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HB 1130

February 25, 2025

TO: Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee

FROM: Nina Themelis, Director of Mayor's Office of Government Relations

RE: House Bill 1130 - Baltimore City - Speed Monitoring Systems on Interstate 83 - Unpaid
and Overdue Citations

POSITION: Favorable

Chair Korman, Vice Chair Boyce, and Members of the Committee, please be advised that the Baltimore City Administration (BCA) **supports** House Bill (HB) 1130.

HB 1130 would authorize the City to immobilize vehicles which have accrued over \$250 in unpaid speeding citations issued by speed cameras on Interstate 83. This would allow the City to improve compliance through targeted enforcement, creating tangible consequences for chronic offenders who disregard the law and its associated penalties on a regular basis. Furthermore, allowing for the immobilization of chronic offenders would improve collection rates, yielding additional supplemental funding for improvements to Interstate 83.

The Interstate 83 speed cameras were authorized by Chapter 628 of the 2021 Maryland Session. Since the program was established, these two fixed-location cameras have improved speed limit compliance by 10% and 20% in the northbound and southbound directions, respectively. Crashes within 1 mile of the cameras have fallen by 41% and 63% in the northbound and southbound directions, respectively. Finally, the cameras have generated 148,052 citations between July 2022 and December 2024; of these citations, 132,026 have been paid, and 16,026 are overdue representing about 11% of the total citations.

For context on unpaid and outstanding violations:

- 25,495 Maryland tags have 7 or more citations issued, totaling \$1,019,800
- 6,595 Virginia tags have 7 or more citations issued, totaling \$263,800
- 2,531 Pennsylvania tags have 7 or more citations issued, totaling \$101,240

As part of the City's scofflaw program, parking enforcement staff use "boots" to immobilize vehicles identified to possess three or more overdue violations. The owner of a booted vehicle can have the boot removed by calling a 24/7 hotline or visiting a City office. They are required to pay all overdue citations as part of the boot release process. This system drastically improves collection rates by requiring that all overdue citations are paid as a condition of vehicle release, creating tangible consequences for repeat violators who disregard citations.

For the above stated reasons, the BCA respectfully request a **favorable** report on HB 1130.