



PEDESTRIAN, BICYCLE AND TRAFFIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

September 4, 2024

The Honorable Marc Elrich  
County Executive  
101 Monroe St, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Rockville, MD 20850

The Honorable Andrew Friedson  
Council President  
100 Maryland Ave  
Rockville, MD 20850

Dear County Executive Elrich and Council President Friedson:

We are writing on behalf of the Montgomery County Pedestrian, Bicycle, and Traffic Safety Advisory Committee (PBTSAC). We have reviewed the following legislation from the previous Maryland General Assembly legislative session. This legislation, or similar bills, should be prioritized and passed in the upcoming 2025 state legislative session.

- HB 1369/MC 11-24 – Authorizing the placement of automated speed monitoring systems on Maryland Route 200 (Intercounty Connector).
- HB 665/MC 15-24 - Authorizing the county to place automated speed monitoring systems on high injury networks (HIN).
- HB 413/MC 19-24 – To repeal the requirement to publicize locations of speed monitoring systems in a newspaper of general circulation.
- HB-612/MC 10-24 – Repealing the requirement that a local authority in the County perform a traffic study to decrease maximum speed limit if warranted by an approved plan.
- HB-278 – Authorizing the State Highway Administration (SHA) to decrease the maximum speed limit by 5 mph without a traffic study.
- HB 1160/SB-940 – Altering penalties for motor vehicle offenses and adding certain offenses as elements that contribute to charges for reckless or aggressive driving.
- HB 1111/SB-939 – Repealing an exclusion of conduct involving the use of a motor vehicle applicable to the crime of reckless endangerment.
- HB 511 – Allow "Idaho stop" for bicyclists to yield at a stop sign with 2 or fewer cross lanes.

Additionally, we advocate for the following positions, and encourage appropriate bills to be drafted and put forward for these:

- No right turn on red lights in State-owned intersections in Montgomery County.

- Leading pedestrian intervals (i.e. walk sign before green light) at State-owned intersections in Montgomery County.
- Funding and appropriation for timely maintenance of sidewalks along State highway right-of-way in Montgomery County.
- Funding and appropriation for new sidewalk construction or sidewalk expansion along State highway right-of-way in Montgomery County.
- Contributory negligence should not be considered in Maryland for collisions involving a motor vehicle and a more vulnerable road user (e.g. bicycle/chair/scooter use or pedestrian).

Sincerely,

*Issa Haddad*

[Issa Haddad \(Sep 5, 2024 11:13 EDT\)](#)

Issa Haddad

Chair

*Chris Arndt*

[Chris Arndt \(Sep 5, 2024 15:50 EDT\)](#)

Chris Arndt

Vice-Chair

cc: PBTSAC Members

Chris Conklin, Director, Department of Transportation

Marc Yamada, Chief, Montgomery County Police

Nima Upadhyay, Capital Projects Manager, Department of Transportation

Wade Holland, Vision Zero Coordinator, Office of the County Executive