

House Bill 1173 – March 11, 2025

By: Montgomery County Delegation Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

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

Submitted by: Ms. Elizabeth Westin, Derwood, MD, Redland Station Homeowners Association Board Member

Dear Chair and Committee members:

I am in full support of House Bill 1173. I am a mother of a 3-year-old and live off Shady Grove Rd (intersection of Shady Grove Road and Briardale Road). Almost every day, I witness cars speeding way over the 40-mile speed limit with no regard for safety in our community. Briardale Rd on both sides of Shady Grove Rd contains heavily residential neighborhoods and is close to highway entrances/exits (370, 270). Residents often have trouble navigating from one lane to another, just to turn onto their street, because of reckless, speeding cars.

With the newly placed (and much appreciated) sidewalks that were put in throughout the neighborhoods, more and more residents are walking across Shady Grove Rd to get from one side of Briardale Rd to the other. Some of these residents have children or dogs or are young adults. Some are commuting to the metro or just out for a stroll to the local park. I worry regularly about the safety of people on foot crossing Shady Grove Rd, or even those standing waiting at the bus stop.

If there are more safety provisions on Shady Grove Rd, I believe residents and other drivers will feel safer, while those that are speeding (reckless drivers) will be held accountable.

I used to hate speed cameras but now having lived off Shady Grove Rd, I see the necessity for them as strictly a safety mechanism and would be very appreciative of them, or any other suggested safety provisions, in our neighborhood.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Westin
Derwood, MD resident