

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2022 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

Senate Bill 75 (Senator Reilly)
Judicial Proceedings

Anne Arundel County - Speed Monitoring Systems - Patuxent Road

This bill authorizes the placement of speed monitoring systems (speed cameras) in Anne Arundel County on Patuxent Road through Historic Woodwardville, subject to existing signage and placement requirements for speed cameras. The bill also requires a real-time display of a driver's traveling speed. From the fines collected as a result of violations enforced by those speed cameras, any balance remaining after cost recovery must be used by Anne Arundel County solely to assist in covering the cost of speed reduction measures and roadway and pedestrian safety improvements in the affected area. **The bill terminates September 30, 2027.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: General fund revenues may increase negligibly from FY 2023 to 2028 due to additional contested cases in District Court, as discussed below. Expenditures are likely not materially affected.

Local Effect: Local revenues increase from FY 2023 to 2028 to the extent speed cameras are placed as authorized, as discussed below. Expenditures increase for implementation costs, with the remaining amounts reserved for speed reduction measures and pedestrian safety improvements.

Small Business Effect: Potential minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: Speed monitoring systems must be authorized in a local jurisdiction by the governing body of the jurisdiction (but only after reasonable notice and a public hearing).

Before activating a speed monitoring system, a local jurisdiction must publish notice of the location of the speed monitoring system on its website and in a newspaper of general circulation in the jurisdiction. In addition, the jurisdiction must also ensure that each sign that designates a school zone is proximate to a sign that (1) indicates that speed monitoring systems are in use in the school zone and (2) conforms with specified traffic control device standards adopted by the State Highway Administration. Similar requirements apply to speed cameras in other specified locations throughout the State (such as Maryland Route 175 in Anne Arundel County). Similarly, certain speed camera locations require that each sign indicating the use of a speed camera must be near a device that displays a real-time posting of the driver's speed.

Generally, from the fines generated by a speed monitoring system, the relevant jurisdiction may recover the costs of implementing the system and may spend any remaining balance solely for public safety purposes, including for pedestrian safety programs. However, if the balance of revenues after cost recovery for any fiscal year is greater than 10% of the jurisdiction's total revenues, the excess must be remitted to the Comptroller.

State/Local Fiscal Effect: Under the bill, the number of citations issued in Anne Arundel County is expected to increase. As a result, the number of individuals opting for a trial in District Court is also likely to increase. Accordingly, general fund revenues may increase negligibly, as fine revenues paid by individuals convicted in District Court are paid into the general fund. The increase in District Court caseloads can be handled with existing resources.

Local revenues increase from fiscal 2023 to 2028 to the extent that the authorization to place speed cameras is used.

Likewise, if the authorization is used, expenditures increase over the same time period to procure, install, and maintain the additional camera(s). Based on historical data and the use of speed camera systems in the State to date, the increase in revenues is likely to exceed the increase in expenditures. After cost recovery, the remaining revenues must be used by Anne Arundel County to make the required speed reduction measures and pedestrian safety improvements.

Although the exact increase in revenues cannot be projected because the number of cameras that might be placed and the number of citations that might be issued in the area affected by the bill is unknown, *for illustrative purposes only*, local revenues increase by \$71,175 in fiscal 2023 (reflecting the bill's October 1, 2022 effective date), by \$94,900 from fiscal 2024 through 2027, and by \$23,725 in fiscal 2028 (due to the bill's September 30, 2026 termination date) under the following assumptions:

- one speed camera is placed in the area authorized by the bill;
- the speed camera captures an average of 10 violations per day;

- 65% of violators prepay the fine (at \$40); and
- 35% of violators contest the citation in District Court.

Revenues increase correspondingly for additional violations captured and each additional speed camera placed.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Designated Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Anne Arundel County; Comptroller's Office; Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts); Maryland Department of Transportation; Department of Legislative Services

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