

# Town of Emmitsburg

300 A South Seton Avenue • Emmitsburg, MD 21727

Office: 301-600-6300 • Fax: 301-600-6313

[www.emmitsburgmd.gov](http://www.emmitsburgmd.gov)

March 1, 2023

Honorable Guy Guzzone  
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee  
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

The Town of Emmitsburg would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

Speeding and vandalism have been, and continue to be, a main concern for the Town of Emmitsburg, its businesses and residents. The 2015 Comprehensive Plan for Emmitsburg, which addresses future needs and sets Town goals for 10-years, lists speeding as a main concern in Emmitsburg. Because of its location on the Pennsylvania, Maryland, and D.C. commuting corridors, Emmitsburg has seen an increase in commuter traffic. Since Main Street is the sole east-west through street, it tends to be congested at peak traffic hours increasing tendency for motorists to utilize other streets to circumvent the gridlock. SHA traffic number's reports approximately 7,375 vehicles traveling the road per day. A total of 501 traffic stops occurred in 2021 and 1,111 in 2022 to try and combat the issue. As recent as the September 12, 2022 town meeting several individuals spoke during public comment urging the Town to pursue options to slow traffic and increase safety. In addition, Emmitsburg has had six instances of spray paint vandalism the past two years. The Town was able to apply for and obtain Community Safety Work grant funds in 2023 to purchase two speed trailers and two surveillance cameras to deter speeding and vandalism. If it was not for this grant, the Town would not have been able to afford these safety efforts. If funding is available in the future, Emmitsburg would be able to continue to deter speeding and vandalism through additional security cameras, signage, lighting, litter removal equipment and beautification. Our community is thankful for this funding.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Donald N. Briggs  
Mayor

*Mayor* Donald N. Briggs

*Town Manager* Cathy Willets

*Town Clerk* Sabrina King

*Board of Commissioners* Timothy O'Donnell, President • Joseph Ritz, III, Vice President • Clifford Sweeney • Frank Davis • Amy Boehman-Pollitt