



BRANDON M. SCOTT
MAYOR

*Office of Government Relations
88 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401*

SB 0045

January 20, 2026

TO: Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee
FROM: Nina Themelis, Director of Mayor's Office of Government Relations
RE: Senate Bill 0045 – Vehicle Laws - Speed Monitoring Systems - Residential Districts

POSITION: FAVORABLE

Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and Members of the Committee, please be advised that the Baltimore City Administration (BCA) **supports** Senate Bill (SB) 0045.

SB 0045 expands the authorization of speed monitoring systems to be used in residential districts statewide. Residential districts are found along streets which are primarily residential in nature. If passed, jurisdictions statewide would be authorized to operate speed cameras around the clock on residential streets with a speed limit of 35mph or lower. This legislation is one of the Mayor's main legislative priorities for the 2026 Maryland General Assembly session.

Baltimore City primarily conducts speed camera enforcement through school zone cameras, which may only operate between 6am and 8pm on weekdays. Allowing residential district speed cameras statewide, which may operate outside school zone hours, would allow jurisdictions to capture a potentially significant share of illegal driving behavior. This change may yield additional citations, behavioral improvements, and crash reductions.

This is especially significant as nighttime driving conditions—low traffic volumes, flashing signals, and low visibility—may converge to increase the incidence of dangerous crashes. In Baltimore City, the only speed cameras permitted to operate around the clock are located on I-83. Of the 157K+ citations issued by these cameras in calendar year 2025, over 23K, or about 15%, occurred between the hours of 8pm and 6am.

Speeding remains a leading cause of crashes and traffic fatalities. Authorizing jurisdictions to implement and enforce speed monitoring systems in residential districts will protect residents, pedestrians, and motorists alike. It is for this reason that Mayor Brandon M. Scott has added this legislation to his set of policy priorities for the 2026 Maryland General Assembly session.

For the above stated reasons, the BCA respectfully request a **favorable** report on SB 0045.