



February 10, 2026

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

HB 256 – Motor Vehicles – Speed Monitoring Systems – Safety Corridors (Vulnerable Road User Protection Act of 2026)

POSITION: FAVORABLE

Dear Chair Korman and Committee Members:

My name is Nigel Samaroo, and I am submitting this testimony on behalf of Bike Maryland and a statewide coalition of advocates **in strong support of House Bill 256, the Vulnerable Road User Protection Act of 2026.**

We are very concerned about the rising number of fatalities and serious injuries on our roadways, particularly among pedestrians, bicyclists, and other vulnerable road users.

HB 256 is a proactive, data-driven approach to safety that aligns with Maryland's Vision Zero commitment to eliminate traffic deaths.

We specifically support HB 256 because the proposed legislation:

- **Targets high risk areas.** By authorizing the State Highway Administration (SHA) and authorized local jurisdictions to use speed monitoring systems in safety corridors, this bill focuses enforcement where it's needed most – in designated high-risk areas for pedestrians and bicyclists.
- **Takes a proactive approach to improve safety for vulnerable road users.** HB 256 utilizes automated enforcement to prevent collisions *before* they occur. [The Federal Highway Administration](#) reports that fixed camera units can reduce crashes on arterial corridors by up to 54 percent.
- **Holds motorists accountable for dangerous driver behavior.** HB 256 ensures that drivers who operate at dangerous speeds in critical, identified corridors are held accountable. It will make roadways safer for us all.

According to the Maryland Highway Safety Office (MHSO) Fatal Crash Dashboard, more than 470 people lost their lives on Maryland roads in 2025, that included 95 pedestrians, 48 motorcyclists and 10 bicyclists. Of the total number of fatalities reported, 93 of those deaths were speed related. The US Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) as part of its Proven Safety Countermeasures initiative (PSCi) for reducing roadway fatalities and serious injuries on the Nation's highways recommends Speed Safety Cameras ([FHWA's Proven Safety Countermeasures](#)).

Allowing the use of speed monitoring systems in designated safety corridors is a critical step in reversing this trend.

Bike Maryland and the coalition of advocates listed below urge the Committee to recognize the profound safety benefits of this bill and to vote **FAVORABLE** on HB256. Maryland's bicyclists, pedestrians, and all who share our roads deserve a transportation system where accountability is the norm and safety is the expectation.

Thank you for your consideration,
Nigel Samaroo, MPH
Board of Directors, Bike Maryland

Baltimore Bicycling Club (BBC)
Baltimoreans for People Oriented Places (BaltPOP)
Bicycle Advocates for Annapolis & Anne Arundel County (BikeAAA)
Bike Harford
Bike Maryland
Bikemore
Bike HoCo
Frederick Bicycle Coalition
Maryland Eastern Shore Trail Network
Washington Area Bicyclist Association (WABA)