February 10, 2022

Hon. Delegate Kumar P. Barve, Chair Committee on Transportation and Environment Maryland Housing of Delegates

Position: <u>Support</u> for HB 231 Montgomery County – Automated Traffic Enforcement – Implementing Agency

Please accept these comments on behalf of the Coalition for Smarter Growth, the leading non-profit organization in the D.C. region, including suburban Maryland, advocating for walkable, bikeable, inclusive, transit-oriented communities as the most sustainable and equitable way for the DC region to grow and provide opportunities for all.

We wish to express our support for HB 231 which would authorize Montgomery County to designate the Montgomery County Department of Transportation instead of a local law enforcement agency as the agency responsible for implementing automated traffic enforcement programs in the county.

This is a national best practice and already the case in the District of Columbia. Montgomery County Department of Transportation is in a better position to integrate the use of automated traffic enforcement as a tool to holistically carry out the agency's overall mission to plan, design and operate the county's roadways to ensure safety for all users, and support other community goals like economic development.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Cort Policy Director