



# Montgomery County

## Office of Intergovernmental Relations

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**HB 1027**

**DATE: March 2, 2023**

**SPONSOR: Delegate R. Lewis**

**ASSIGNED TO: Environment and Transportation**

**CONTACT PERSON: Melanie Wenger (melanie.wenger@montgomerycountymd.gov)**

**POSITION: Support (Department of Transportation)**

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### **Vehicle Laws – Bus Lane Monitoring Systems – Statewide Expansion**

The Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) strongly supports House Bill 1027, which would expand to all local jurisdictions in the State the authority currently only granted to Baltimore City to use bus lane monitoring systems. Bus lane monitoring systems are used to capture a recorded image of the driver of a motor vehicle if a violation is being committed. Under House Bill 1027, a local law enforcement agency or a contractor would be permitted to operate a bus lane monitoring system.

State roads in Montgomery County have the highest Metrobus ridership in Maryland and there are plans to install bus lanes along several of these roads this year, including along Georgia Avenue in Silver Spring and University Boulevard in the Wheaton/Four Corners area. Bus lanes will also be added as part of the County new bus rapid transit (BRT) FLASH bus service along the Germantown Transit Center and US 29. With the expansion of the County's bus lanes, MCDOT supports House Bill 1027 as a useful tool to ensure the effectiveness and safety of bus lanes within the State.

Enabling the use of bus lane monitoring systems would help ensure public transit reliability and performance, thus encouraging transit ridership. The County's ability to utilize bus lane monitoring systems under House Bill 1027 would be a critical step to supporting successful implementation of bus lanes in the near term in addition to supporting the County's extensive plans for BRT over the longer term. MCDOT respectfully requests the Committee issue a favorable report on House Bill 1027 to enable all local jurisdictions to utilize bus lane monitoring systems.