

March 29, 2023

The Honorable William Smith Jr.
Chair, Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East Miller Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Letter of Information – House Bill 435 – Prince George’s County – Speed Monitoring Systems – Maryland Route 210 (Indian Head Highway) PG 304-23

Dear Chair Smith and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) takes no position on House Bill 435 but offers the following information for the Committee’s consideration.

House Bill 435 increases the number of automatic speed enforcement cameras authorized on MD 210 from three cameras to six cameras.

Several years ago, the Maryland General Assembly authorized speed cameras on MD 210 in response to the high number of serious crashes and fatalities caused by speeding vehicles on the corridor. The MDOT State Highway Administration (SHA) permits the installation of cameras within SHA right-of-way. The location of cameras is selected by the county police department, their installation is permitted by SHA if they meet requirements, then the county’s vendor installs the camera and associated signs within SHA’s right-of-way.

The 13-mile corridor of MD 210 has a fatal crash rate that is significantly higher than the Statewide average for State-maintained highways. To improve safety for all users, SHA is identifying and constructing safety improvements across the State. Significant projects in Prince George’s County include the Kirby Hill interchange that was finished in 2022 and the future grade-separation that will be built at the interchange of MD 210 and Palmer/Livingston Road. The SHA is continually assessing and improving the signals and signs along the corridor. The SHA also collaborates with local stakeholders quarterly to discuss safety concerns and potential countermeasures, including an ongoing bicycle and pedestrian connectivity projects.

The Prince George’s County Police Department (PGPD) patrols MD 210 and administers the County’s speed monitoring program. Representatives from the PGPD participate in regular discussions with SHA, community members, and elected officials regarding safety along the corridor. During those discussions, the PGPD informed SHA that repeat speed offenders and those traveling more than 30 miles per hour over the posted speed limit are of concern.

The Maryland Department of Transportation respectfully requests the Committee consider this information when deliberating House Bill 435.

Respectfully submitted,

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