

**Please Support House Bill 1086
Montgomery County - Crosswalk Monitoring Systems
Authorization MC 10-26**

March 12, 2026

To:

Honorable Delegate Marc Korman, Chair
Honorable Delegate Michele Guyton, Vice Chair
Environment and Transportation Committee
Taylor House Office Building, Room 250
Annapolis, MD 21401

From:

Mindy Badin
4212 Charley Forest Street
Olney, MD 20832
minbadoo1@yahoo.com

Dear Chair Korman, Vice Chair Guyton, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my support for House Bill 1086, which would authorize the use of crosswalk monitoring systems in Montgomery County to improve pedestrian safety. Having lost my son Brett six years ago as he was crossing the street to meet some friends for dinner, this bill is particularly personal for me.

Pedestrian safety is a major concern in our Montgomery County communities. Crosswalks are intended to provide safe areas for pedestrians to cross the street, but too often drivers illegally enter crosswalks while pedestrians are present.

I was present at the Montgomery County Delegation Bill Hearings which took place in Wheaton this past December. At the introduction of MC 10-26, Delegate Foley indicated that during observations of several crosswalks over a two hour period, 376 pedestrians were counted using those crosswalks. I was appalled to hear that **615 vehicles illegally entered those crosswalks while pedestrians were present**. These violations significantly outnumbered the pedestrians themselves, demonstrating how common this behavior has become.

I have personally witnessed many vehicles entering crosswalks when pedestrians are present, and I frequently see the vehicles coming within inches of the pedestrians. When this happens the results can be severe or fatal. Traditional enforcement alone cannot monitor every crosswalk where violations occur. Crosswalk monitoring systems will provide an effective tool to deter those with dangerous driving behaviors.

In 2024, 161 pedestrians and bicyclists (vulnerable road users) were killed on Maryland roadways. In 2025, with efforts by the State Highway Administration and local jurisdictions, that number dropped 35%, to 106. Unfortunately during that same timeframe Montgomery County's numbers have gone in the opposite direction. In 2024 in Montgomery County specifically, 16 vulnerable road users were killed. In 2025, that number increased to 18. Much more needs to be done in Montgomery County to protect its residents.

Evidence from other traffic safety camera programs shows that automated enforcement can reduce violations and improve safety for vulnerable road users. Crosswalk monitoring systems in Montgomery County will be a vital tool in making crosswalks a safer place for pedestrians and bicyclists to use with confidence.

House Bill 1086 and its amendments offer an important step toward stronger protection for our vulnerable road users, and I urge the committee to submit a favorable report.

Thank you for your commitment to improving road safety.

Sincerely,
Mindy Badin