



**MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCIL**  
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

DAWN LUEDTKE  
COUNCILMEMBER  
DISTRICT 7

March 7, 2025

The Honorable Marc Korman  
Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee  
250 Taylor House Office Building  
251 Taylor House Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: House Bill 1173, *Montgomery County - Speed Monitoring Systems - High-Risk Highways MC 17-25*

Dear Chair Korman,

I urge the Committee to support House Bill 1173, *Montgomery County - Speed Monitoring Systems - High-Risk Highways MC 17-25*, which would enable Montgomery County to place a speed monitoring system on certain roads that have been identified as high risk because of a demonstrated history of fatal or severe injury crashes.

A prominent example of this type of high-risk roadway is Shady Grove Road, where we have been working with residents, community leaders, the Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT), and the Montgomery County Police Department (MCPD) to provide traffic calming solutions and enhanced speeding enforcement. Shady Grove Road from Frederick Road (MD 355) to Midcounty Highway has consistently been identified as part of the County's "high injury network" because of its significant history of fatal and severe injury crashes, including in the County's 2030 Vision Zero Action Plan.<sup>1</sup> According to the Montgomery County Planning Department's Interactive Crash Map,<sup>2</sup> there have been six fatal crashes and eight severe injury crashes involving pedestrians and motorists on this section of Shady Grove Road since 2015, including one in August 2024.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/visionzero/Resources/Files/vz2030-plan.pdf](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/visionzero/Resources/Files/vz2030-plan.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> [montgomeryplanning.org/planning/transportation/vision-zero/montgomery-county-interactive-crash-map/](http://montgomeryplanning.org/planning/transportation/vision-zero/montgomery-county-interactive-crash-map/)

<sup>3</sup> [www.mymcmedia.org/police-investigate-fatal-car-collision-on-shady-grove-road/](http://www.mymcmedia.org/police-investigate-fatal-car-collision-on-shady-grove-road/)

After significant community advocacy and discussions with MCDOT, the County recently lowered the 45 mph speed limit for Shady Grove Road to 40 mph. While MCDOT is evaluating this change and will consider further reductions, 40 mph is still too high according to existing State law for a road to be eligible for automated traffic enforcement. This is despite a growing number of deaths and severe injuries on this roadway that is making our communities less safe.

More urgent action is clearly needed on Shady Grove Road and many other similarly situated roads in Montgomery County. We believe allowing for speed camera enforcement gives Montgomery County a tool that can fairly and effectively reduce the dangerous levels of speeding and change driving behavior that contributes to fatal and severe injury crashes. We urge the Committee to support this legislation.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dawn Luedtke", written in a cursive style.

Dawn Luedtke  
Montgomery County Councilmember  
District 7

cc: Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee