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March 11th, 2025

Delegate Marc Korman, Chair Environment and Transportation Committee 250 Taylor House Office Building Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: HB 1173 – <u>FAVORABLE</u> – Montgomery County – Speed Monitoring Systems – High-Risk Highways (MC 17-25)

Dear Chair Korman and Members of the Committees:

The Maryland Asphalt Association (MAA) represents approximately 120 members, including 20 material producers and 100 contractors, engineering firms, and associate members, supporting a 7,000-person workforce. MAA actively collaborates with regulatory agencies to advocate for the asphalt industry, ensuring fair regulations at both the state and federal levels. Additionally, we support adequate funding for Maryland's multimodal transportation system.

House Bill 1173 authorizes the placement and use of speed monitoring systems on highways in Montgomery County that are high risk. Any revenues received shall be used to fund the study, design, and construction of safety-related projects in Montgomery County that have been identified in the Strategic Highway Safety Plan or Vision Zero Plan as roadways or intersections that are at high risk for motor vehicle crashes.

MAA overwhelmingly supports this legislation and appreciates the sponsor for its introduction. This bill directly aligns with the Administration's introduction and the General Assembly's passage of the Road Worker Protection Act last year which aimed to protect the most vulnerable on Maryland's roads—our road workers. HB 1173 aims to create safer roads for Montgomery County residents by using the revenue from speed monitoring systems on the County's most dangerous highways to improve them. Ultimately, this technology acts as a powerful deterrent, encouraging responsible driving and saving lives. By prioritizing safety through technology and reinvesting in our roads, we demonstrate a commitment to protecting our communities and making Maryland's highways safer.

For the reasons stated, we respectfully ask for a **FAVORABLE** vote on HB 1173.

Sincerely.

Tim Smith PE

President

Maryland Asphalt Association