



Maryland Municipal League
The Association of Maryland's Cities and Towns

TESTIMONY

February 21, 2025

Committee: House Environment and Transportation Committee

Bill: HB 348 - Motor Vehicles - Speed Monitoring Systems - Safety Corridors

Position: Favorable with Amendment

Reason for Position:

The Maryland Municipal League supports HB 348 with amendment. The bill would allow for the State Highway Administration (SHA) to place speed cameras on state highways in certain designated safety corridors.

Municipal roadways are some of the busiest in the State due to the high number of residents, workplaces, and entertainment venues located in the State's cities and towns. As such many state highways designated as "safety corridors" in the bill are in municipalities. Authorizing SHA to place speed cameras on state highways on these "safety corridors" would improve roadway safety in many municipalities by allowing further deployment of these devices that are proven to reduce vehicular speed, accidents, and serious accidents.

MML's proposed amendments seek to codify a process for a municipality to request that a camera is installed in a "safety corridor" on a state highway in a municipality. The amendment is based on language that is already in statute, TR 21-809(B)(1)(iii)(2):

"(T) 1. A municipal corporation may implement and use a speed monitoring system consistent with the requirements of this subsection on a state highway at a location within its corporate limits if the municipal corporation:

i. Submits to the Administration a plan describing the designated safety corridor and the proposed location of the speed monitoring system; and

ii. Requests and receives permission from the Administration to use the speed monitoring system at the proposed location.



Maryland Municipal League
The Association of Maryland's Cities and Towns

2. If the Administration fails to respond to the request within 60 days, the municipal corporation may implement and use the speed monitoring system as described in the plan submission.
3. The Administration may not:
 - i. Unreasonably deny a request under this subparagraph; or
 - i. Place exactions, fees, or unreasonable restrictions on the implementation and use of a speed monitoring system under this subparagraph.
4. The Administration shall state in writing the reasons for any denial of a request under this subparagraph.
5. A municipal corporation may contest in the circuit court a county denial of a request under this subparagraph.”

For these reasons, the Maryland Municipal League respectfully requests a favorable report on House Bill 348 with the above amendment. For more information, please contact Bill Jorch, Director, Public Policy and Research at billj@mdmunicipal.org. Thank you for your consideration.

The Maryland Municipal League uses its collective voice to advocate, empower and protect the interests of our 160 local governments members and elevates local leadership, delivers impactful solutions for our communities, and builds an inclusive culture for the 2 million Marylanders we serve.