

Montgomery County Office of Intergovernmental Relations

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HB 612 DATE: February 29, 2024 SPONSOR: Montgomery County Delegation ASSIGNED TO: Environment and Transportation CONTACT PERSON: Sara Morningstar (Sara.Morningstar@montgomerycountymd.gov) POSITION: SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT

Montgomery County – Highways- Maximum Speed Limits – MC 10-24

House Bill 612 repeals the requirement that Montgomery County and municipalities in the County perform an engineering and traffic investigation before exercising the authority to decrease a maximum speed limit on a highway. The bill was amended by the Montgomery County Delegation to allow deployment after one year of new speed monitoring systems on portions of roadways for which the speed limit has been decreased. Montgomery County supports House Bill 612, as amended.

Reducing maximum speed limits on Montgomery County roads has been an important step in advancing local Vision Zero goals, and House Bill 612 promotes that objective. Moreover, by allowing the use of automated traffic enforcement units after one year on roads posted with lower speed limits, roadway safety and driver compliance will improve without having to rely on enforcement from potentially dangerous officer-initiated traffic stops.

For these reasons, Montgomery County urges the Committee to adopt a favorable report on House Bill 612, as amended.