

Written Position of Jeff Myers on SB 530 of 2025

I am a Board Member of the Pot Spring Community Association in Timonium and its Immediate Past-President. It should not be news to you that speeding is out of control. It is invariably one of the top complaints of communities across the State. Reckless speeding is not only out of control on interstates. It is occurring throughout residential communities. Especially since Google Maps, etc. have drivers on congested roads using residential streets as short cuts. In my area people use Pot Spring Road as a thorough fare and routinely drive 20 to 30 miles per hour over the speed limit. We have had a number of serious accidents, which the Cockeysville police precinct can confirm. A couple years ago an accident was so severe that people had to be transported to Shock Trauma via helicopter. This on a 30-mph road.

At a community meeting called about the Pot Spring situation, County police officers and a senior traffic engineer told me that the only thing that will really slow down drivers is speed cameras, and then only if the camera boxes are left in place so drivers do not know when a camera has been moved to another location. Signs, striping, and medians only help so much, and speed bumps can only be installed in limited situations.

While SB 530 alone cannot solve this problem, it can be a significant contribution toward the solution or mitigation of the speeding crises. Counties need the flexibility to place speed cameras in areas other than school zones to end this madness. Montgomery and P.G. Counties have this power. The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety studied Montgomery County's program and found it to be effective:
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/15389588.2016.1189076>.

All counties should have the same resources to battle speeding as Montgomery and Prince Georges Counties. Our children and citizens are no less valuable than theirs. Please support 530.

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