

Brooke Manor Estates Homeowners Association Rockville, MD

Environment and Transportation Committee Members,

Brooke Manor and our neighboring communities strongly support passage of *HB-1369, Speed Monitoring Systems on Route 200*. Brooke Manor Estates sits next to the ICC between Georgia Ave and Emory Lane. Brooke Manor has been working with both the MDTA Police detachment responsible for the ICC and the MDTA Executive Team for at least the past 5 years on ICC safety and noise issues. We appreciate that they have met with us but little if any concrete action has been undertaken. Yes, we see increased traffic enforcement periodically but nothing to make a long-term difference. There has always been a reluctance to use more aggressive speed reduction techniques like speed cameras.

Speed cameras do work. They do slow you down not only right where they are but also in the general roadway areas where they are located. Speed cameras in combination with increased enforcement really do work. I've seen them slow traffic on Route 28 Norbeck Road, on Georgia Ave in Olney, and on the Jones Falls Expressway in Baltimore where they have reduced speeding and accidents. So Why Not on the ICC?

I travel the ICC daily as do many of my Brooke Manor neighbors. We have all seen the average speed creep up. We understand it is 72 miles per hour now. Covid and the Defund the Police Movement have given people the idea they can drive Anyway they Want. The ICC has become a speedway where cars weave in and out of traffic at 80 miles per hour plus, motorcyclists do the same at 100 miles plus, and trucks downshift going 70. The Noise can be Deafening!

There is no reason not to implement speed cameras on the ICC. Speed cameras can help reduce reckless driving, improve road safety and reduce the road noise that is affecting the quality of life of nearby residents. Unfortunately, another motorcyclist lost their life in an accident last weekend.

The Brooke Manor Estates community strongly supports Bill HB-1369 and hopes it can be passed by the Maryland legislature this year. If it is not, we will be extremely disappointed as will other Montgomery County residents who live near the ICC and/or travel it regularly.

Thank You

Robert Zimmerman
President, Brooke Manor Estates HOA