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HB 1173 DATE: March 11, 2025

SPONSOR: Montgomery County Delegation

ASSIGNED TO: Environment and Transportation

CONTACT PERSON: Sara Morningstar (Sara.Morningstar@montgomerycountymd.gov)

POSITION: Support with Amendment

Montgomery County – Speed Monitoring Systems – High–Risk Highways MC 17-25

House Bill 1173 authorizes Montgomery County to locate speed cameras on municipal, County, and State roadways that have been identified in the County's most recent Local Strategic Highway Safety Plan or Vision Zero Plan as roads that are at high risk for vehicle crashes resulting in bodily injuries or death. The County is required to direct speed camera revenues from those roadways toward funding study, design, and construction of safety-related projects. Additionally, the County must evaluate on or before October 1, 2030, and every five years thereafter, the effectiveness of new cameras under the new high injury network clause. An amendment was adopted by the Montgomery County Senate Delegation to explicitly state that speed camera revenues from programs operated by municipalities shall remain with the municipalities to be spent on the same study, design, and construction of safety-related projects as those required by the County. Montgomery County supports the bill, as amended.

Montgomery County's Vision Zero 2030 Action Plan reports that three percent of the roads in the County account for 41 percent of serious and fatal crashes. Many of these roadways are currently ineligible for automated speed enforcement due to State law prohibiting speed cameras in commercial zones or on roads with posted speed limits above 35 miles per hour. These roads include dangerous stretches of Frederick Road, Viers Mill Road, Randolph Road, and Shady Grove Road. Allowing automated speed enforcement on roadways that have been designated as being at high risk for vehicle crashes resulting in bodily injuries or death will have a significant impact on roadway safety.

Montgomery County respectfully requests that the Environment and Transportation Committee adopt a favorable report on House Bill 1173 as amended by the Montgomery County Senate Delegation.