



Montgomery County

Office of Intergovernmental Relations

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HB 564

DATE: February 9, 2021

SPONSOR: Montgomery County Delegation

ASSIGNED TO: Environment and Transportation

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POSITION: SUPPORT

Montgomery County – Automated Traffic Enforcement – Implementing Agency MC 4-21

House Bill 564 is enabling legislation to allow Montgomery County to transfer the administration of its speed camera, red light camera, and school bus safety camera programs from the Montgomery County Police Department (MCPD) to the Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT). If such a transfer would take place, the bill requires that an MCDOT employee – and not an officer from MCPD – sign the required statement on a speed camera violation citation.

Under the State Transportation Article, § 21-809, speed camera use is allowed on residential streets with speed limits of 35 mph or less and in school zones, and further specifies that automated traffic enforcement programs be administered by a law enforcement agency of a local political subdivision. Apart from Baltimore City, which placed its speed camera program under the City's transportation department but requires that all speed camera violation citations be signed by a police officer, speed camera programs across the State are administered by police departments. MCPD also operates red light cameras at intersections throughout the County and enforces school bus safety camera violations on Montgomery County school buses.

The County supports HB 564 and urges the Committee to adopt a favorable report. Passage of the bill will allow the County to consider the best path forward for administering its automated camera programs and meeting its Vision Zero goals.