environment and Transportation Committee,

My name is Wade Holland, the Vision Zero Coordinator for Montgomery County Government.

I want to thank Delegate Solomon and the Montgomery County Delegation for sponsoring this important life safety bill that is a crucial step forward in our shared Vision Zero goal.

Right now, State Law is an impediment to employing proven safety technology on our known most dangerous roadways. In our Vision Zero Action Plan, we found that the majority of our most dangerous roads, called the High Injury Network, are banned from having automated speed technology either due to a posted speed limit above 35 MPH or in a commercial area. This includes known dangerous areas of Rockville Pike, Veirs Mill Road, Randolph Road, and Shady Grove Road. We know that speed kills, yet this proven method to bring down a driver's speed is banned for no good reason.

By supporting this enabling legislation as amended, Montgomery County Police will be able to study each of these corridors for the appropriateness of speed cameras. Speed cameras will only go up if they are solving a speed problem. The automated speed program employed by MCPD is among the most thoroughly studied in the County Government; consistently demonstrating its ability to lower operating speeds and reduce injuries.

The Montgomery County Government strongly supports the Montgomery County Delegation's amendments for HB 665 to ensure our municipal partners are included and urges a favorable report.

*(Attached to this testimony is the August 2015 independent study of the Montgomery County Safe Speed program which found "speed cameras can reduce speeding, speeding-related crashes, and crashes involving serious injuries or fatalities.")*



Insurance Institute for  
Highway Safety



## **Effects of Automated Speed Enforcement in Montgomery County, Maryland, on Vehicle Speeds, Public Opinion, and Crashes**

**August 2015**

**Wen Hu**

Insurance Institute for Highway Safety

**Anne T. McCartt**

Insurance Institute for Highway Safety

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## **Abstract**

**Objectives:** In May 2007, Montgomery County, Maryland, implemented the state's first automated speed enforcement program, with camera use limited to residential streets with speed limits of 35 mph or less and school zones. Changes were made to the program over time. In 2009, a state speed camera law increased the enforcement threshold and restricted school zone enforcement hours. In 2012, the county began using a corridor approach, in which cameras were periodically moved along the length of a roadway segment. The current study evaluated the long-term effects of the speed camera program on travel speeds, public attitudes, and crashes.

**Methods:** Changes in measured travel speeds at camera sites from 6 months before the speed camera program began (fall 2006) to 7½ years after (fall 2014) were compared with changes in speeds at control sites in the nearby Virginia counties of Fairfax and Arlington. A telephone survey of Montgomery County drivers was conducted in fall 2014 to examine attitudes and experiences related to automated speed enforcement. Using data on crashes during the years 2004-2013, logistic regression was conducted to examine the effects of the program on the likelihood that a crash involved an incapacitating or fatal injury and on the likelihood that a crash was speeding-related on camera-eligible roads and on potential spillover roads in Montgomery County, using crashes in Fairfax County as controls.

**Results:** About 7½ years after the program began, speed cameras were associated with a 10 percent reduction in mean speeds and a 59 percent reduction in the likelihood that a vehicle was traveling more than 10 mph above the speed limit at camera sites. When interviewed in fall 2014, 95 percent of drivers were aware of the camera program, 62 percent favored it, and most drivers had received a camera ticket or knew someone else who had. The overall effect of the camera program in its modified form, including both the law change and the corridors, was a 39 percent reduction in the likelihood that a crash resulted in an incapacitating or fatal injury. Speed cameras alone were associated with a 19 percent reduction in the likelihood that a crash resulted in an incapacitating or fatal injury, the law change was associated with a non-significant 8 percent increase, and the corridor approach provided an additional 30 percent reduction over and above the cameras.

**Conclusions:** This study adds to the evidence that speed cameras can reduce speeding, speeding-related crashes, and crashes involving serious injuries or fatalities.

**Keywords:** Speed cameras, Speeds, Public opinions, Crashes



## **1. Introduction**

Speeding is common and viewed as acceptable behavior by many drivers, but it persists as a major factor in motor vehicle crashes, especially those resulting in serious injuries (Elvik, 2005). In the United States, speeding — defined as driving too fast for conditions, exceeding posted speed limits, or racing — has consistently been involved in about one-third of crash deaths. In 2013 alone, more than 9,600 people died in speeding-related crashes (Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS), 2014). Although speeding is often associated with travel on interstates and other high-speed roads, more than 80 percent of speeding-related fatalities occur on other types of roads. In 2013, 25 percent of all speeding-related fatalities occurred on streets with speed limits of 35 mph or less.

Publicized traditional police enforcement has been shown to reduce vehicle travel speeds and crashes (Stuster, 1995), although the effects can be localized and temporary unless increased enforcement is sustained (Barnes, 1984; Hauer et al., 1982). However, many enforcement agencies do not have sufficient resources to mount and sustain publicized speed enforcement programs. Between 1995 and 2013, the estimated number of vehicle miles traveled in the United States increased by 23 percent (Federal Highway Administration, 2014), but the number of law enforcement officers grew by only about 7 percent (Federal Bureau of Investigation, 1995, 2013). Traditional speed enforcement also can be difficult, if not hazardous, at some locations and times of the day and during periods of heavy traffic. In a survey of U.S. drivers, about 1 in 10 reported being stopped for speeding during the past year, even though 70 percent were identified as habitual or sometime speeders (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 2013).

Speed cameras are widely used around the world as a supplement to traditional police enforcement of speed limits. Speed cameras monitor traffic speeds and photograph vehicles traveling above specified speeds, usually at thresholds set well above the speed limit. Mobile cameras are accompanied by enforcement personnel and may be moved among various locations; fixed cameras monitor speeds at specific locations and are unaccompanied by officers.

Speed cameras can substantially reduce speeding violations and injury crashes (Decina et al., 2007; Pilkington and Kinra, 2005; Wilson et al., 2010). A systematic review of studies of speed camera effectiveness, mostly conducted in Europe or Australia, reported 14-65 percent reductions in the percentage of vehicles traveling above the speed limits or above designated speed thresholds relative to controls (Wilson et al., 2010). Crash reductions associated with speed camera enforcement ranged 8-49 percent, with 8-50 percent reductions in injury crashes and 11-44 percent reductions in crashes involving fatalities and serious injuries in the vicinity of camera sites. Over wider areas, 9-35 percent reductions for all crashes and 17-58 percent reductions in crashes involving fatalities and serious injuries were found.

In the United States, where the use of speed cameras has been more limited, only a few evaluations of their effects on speeds have been published. Studies of the use of speed cameras on residential streets in Montgomery County, Maryland, on a major highway in Scottsdale, Arizona, and on city streets in the District of Columbia found that the odds of drivers exceeding speed limits by more than 10 mph declined substantially after cameras were introduced (Retting & Farmer, 2003; Retting, Farmer, & McCartt, 2008; Retting, Kyrychenko, & McCartt, 2008). In Scottsdale and Montgomery County, speeds also were reduced by smaller amounts at locations not targeted by cameras, suggesting broader spillover effects.

There has been little strong research conducted in the United States on the effects of speed camera enforcement on crashes. A study in Scottsdale found that there were substantial reductions in injury crashes, property-damage-only crashes, and total crashes during non-peak periods associated with speed cameras (Shin, Washington, & Schalkwyk, 2009). Moreover, Retting, Kyrychenko, & McCartt (2008) found that the effects of the Scottsdale speed camera program on travel speeds spilled over to some of the sites used as controls, so the crash effects estimated by Shin et al. (2009) were probably underestimated.

The current study updates and extends the earlier evaluation of the Montgomery County speed camera program (Retting, Farmer, & McCartt, 2008). In May 2007, the county implemented the state's first automated speed enforcement program, with camera use limited by state statute to residential streets

with speed limits of 35 mph or less and school zones. Following a 1-month warning period, camera citations began to be issued in June 2007. Over the years, the scope of the county's program has expanded considerably. The current study evaluates the longer term effects of the Montgomery County automated speed enforcement program on travel speeds and drivers' attitudes. In addition, the effects of the program on crashes are examined.

## **2. Methods**

### *2.1. Program description*

Montgomery County, Maryland, is a large, affluent suburb of the District of Columbia, with a geographic area of 491 square miles, a population of more than 1 million in 2014, and a median household income of \$98,221 in 2013 (U.S. Census Bureau, 2013, 2014). Under the county's speed camera program, a photograph is taken of the rear license plate of vehicles exceeding the citation threshold; the driver is not photographed. Citations carry fines of \$40, but no license penalty points are issued to the registered vehicle owner.

Montgomery County officials sought to develop a program that would optimize the safety benefits of camera enforcement and gain high levels of public support. A public information and education campaign ("Safe Speed") focused initially on building public awareness of the dangers of speeding and the role of speed cameras and then informed drivers that speed cameras were in use. In addition to publicity generated by the program at its inception, the program received considerable coverage by the area news media. However, there has been no active ongoing publicity campaign. Signs advising motorists of photo enforcement were posted on several major roadways entering Montgomery County, and "photo enforced" placards were installed below the speed limit signs and school zone signs on roads designated for camera enforcement.

Initially citations were issued for vehicles observed traveling at least 11 mph above the speed limit. To reflect changes in the state statute allowing speed camera programs, effective October 1, 2009, the threshold for camera citations was changed to 12 mph above the speed limit, and school zone camera

operations were restricted to 6 a.m.-8 p.m. on weekdays. In May 2012, some cameras were used in a roadway corridor approach in which cameras were periodically moved throughout the length of a roadway segment. This approach aimed to encourage drivers to comply with the speed limit for the entire stretch of the monitored roadway rather than at specific locations only. A press conference was held when the county first implemented the approach, and the event was covered by the news media. “Speed Camera Corridor” signs were placed at the entrances to the corridors.

The speed camera program has gradually expanded since its inception. There were 18 mobile cameras when the program began; 60 fixed cameras, 10 portable cameras, and 6 mobile speed camera vans in 2009; 56 fixed cameras, 20 portable cameras, and 6 mobile speed camera vans in 2012; and 56 fixed cameras, 30 portable cameras, and 6 mobile speed camera vans in 2014. As of December 2014, there were 73 speed camera corridors and 61 speed camera sites located outside these corridors.

## *2.2. Vehicle speed measurements and analysis*

The current study examined changes in travel speeds measured in November 2014, about 7½ years after the speed camera program was implemented, compared with speeds measured in September-October 2006, about 6 months before camera enforcement began.

One year in advance of the camera program, Montgomery County police identified 40 locations as potential camera sites, and 20 were randomly selected for evaluation. Nineteen of the 20 sites were on residential streets with speed limits of 25-35 mph. One site was located within a school zone on an arterial street where the speed limit was 30 mph for 1 hour at the beginning and the end of the school day and 40 mph at other times. To examine potential spillover effects, 10 sites were randomly selected from 20 Montgomery County locations that had similar characteristics (e.g., roadway characteristics, traffic volumes, residential land use) as most of the camera-enforced locations but were ineligible for cameras because they had a 40 mph speed limit.

As controls, speeds also were measured at sites on residential streets in Arlington County and Fairfax County, Virginia. These counties are similar to Montgomery County in terms of demographic

characteristics, economic conditions, and traffic conditions and have not used speed cameras. Fairfax County borders Montgomery County, and Arlington County is proximate to Montgomery County. Ten control sites were randomly selected from 20 locations on residential streets that had roadway characteristics similar to those of the camera-eligible streets in Montgomery County. Speed limits at the Virginia sites ranged from 25 to 35 mph. One site was located in a school zone. The speed limit at this site was lowered from 35 to 25 mph at the beginning and the end of each school day. No control sites with a speed limit of 40 mph were selected.

An earlier study of the first 6 months of the Montgomery County program reported a 9 percent decline in mean speeds and a 70 percent decline in vehicles exceeding the speed limit by more than 10 mph at camera-enforced sites (Retting, Farmer, & McCartt, 2008).

In the current study, speed data from two of the 20 camera sites were excluded. This included the school zone site, which underwent a major roadway redesign, and another site that was undergoing extensive reconstruction when the speed data were collected in fall 2014. As of November 2014, cameras had been deployed near the observation site or on the same road for 16 of the 18 remaining sites at some point during the 7½ year camera program. Of the 10 original sites selected to examine potential spillover effects of camera enforcement, one was excluded from the current study due to a major roadway redesign. Of the 10 control sites located on residential streets in Arlington and Fairfax counties, one control site was excluded due to the addition of speed bumps.

Traffic speeds were recorded at all study sites using speed camera technology similar to the equipment used for the enforcement program. The study cameras were deployed on the roadside in a covert manner by photo enforcement vendors not affiliated with the Montgomery County speed camera program. The equipment electronically recorded the speeds of all passing vehicles. At each location, traffic speeds were measured during each study period from approximately 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on a weekday. Measurements taken at the Virginia school zone location during times of reduced speed limits were excluded from analyses.

The analyses of vehicle speed data focused on changes in the mean speeds and the proportions of vehicles exceeding posted speed limits by more than 10 mph. Although the amount of time spent at each study site was approximately the same in the before and after periods, changes in traffic volume at some sites led to large differences in the before and after sample sizes. Thus, some sites accounted for a much larger portion of the sample in the after period compared with the baseline sample. To ensure consistent representation of each study site in the two time periods, overall statistics for each study group of sites were computed as a weighted mean of the statistics for each site, with weights defined as the proportion of vehicles observed at each site during the before period.

Linear regression models were estimated to evaluate the changes in mean vehicle speeds associated with the speed camera program, using the natural logarithm of speeds as the dependent variable and terms for site-to-site variability and expected variability over time. Logistic regression models also were used to estimate the effect of the program on the odds of vehicles exceeding posted speed limits by more than 10 mph. Because the odds ratios (ORs) derived from logistic regression models are not good approximations for relative risk ratios (RRs) when the incidence of the outcome of interest is not rare in the study population (i.e., greater than 10 percent), as is true for speeding, all odds ratios were transformed into relative risks as  $RR = OR / [(1 - P_0) + (P_0 \times OR)]$ , where  $P_0$  represents the proportion of vehicles exceeding speed limits by more than 10 mph in the before period for the control group (Zhang & Yu, 1998). For example, if the odds ratio is 0.38 when comparing the odds at the camera sites with the odds at the Virginia control sites, and 12.3 percent of vehicles exceeded the speed limit by more than 10 mph at the control sites in the before period, the relative risk is  $0.41(0.38 / [(1 - 0.123) + (0.123 \times 0.38)])$ . In other words, a vehicle is 59 percent less likely to exceed the speed limit by more than 10 mph at the camera sites than at the Virginia control sites.

The effects of the speed camera program on mean vehicle speeds and the likelihood that a vehicle exceeded the speed limit by more than 10 mph at spillover sites in Montgomery County was not examined, due to the lack of appropriate control sites with the same speed limit in Virginia.

### *2.3. Telephone surveys*

To assess public awareness of the speed camera program and attitudes toward camera enforcement, a telephone survey of drivers residing in Montgomery County was conducted in November 2014, approximately 7½ years following the implementation of the speed camera program. Random-digit-dialing methods were used to select the numbers to call. To reflect the fact that many people now use cellphones rather than landlines, 31 percent of the numbers randomly called were cellphone numbers. The cooperation rate, which was defined as the percentage of completed surveys out of the numbers called, was 9 percent. Of the 2,470 households reached, 36 percent initially declined participation, 25 percent did not qualify, 3 percent began but did not complete the interview, and 36 percent completed the interview. In all, 900 licensed drivers ages 18 and older completed the interviews. The responses were weighted to reflect the age (18-34, 35-64, and 65+) and gender distribution of the population ages 18 and older of the county in 2014. All of the results presented below are based on the weighted data set.

The statistical significance of demographic differences in the survey responses was evaluated using chi-square ( $\chi^2$ ) tests of homogeneity ( $p < 0.05$ ). Significant differences are noted.

### *2.4. Police-reported crashes*

Police-reported crashes occurring during January 2004-December 2013 in Montgomery County and the control community of Fairfax County were examined. Electronic files of information on police-reported crashes were obtained from the Maryland State Police and the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles. Several sites in Arlington County were control sites in the speed analysis, but Arlington County was not included as a control community for the crash analysis because there were red light camera programs in place during large parts of the study period: the first program was in effect during 1999-2005, and the second has been in place since 2010. Montgomery County had a red light camera program throughout the study period. Red light cameras were operated at 13 intersections in Fairfax County during the early part of the study period (January 2004-June 2005); crashes occurring at the camera intersections during the entire study period were excluded.

Police-reported crashes occurring on camera-eligible roads in Montgomery County, i.e., residential roads with 25-35 mph speed limits, were included in the speed camera study group. Crashes occurring on all roads with 25-35 speed limits, not only roads with speed cameras, were included. The corresponding control group consisted of crashes occurring on residential roads with 25-35 mph speed limits in Fairfax County. To explore any potential spillover effects of the cameras, crashes occurring on roads with a 40 mph speed limit in Montgomery County were examined, excluding crashes occurring in 40 mph school zones with speed cameras. The corresponding control group consisted of crashes occurring on roads with a 40 mph speed limit in Fairfax County.

January 2004-April 2007 represented the before study period. June 2007-December 2013 represented the after study period when the speed camera program was in place. Montgomery County issued only warning citations from speed cameras during May 2007, and so this month is excluded. October 2009 -December 2013 represented the after period following the speed camera law change, and June 2012-December 2013 represented the period when the corridor approach was in place.

Although Fairfax County is similar to Montgomery County in terms of location, demographics, and traffic conditions, it is possible that trends in traffic volume on the roads of interest may have differed for the two counties. As traffic volume data specific to the roads of interest were not available, it was decided to examine trends in the crashes relevant to speeding rather than trends in overall crashes. For example, higher speeds increase the likelihood that a collision will result in serious injuries. So it is reasonable to expect that lower speeds would be associated with a lower proportion of crashes that involve an incapacitating injury or fatality.

Logistic regression analysis was used to evaluate the effects of speed cameras, the 2009 law change, and the corridor approach on the likelihood that a police-reported crash was speeding-related and the likelihood that a police-reported crash involved an incapacitating injury or fatality. As in the analysis of vehicle speeds, the odds ratios derived from the logistic regression models were transformed into estimates of relative risk. Speeding-related crashes were defined as those involving at least one driver reported by the police to be exceeding the speed limit or driving too fast for conditions. Separate models



examined the camera effects on camera-eligible roads and on potential spillover roads. In these models, the dependent variable was a binary crash indicator (crash being speeding-related or not, crash involving an incapacitating or fatal injury or not). The independent variables were the number of years since 2004, a quarter of year indicator, time of day indicator (9 p.m-6 a.m. vs. daytime), study period indicators (entire after period vs. before period, 2009 law change period vs. before period, corridor approach period vs. before period), study group indicator (Montgomery County vs. Fairfax County), road surface condition indicator (wet or snow/ice covered vs. dry), road alignment indicator (curved vs. straight). In addition, speed limit indicators (30 vs. 25 mph, 35 vs. 25 mph) were included in the models of crashes on camera-eligible roads, and a pedestrian involvement indicator was included in the models of crash severity. Crash data for the year 2008 were excluded from the analysis of the likelihood that a crash was speeding-related, due to anomalies in the identification of speeding-related crashes in the Fairfax County data for that year.

The logistic regression models also included three interaction variables for study group and study period indicators as the measures of the effects of the speed camera program, the additional effects of the 2009 law change over and above the camera effect, and the additional effects of the corridor approach over and above the camera effect and the 2009 law change effect. From the estimated parameters for these interaction terms, the change in the likelihood that a crash involved an incapacitating or fatal injury and the change in the likelihood that a crash was speeding-related beyond what would have been expected absent the speed cameras, the 2009 law change, or the corridor approach were calculated (Zhang & Yu, 1998). For example, if the parameter for the interaction term between study group and the entire camera period vs. the before period was -0.2302 in the model of crashes that involved incapacitating or fatal injuries on camera-eligible roads, the odds ratio was calculated as  $0.79(\exp(-0.2302))$  when comparing the odds at camera-eligible roads with the odds that would have been expected if there were no speed cameras during the after period. With 6.8 percent of crashes involving fatal or incapacitating injuries at control sites, the relative risk was calculated as  $(0.79/[(1-0.068)+(0.068 \times 0.79)])$ , which yielded a 19.4 percent reduction in the likelihood that a crash involved an incapacitating or fatal injury compared with what would have been expected without speed cameras. In addition, if in the same model the parameter

for the interaction term between study group and the 2009 law change period vs. the before period was 0.0828, and the parameter for the interaction term between study group and the corridor approach period vs. the before period was -0.3762, the odds ratio was calculated as  $0.59(\exp(-0.2302+0.0827-0.3762))$  when comparing the odds on camera-eligible roads with the odds that would have been expected if there were none of these treatments during the after period. With 6.8 percent of crashes involving fatal or incapacitating injuries at control sites during the before period, the relative risk was calculated as  $(0.59/[(1-0.068)+(0.068 \times 0.59)])$ , which yielded a 39.1 percent reduction in the likelihood that a crash involved an incapacitating or fatal injury compared with what would have been expected without any of the treatments.

### 3. Results

#### 3.1. Vehicle speeds

Table 1 summarizes mean vehicle speeds and the proportion of vehicles exceeding speed limits by more than 10 mph for the three groups of study sites 6 months before and 7½ years after the implementation of the speed camera program. The mean speeds and the proportion of vehicles exceeding speed limits by more than 10 mph declined at all three sets of study sites from the before to the after period. The percentage declines in both mean speeds and the proportion of speeding vehicles at the Montgomery County camera sites were much larger than the declines at the Montgomery County potential spillover sites (i.e., sites on roads with 40 mph speed limit) or at the Virginia control sites.

**Table 1**

Vehicle speeds before and 7½ years after implementation of speed camera program

Location type	Number of sites	Mean speeds (mph)			Percent of vehicles exceeding speed limit by more than 10 mph		
		2006	2014*	Percent change	2006	2014*	Percent change
Maryland sites							
Camera sites	18	39.6	34.3	-13	29.1	10.5	-64
Spillover sites	9	43.0	40.6	-5	9.5	5.8	-39
Virginia control sites	9	36.5	35.0	-4	12.3	7.0	-43

\*Computed as weighted means across sites, where the weights equal the proportion of vehicles observed at each site during the before period.

According to the estimated linear regression model, mean speeds would have declined by 4.6 percent over the 8 years without the speed camera program (Table A-1 in Appendix). At the Montgomery County camera sites, mean speeds declined by 10 percent relative to the control sites in Virginia; this is the estimated reduction in mean speeds attributable to the speed camera enforcement. This relative decline was significant.

At the Montgomery County camera sites, the likelihood that a vehicle exceeded the speed limit by more than 10 mph decreased by 59 percent relative to the Virginia control sites. This reduction was statistically significant (95% confidence interval of the relative risk = 0.38, 0.45).

### *3.2. Telephone surveys*

A telephone survey of Montgomery County residents was conducted in November 2014, about 7½ years after the speed camera program was implemented. When asked if speeding is a problem on residential streets in the county, 56 percent of drivers said it is. Almost all drivers (95 percent) in the survey knew that speed cameras currently are in use on residential streets in the county.

When asked whether they favored the use of speed cameras on residential streets in the county, 62 percent of drivers favored it. Support for speed cameras was significantly higher among females than males; 69 percent of female drivers supported the speed cameras compared with 54 percent of male drivers ( $\chi^2=23.1$ ,  $df=1$ ,  $p=0.0001$ ). Support for speed cameras also differed significantly by driver age; the proportion of drivers favoring cameras was 54 percent among ages 18-34, 62 percent among ages 35-64, and 75 percent among drivers ages 65 and older ( $\chi^2=15.6$ ,  $df=2$ ,  $p=0.0004$ ).

Drivers also were asked their opinions about the use of speed cameras in school zones in the county. The proportion of drivers who favored cameras in school zones was significantly higher than the proportion who favored cameras on residential streets (86 vs. 62 percent,  $\chi^2 = 130.5$ ,  $p<0.0001$ ).

Drivers aware of the camera program were asked a series of questions about their experiences with it (n=857). Seventy-six percent of drivers said that the camera enforcement had caused them to reduce their speeds when traveling on residential streets and in school zones. Fifty-nine percent of drivers

had received at least one speed camera citation, and 75 percent knew someone else who received at least one camera citation. When asked if speed camera enforcement should be expanded, 38 percent of drivers supported expanding speed camera enforcement to arterial streets and 21 percent supported expanding the use of speed cameras to interstate highways.

Of the drivers who knew about the speed camera program, 14 percent were aware that in 2009 the speed threshold for issuing camera citations was raised from 11 to 12 mph over the posted limit. When asked whether the number of speed cameras in the county had increased, decreased, or stayed the same over the past several years, 76 percent said the number had increased.

### 3.3 Crash analyses

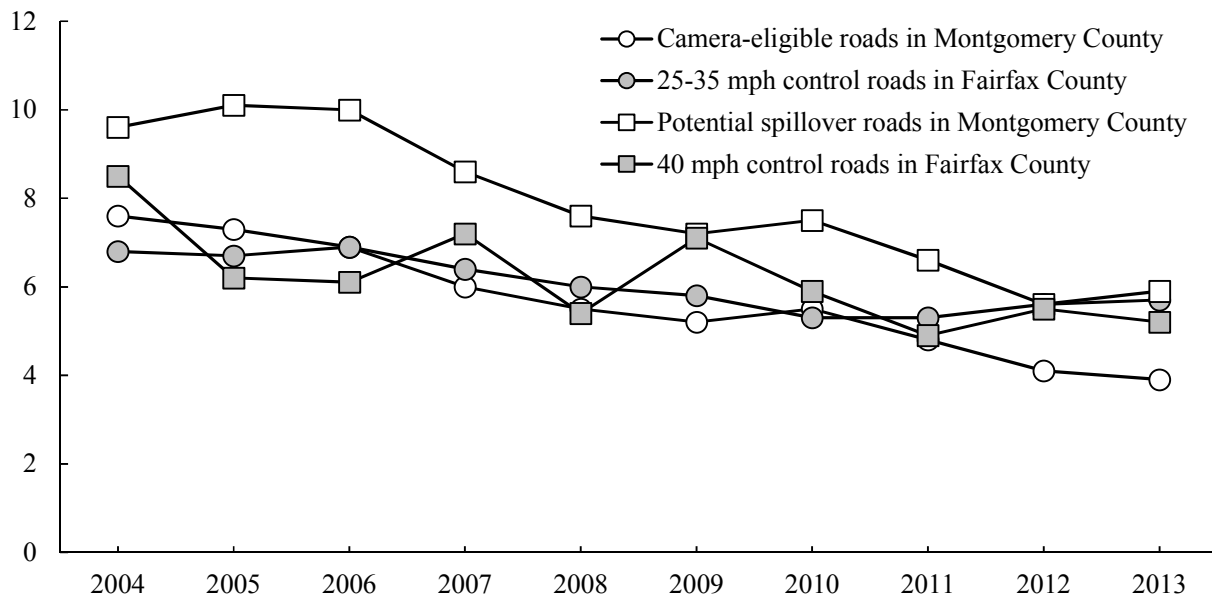
During the years 2004-2006 leading up to the start of the speed camera program in 2007, the yearly total crash counts were smaller on camera-eligible roads in Montgomery County than on the control roads in Fairfax County, and larger on potential spillover roads in Montgomery County than on the corresponding control roads in Fairfax County (Table 2). On both the camera-eligible roads in Montgomery County and the corresponding control roads in Fairfax County, the counts decreased by 33 percent from 2004 to 2013. On potential spillover roads in Montgomery County and the corresponding control roads in Fairfax County, the decrease from 2004 to 2013 was 30 percent in Montgomery County and 32 percent in Fairfax County.

**Table 2**  
Total police-reported crash counts by year and study group

	Camera-eligible roads in Montgomery County	25-35 mph control roads in Fairfax County	Potential spillover roads in Montgomery County	40 mph control roads in Fairfax County
2004	7,174	9,723	2,693	1,328
2005	6,867	9,455	2,409	1,192
2006	6,789	9,450	2,394	1,194
2007	6,363	8,827	2,317	1,082
2008	5,899	8,162	2,363	1,109
2009	5,894	7,061	2,435	1,078
2010	5,751	6,333	2,239	952
2011	5,458	6,637	2,134	1,018
2012	5,026	7,083	2,131	1,097
2013	4,832	6,558	1,878	905

### 3.4. Likelihood that a crash involved an incapacitating or fatal injury

During the years prior to the start of the speed camera program in 2007, the proportion of police-reported crashes that involved an incapacitating or fatal injury was generally higher on camera-eligible roads in Montgomery County than on the control roads in Fairfax County (Figure 1). The same pattern was identified for crashes occurring on the potential spillover roads and the corresponding control roads. In both counties there was a general downward trend in the yearly proportion of crashes that involved an incapacitating or fatal injury. In Montgomery County, the proportion of crashes that involved an incapacitating or fatal injury on camera-eligible roads decreased from 7.6 to 3.9 percent from 2004 to 2013, a 49 percent decrease, compared with a 16 percent decrease on the control roads in Fairfax County (from 6.8 to 5.7 percent). The decrease was 39 percent on both the potential spillover roads in Montgomery County (from 9.6 to 5.9 percent) and the control roads in Fairfax County (from 8.5 to 5.2 percent).



**Fig. 1.** Percentage of police-reported crashes that involved an incapacitating or fatal injury during 2004-2013 by study group.

Logistic regression models estimated the effects of speed cameras, the additional effects of the 2009 law change, the additional effect of the corridor approach, and the effects of other predictors on the

likelihood that a crash involved an incapacitating or fatal injury. Separate models were developed for crashes on camera-eligible roads and on potential spillover roads (Tables A-2 and A-3 in Appendix). After adjusting for yearly and quarterly trends, time of day, speed limit, road surface condition, road alignment, pedestrian involvement, and study group (Montgomery County vs. Fairfax County), the estimated effects of the speed cameras, the 2009 law change, and the corridor approach are summarized in Table 3.

**Table 3**

Summary of results from logistic regression models of percentage change in the likelihood that crash involved incapacitating or fatal injury associated with use of speed cameras on camera-eligible roads and on potential spillover roads

	Camera-eligible roads		Potential spillover roads	
	Percent change in likelihood that crash involved incapacitating or fatal injury	p-value	Percent change in likelihood that crash involved incapacitating or fatal injury	p-value
Effects of speed cameras	-19.4	0.0002	-17.2	0.099
Effects of 2009 law change over and above effects of speed cameras	8.0	0.2547	6.0	0.6622
Effects of corridor approach over and above effects of speed cameras and 2009 law change	-29.9	<0.0001	-16.3	0.2763
Combined effects of speed cameras, 2009 law change, and corridor approach	-39.1	<0.0001	-26.6	0.0363

For crashes that occurred on camera-eligible roads, based on the interaction term between study group and the entire after period vs. the before period, the likelihood that a crash involved an incapacitating or fatal injury was an estimated 19.4 percent lower than would have been expected without the speed cameras, and this difference was statistically significant. The estimated additional effect of the 2009 law change over and above the effects of speed cameras was obtained by interpreting the interaction term between study group and the 2009 law change after period vs. the before period. The likelihood that a crash involved an incapacitating or fatal injury was an estimated 8.0 percent higher than would have been expected without the law change, but this difference was not statistically significant. The additional

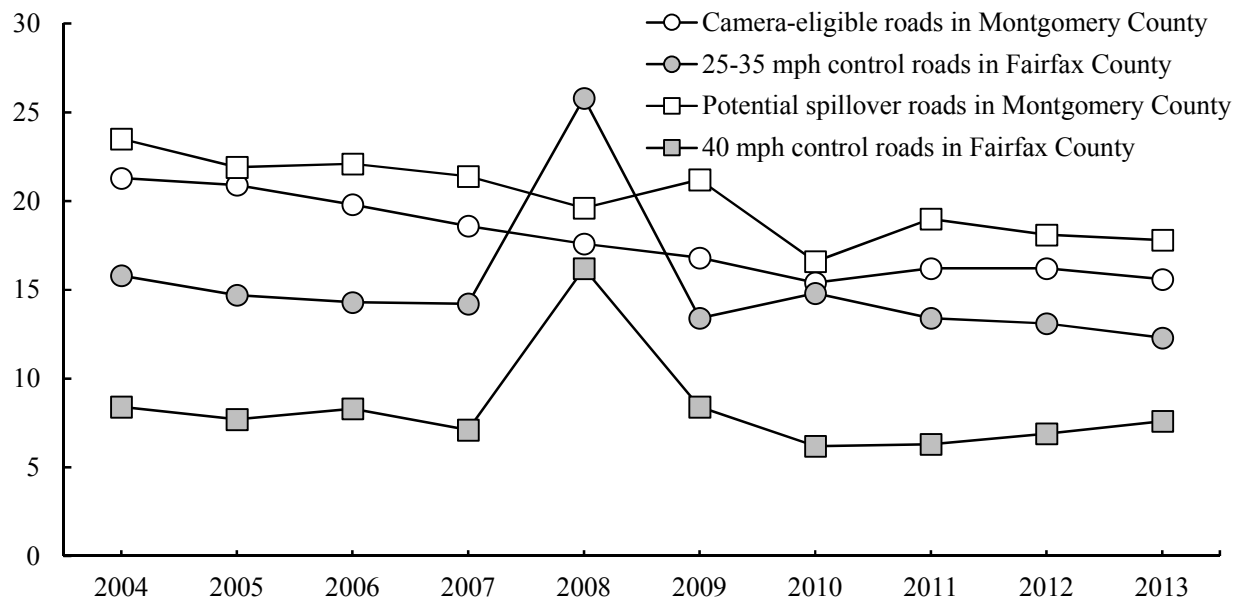
effect of the corridor approach over and above the effects of the speed cameras and the 2009 law change was estimated based on the interaction term between study group and the corridor approach after period vs. the before period. The likelihood that a crash involved an incapacitating or fatal injury was an estimated 29.9 percent lower than would have been expected without the corridor approach. This difference was significant. The combined effect of the speeds cameras, the 2009 law change, and the corridor approach was calculated based on the three interaction terms. The likelihood that a crash involved an incapacitating or fatal injury was an estimated 39.1 percent lower than would have been expected without any of the treatments, and this difference was statistically significant.

For crashes that occurred on potential spillover roads, the likelihood that a crash involved an incapacitating or fatal injury was an estimated 17.2 percent lower than would have been expected without the speed cameras. Over and above the effects of the speed cameras, the likelihood was 6.0 percent higher than would have been expected without the 2009 change to the law. Over and above the effects of the speed cameras and the 2009 law change, the likelihood was 16.3 percent lower than would have been expected without the corridor approach. None of these differences was statistically significant. With the combined effects of the speeds cameras, the 2009 law change, and the corridor approach, the likelihood was 26.6 percent lower than would have been expected without any of the treatments, and this difference was statistically significant.

### *3.5 Likelihood that a crash was speeding-related*

During the years prior to the initiation of the speed camera program in 2007, the proportion of crashes that was speeding-related were higher on camera-eligible roads in Montgomery County than on the control roads in Fairfax County, and higher on the potential spillover roads in Montgomery County than on the control roads in Fairfax County (Figure 2). The proportions of crashes that were speeding-related in Fairfax County in 2008 were substantially higher than in other years. The reason for this anomaly could not be identified. As a result, the data from 2008 were excluded from the analyses of the effects of speed cameras on speeding-related crashes.

There was a general downward trend in the yearly proportion of crashes that were speeding-related on camera-eligible roads in Montgomery County and on the corresponding control roads in Fairfax County, and the proportions decreased more in Montgomery County than in Fairfax County. In Montgomery County, the proportion decreased from 21.3 to 15.6 percent from 2004 to 2013, a 27 percent decrease, compared with a 22 percent decrease in Fairfax County (from 15.8 to 12.3 percent). There was a general downward trend in the yearly proportion of crashes that were speeding-related on potential spillover roads in Montgomery County (from 23.5 to 17.8 percent from 2004 to 2013, a 24 percent decrease), whereas the proportion on the control roads in Fairfax County was relatively stable over time.



**Fig. 2.** Percentage of police-reported crashes that were speeding-related during 2004-2013 by study group

Logistic regression models estimated the effects of speed cameras, the additional effects of the 2009 law change, the additional effects of the corridor approach, and other predictors on the likelihood that a crash was speeding-related on camera-eligible roads and on potential spillover roads (Tables A-4 and A-5 in Appendix). After adjusting for yearly and quarterly trends, time of day, speed limits, road surface condition, road alignment, and study group (Montgomery County vs. Fairfax County), the estimated effects of the speed cameras, the 2009 law change, and the corridor approach are summarized in Table 4.



**Table 4**

Summary of results from logistic regression models of percentage changes in the likelihood that crash was speeding-related associated with use of speed cameras on camera-eligible roads and on potential spillover roads

	Camera-eligible roads		Potential spillover roads	
	Percent change in likelihood that crash was speeding-related	p-value	Percent change in likelihood that crash was speeding-related	p-value
Effects of speed cameras	-12.3	0.0026	-18.0	0.1024
Effects of 2009 law change over and above effects of speed cameras	-3.4	0.462	22.9	0.1182
Effects of corridor approach over and above effects of speed cameras and 2009 law change	8.0	0.1037	-22.8	0.0539
Combined effects of speed cameras, 2009 law change, and corridor approach	-8.4	0.0448	-22.0	0.0418

Note: Data from calendar year 2008 excluded.

For crashes that occurred on camera-eligible roads, based on the interaction term between study group and the entire after period vs. the before period, the likelihood of a crash being speeding-related was an estimated 12.3 percent lower than would have been expected without speed cameras, and this difference was statistically significant. The estimated effect of the 2009 law change in addition to the effect of speed cameras was a non-significant 3.4 percent decline from what would have been expected without the law change. The likelihood of a crash being speeding-related was an estimated 8 percent higher than would have been expected without the corridor approach, a difference that was not significant. With the combined effects of the speed cameras, the 2009 law change, and the corridor approach, the likelihood was 8.4 percent lower than would have been expected without any of the treatments, and this difference was statistically significant.

Similarly, for crashes that occurred on potential spillover roads, the likelihood of a crash being speeding-related was an estimated 18 percent lower than would have been expected without the speed cameras, an additional 22.9 percent higher than would have been expected without the 2009 law change, and an additional 22.8 percent lower than would have been expected without the corridor approach. None of these differences was significant, although the difference for the corridor approach neared significance.

With the combined effects of the speed cameras, the 2009 law change, and the corridor approach, the likelihood was 22 percent lower than would have been expected without any of the treatments, and this difference was statistically significant.

## **DISCUSSION**

The current study estimated the long-term effects of the Montgomery County speed camera program on vehicle speeds, public opinions, and crashes. A prior evaluation found significant reductions in vehicle speeds at sites with cameras, and sites with warning signs but no cameras 6 months after camera enforcement began, relative to changes in speeds at control sites in northern Virginia (Retting, Farmer, & McCartt, 2008). The current results showed long-lasting significant reductions in speeds at the original sites with warning signs relative to speed changes at the control sites; cameras had been deployed at or near 16 of the 18 sites with warning signs.

Automated enforcement is controversial in many communities. Montgomery County sought to educate the public about the safety benefits of speed cameras when the program was launched, and 62 percent of drivers residing in the county said they favor automated speed enforcement on residential streets when interviewed in fall 2014, up slightly from 56 percent when interviewed about 6 months after camera ticketing began (Retting, Farmer, & McCartt, 2008). However, a sizeable minority of drivers, 38 percent, opposed the cameras on residential streets in the fall 2014 survey. In the 2014 survey, a large majority of drivers, 86 percent, favored speed cameras in school zones.

The proportion of Montgomery County drivers who thought speeding was a safety problem on residential streets was much lower in 2014 (56 percent) than in surveys conducted 6 months before (71 percent) and 6 months after (74 percent) the speed camera program was implemented (Retting, Farmer, & McCartt, 2008). This is consistent with an increase in the proportion of drivers who said they had reduced their travel speeds due to the speed cameras (76 percent in the fall 2014 survey vs. 59 percent in the 6-month after survey). Three-quarters of drivers in the fall 2014 survey reported knowing someone who received a speed camera citation, and 59 percent had received a citation themselves. As receiving a

citation is likely to discourage speeding, at least for a while, all these findings are consistent with the reductions in observed travel speeds associated with the speed cameras.

Previous research from countries with extensive speed camera programs has found reductions in crashes and injuries associated with automated speed enforcement (Pilkington and Kinra, 2005; Wilson et al., 2010). The current study found that speed camera enforcement was associated with a significant 19 percent reduction in the likelihood that a crash involved an incapacitating or fatal injury and a significant 12 percent reduction in the likelihood that a crash was speeding-related on camera-eligible roads in the county.

The 2009 speed camera law change was not significantly associated with the likelihood that a crash involved an incapacitating or fatal injury or the likelihood that a crash was speeding-related. This is not surprising since most of the respondents in the fall 2014 telephone survey were not aware of the law change. In addition, the increase in the speed threshold for automated speed enforcement of 1 mph was likely not large enough to produce a substantial change in travel speeds. However, it appears that the county's corridor approach to speed camera enforcement has been effective in reducing the severity of crashes. The implementation of the corridor approach was associated with a 30 percent reduction in the likelihood that a crash involved an incapacitating or fatal injury on camera-eligible roads, over and above the reduction associated with speed camera enforcement. This is consistent with the goal of the corridor approach to encourage drivers to comply with the speed limit along an entire roadway segment. The corridor approach was associated with an increase in the likelihood of a crashes being speeding-related, but the increase was not significant. It should be noted that there was a relatively brief period for examining effects of the corridor approach on crashes (June 2012-December 2013). The estimated combined effect of speed cameras, the 2009 law change, and the corridor approach on camera-eligible roads was a significant 39 percent reduction in the likelihood that a crash involved an incapacitating or fatal injury and a significant 8 percent reduction in the likelihood that a crash was speeding-related.

With regard to the analysis of crashes on the potential spillover roads in Montgomery County, there were reductions in the likelihood that a crash involved an incapacitating or fatal injury and in the

likelihood that a crash was speeding-related associated with the overall effect of speed cameras and with the corridor approach. The magnitude of these reductions ranged from 16 to 23 percent. Although none of the changes was significant, a 23 percent reduction in the likelihood of a crash being speeding-related associated with the corridor approach approached significance ( $p=0.0539$ ). The estimated combined effect of speed cameras, the 2009 law change, and the corridor approach was a significant 27 percent reduction in the likelihood that a crash involved an incapacitating or fatal injury and a significant 22 percent reduction in the likelihood that a crash was speeding-related on potential spillover roads.

Increasing the perceived risk of detection is one of the most important objectives of speed enforcement strategies (Ostvik and Elvik, 1990). A countywide camera effect on crashes on camera-eligible residential roads would be expected because of the relatively large scale of the program as well as the high level of awareness of the enforcement that was documented in the fall 2014 survey of drivers. To raise the perceived risk of perception, it is important to promote a perception of widespread camera use through roadway signs and highly visible public information and education activities. Montgomery County had a well-developed public information and education campaign at the program's inception and installed signs warning drivers of the photo enforcement on specific roads and on major roads leading into the county. Informing drivers about the dangers of speeding and the role of automated enforcement and alerting drivers that cameras are in use help to build broad support for camera enforcement and are needed throughout the life of the enforcement program. It is possible that the effects of the speed camera enforcement would be even stronger if the county conducted periodic publicity campaigns about the program.

Several limitations of the study are worth noting. The potential spillover effects of the speed cameras on vehicle speeds were not examined due to the lack of appropriate control sites with the same speed limit. It was not possible to examine changes in crashes close to the specific locations with speed cameras relative to other locations on camera-eligible roads because of the lack of detailed information on the location of crashes relative to the camera locations. However, prior research (Wilson et al., 2010) found that the effects of speed cameras are not limited to camera sites only but rather extend to wider

areas. In Virginia, the property damage threshold for reporting a crash increased from \$1,000 to \$1,500 in 2009; this may have reduced the total number of crashes that were reported. As a result, the effects on the likelihood that a crash involved a fatal or incapacitating injury and/or the likelihood that a crash was speeding-related may have been overestimated. However, it is believed the change in reporting crashes would have been very small as the current property damage threshold still reflects minor vehicle damage. Further, there was no large or anomalous drop between 2008 and 2009 in the total number of crashes reported in Fairfax County or in the proportion that involved a serious injury or fatality. In the analysis of speeding-related crashes, data from 2008 were excluded due to apparent anomalies in the coding of speeding-related crashes in the Fairfax County crash data. The Virginia Department of Vehicles changed the method for coding speeding-related crashes in 2009, and the anomalies may reflect this transition in coding methods. It is possible that Fairfax County was not an ideal control for the analysis of the camera effects crashes, since the yearly proportion of speeding-related crashes and the yearly proportion of crashes that involved a serious or fatal injury in Montgomery County were higher than in Fairfax County during the before period. However, the estimated logistic regression model controlled for such differences between the two counties, and the economic, demographic, and traffic characteristics of Fairfax County are similar to those of Montgomery County. As noted above, Fairfax County had a red light camera program during the early part of the study period. Although crashes that occurred at the camera intersections were excluded from the crash analysis for the entire study period, it is possible that the camera effects spilled over to some non-camera intersections within the county. It is believed that the red light camera program in Fairfax County would have had minimal effects on the results in the current study.

Despite the demonstrated safety benefits of speed camera enforcement and the support for cameras in many communities, cameras remain controversial in some communities. Although automated traffic enforcement is not a panacea, this study adds to the evidence that speed cameras can result in long-term substantial reductions in speeding, speeding-related crashes, and crashes involving serious injuries or fatalities. This evidence should be considered by communities considering ways to keep their roads safer.

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## Appendix

**Table A-1**

Estimated effects of speed camera program on mean speeds based on linear regression model

Effect	F-value	p-value	Estimate	Percent change
Site	2476.08	<0.0001		
Time (2014 vs. 2006)	893.79	<0.0001	-0.0466	-4.6
Camera sites vs. control sites	3170.02	<0.0001	-0.1052	-10.0

**Table A-2**

Logistic regression results of effects of speed cameras on likelihood that crash involved incapacitating or fatal injury on camera-eligible roads

Parameter	Estimate	Standard error	p-value
Intercept	-3.0244	0.0406	<0.0001
Number of years (since 2004)	-0.0511	0.0145	0.0004
First quarter (Jan-Mar) vs. fourth quarter (Oct-Dec)	0.00889	0.0353	0.801
Second quarter (Apr-Jun) vs. fourth quarter (Oct-Dec)	0.061	0.0336	0.0695
Third quarter (Jul-Sep) vs. fourth quarter (Oct-Dec)	0.1435	0.0329	<0.0001
Entire after period (Jun 2007-Dec 2013) vs. before period (Jan 2004-Apr 2007)	0.0149	0.0574	0.7951
2009 law period (Oct 2009-Dec 2013) vs. before period (Jan 2004-Apr 2007)	-0.036	0.0607	0.5531
Corridor approach period (Jun 2012-Dec 2013) vs. before period (Jan 2004-Apr 2007)	0.1756	0.0636	0.0057
Montgomery County vs. Fairfax County	0.00403	0.0355	0.9098
Effects of speed cameras	-0.2302	0.061	0.0002
Effects of 2009 law change over and above speed cameras	0.0827	0.0726	0.2547
Effects of corridor approach over and above speed cameras and 2009 law change	-0.3762	0.0906	<0.0001
Wet or snow/ice covered road vs. dry road	-0.1599	0.0292	<0.0001
Curve road vs. straight road	0.5385	0.0302	<0.0001
Pedestrian involvement	2.2954	0.0406	<0.0001
Nighttime (9 p.m. to 6 a.m.) vs. daytime	0.201	0.0301	<0.0001
Speed limit 30 mph vs. 25 mph	0.2873	0.0387	<0.0001
Speed limit 35 mph vs. 25 mph	0.335	0.0285	<0.0001



**Table A-3**

Logistic regression results of effects of speed cameras on likelihood that crash involved incapacitating or fatal injury on potential spillover roads

Parameter	Estimate	Standard error	p-value
Intercept	-2.7255	0.078	<0.0001
Number of years (since 2004)	-0.0304	0.0264	0.2491
First quarter (Jan-Mar) vs. fourth quarter (Oct-Dec)	0.0694	0.0642	0.2797
Second quarter (Apr-Jun) vs. fourth quarter (Oct-Dec)	0.0977	0.0615	0.1118
Third quarter (Jul-Sep) vs. fourth quarter (Oct-Dec)	0.1106	0.0606	0.0681
Entire after period (Jun 2007-Dec 2013) vs. before period (Jan 2004-Apr 2007)	-0.0116	0.1302	0.9291
2009 law period (Oct 2009-Dec 2013) vs. before period (Jan 2004-Apr 2007)	-0.1595	0.1405	0.2562
Corridor approach period (Jun 2012-Dec 2013) vs. before period (Jan 2004-Apr 2007)	0.1012	0.1573	0.5199
Montgomery County vs. Fairfax County	0.3326	0.0735	<0.0001
Effects of speed cameras	-0.2017	0.1222	0.099
Effects of 2009 law change over and above speed cameras	0.0633	0.1448	0.6622
Effects of corridor approach over and above speed cameras and 2009 law change	-0.191	0.1754	0.2763
Wet or snow/ice covered road vs. dry road	-0.1793	0.0519	0.0006
Curve road vs. straight road	0.7319	0.0599	<0.0001
Pedestrian involvement	2.3743	0.09	<0.0001
Nighttime (9 p.m. to 6 a.m.) vs. daytime	0.0525	0.0567	0.3547

**Table A-4**

Logistic regression results of effects of speed cameras on likelihood that crash was speeding-related on camera-eligible roads

Parameter	Estimate	Standard error	p-value
Intercept	-2.1981	0.0288	<0.0001
Number of years (since 2004)	-0.0229	0.01	0.0228
First quarter (Jan-Mar) vs. fourth quarter (Oct-Dec)	0.00338	0.025	0.8923
Second quarter (Apr-Jun) vs. fourth quarter (Oct-Dec)	0.0158	0.0241	0.5135
Third quarter (Jul-Sep) vs. fourth quarter (Oct-Dec)	0.071	0.0239	0.0029
Entire after period (Jun 2007-Dec 2013) vs. before period (Jan 2004-Apr 2007)	-0.0205	0.0469	0.6615
2009 law period (Oct 2009-Dec 2013) vs. before period (Jan 2004-Apr 2007)	0.0303	0.0467	0.5165
Corridor approach period (Jun 2012-Dec 2013) vs. before period (Jan 2004-Apr 2007)	-0.0227	0.0444	0.6087
Montgomery County vs. Fairfax County	0.3467	0.0252	<0.0001
Effects of speed cameras	-0.1529	0.0508	0.0026
Effects of 2009 law change over and above speed cameras	-0.0409	0.0556	0.462
Effects of corridor approach over and above speed cameras and 2009 law change	0.0911	0.056	0.1037
Wet or snow/ice covered road vs. dry road	0.8903	0.018	<0.0001
Curve road vs. straight road	1.0215	0.02	<0.0001
Nighttime (9 p.m. to 6 a.m.) vs. daytime	0.864	0.0197	<0.0001
Speed limit 30 mph vs. 25 mph	-0.1881	0.0264	<0.0001
Speed limit 35 mph vs. 25 mph	-0.21	0.0194	<0.0001

**Table A-5**

Logistic regression results of effects of speed cameras on likelihood that crash was speeding-related on potential spillover roads

Parameter	Estimate	Standard error	p-value
Intercept	-3.0923	0.0739	<0.0001
Number of years (since 2004)	0.0229	0.0201	0.2544
First quarter (Jan-Mar) vs. fourth quarter (Oct-Dec)	0.0103	0.05	0.8366
Second quarter (Apr-Jun) vs. fourth quarter (Oct-Dec)	-0.0547	0.0487	0.2613
Third quarter (Jul-Sep) vs. fourth quarter (Oct-Dec)	0.0592	0.0475	0.2125
Entire after period (Jun 2007-Dec 2013) vs. before period (Jan 2004-Apr 2007)	0.0331	0.1344	0.8055
2009 law period (Oct 2009-Dec 2013) vs. before period (Jan 2004-Apr 2007)	-0.4123	0.1407	0.0034
Corridor approach period (Jun 2012-Dec 2013) vs. before period (Jan 2004-Apr 2007)	0.2399	0.1379	0.0819
Montgomery County vs. Fairfax County	1.1357	0.0694	<0.0001
Effects of speed cameras	-0.2146	0.1314	0.1024
Effects of 2009 law change over and above speed cameras	0.226	0.1447	0.1182
Effects of corridor approach over and above speed cameras and 2009 law change	-0.2789	0.1447	0.0539
Wet or snow/ice covered road vs. dry road	1.375	0.0347	<0.0001
Curve road vs. straight road	1.0176	0.0462	<0.0001
Nighttime (9 p.m. to 6 a.m.) vs. daytime	0.3638	0.0424	<0.0001