

Rockville Pedestrian Advocacy Committee (RPAC)



Updates on Countywide Vision Zero Implementation | 06/12/2025



High Injury Network (HIN)

Audits of top 10 County routes will be complete in FY25.

FY25 Audits:

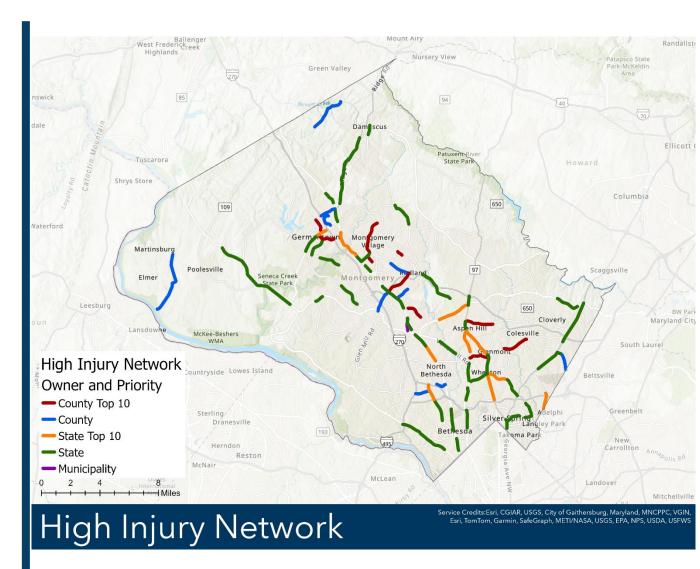
- Democracy Blvd from Old Georgetown Rd to I-270
- Randolph Rd from New Hampshire Ave to Glenmont Cir
- Redland Rd from MD 355 to Beaderwood Ln
- E Gude Dr (post construction audit)

FY25 Design:

- Bel Pre Rd from Layhill Rd to Georgia Ave
- Randolph Rd from Georgia Ave to Connecticut Ave. Public meeting scheduled 6/17 at 7PM.

FY25 Short- and Mid-Term construction:

- <u>Montgomery Village Ave</u> from Snouffer School Rd to Midcounty Hwy
- Crystal Rock Dr from Father Hurley Blvd to Germantown Rd
- Randolph Rd from Georgia Ave to Connecticut Ave



SHA Safety Corridor Projects

Corridor projects as part of Vulnerable Road User (VRU) Assessment and Pedestrian Safety Action Plan (PSAP).

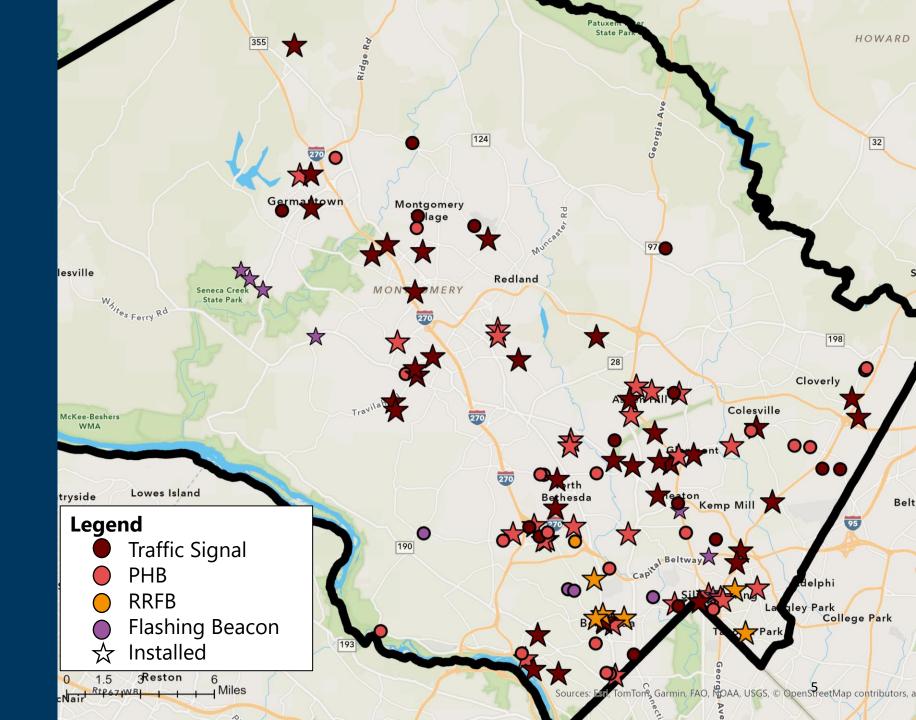
- New Hampshire Avenue (MD 650) from University Boulevard (MD 193) to Powder Mill Rd. Construction starts this summer. Builds off roadway safety audit performed jointly by Montgomery and Prince George's Counties paid for by the Council of Governments.
- University Boulevard (MD 193) from Georgia
 Avenue (MD 97) to Colesville Road (US 29). Design
 is underway with construction not yet scheduled.
- Montgomery Village Avenue (MD 124) from North Federick Avenue (MD 355) to MD 124 (Woodfield Road). Public information workshop held on May 5 with design anticipated to be completed in Fall 2026.
- 2025 Complete Streets Quick build projects
 - Ethan Allen Ave (MD 410) in Takoma Park
 - Spencerville Rd (MD 198) in Burtonsville

PSAP Corridors LEADING THE WAY



NEW SIGNAL AND BEACON INSTALLATIONS

Over 70 new installations since Vision Zero started with 40 in the pipeline.



Purple Line and Bikeway Projects

Building connections in East County

Purple Line Construction as of <u>03/31/25</u>

- Overall, 79% complete with service starting winter 2027.
- Utility relocations 95% complete.
- Rail construction 49% complete.

Bikeways and Shared Use Path Connections

- Capital Crescent Trail 58% complete and opens spring 2026 while Purple Line is undergoing testing.
- Metropolitan Branch Trail Phase 2a under construction.
- Flower Ave Separated Bike Lanes advancing from 35% design.
- Carroll Ave Separated Bike Lanes at 30% design.
- Piney Branch Road Separated Bike Lanes initial concepts under design.
- Adding neighborhood sidewalk connections in station walksheds.



Image by Purple Line.

Bus Rapid Transit and Bikeway Projects

Advancing mobility and safety projects together

Dedicated Bus Lanes

- University Boulevard March 2024.
- Georgia Ave initial pilot from June to December 2024. Lanes will be permanent and operational during AM/PM rush hours.
- Shady Grove / Darnestown September 2024.

Design of Bus Rapid Transit

- Veirs Mill Road BRT and BiPPA reached 95% design and will soon start property acquisition and utility relocation.
- MD 355 Design through 2027 and <u>accepting applications</u> for Corridor Advisory Committee through June 30.
- US29 Flash Phase 2 completing 35% design. Recently signed agreement to continue into Howard County.
- North Bethesda Transitway MCDOT to select a preferred alternative in Fall 2025.
- New Hampshire Ave Preferred alternatives are out, and team is soliciting public feedback.



Walkability Studies

Systematic Review of Walking Area

- 10 20 walkability studies completed each fiscal year.
- By the end of FY25, 56% of MCPS schools with walksheds and outside municipalities have a completed or in progress study. 100% of schools in Equity Emphasis Areas (EEAs) will be complete.
- Examine the designated walking area for sidewalks, curb ramps, crashes, conflicts at intersection, etc.
- Studies include intensive review of the existing infrastructure plus on-site review of operations during school arrival and dismissal.
- Coordination with school staff and crossing guards.
- Improvement recommendations developed for short-, medium-, and long-term.



FY25 Walkability Studies

By the end of FY25, all schools within an Equity Emphasis Area will have a walkability study completed.

- Flower Valley Elementary School
- Beverly Farms Elementary School
- Fox Chapel Elementary School
- Highland Elementary School
- Little Bennett Elementary School
- Snowden Farm Elementary School
- Strawberry Knoll Elementary School
- Westover Elementary School
- Woodlin Elementary School
- Clarksburg High School
- Montgomery Blair High School
- Briggs Chaney Middle school
- Herbert Hoover Middle School
- Rocky Hill Middle School
- Flora M Singer Elementary School



Sidewalks and Safety Improvements within School Walksheds Recent and Planned Projects

Recent Projects

- Forest Knolls Elementary Edgewood, Ladson and Marvin Road
- Roscoe Nix Elementary Oakview Drive
- Spot gap fills Montgomery Blair along Lexington Drive
- Spot gap fills Hoover Middle along Tuckerman Lane

FY25 Planned Projects - 9 School Walksheds

- Kensington Parkwood Elementary
- Martin Luther King Jr. Middle
- Lake Seneca Elementary
- Waters Landing Elementary
- Rosemary Hills Elementary
- Rock Creek Forest Elementary (Silver Spring)
- Wheaton Woods Elementary School
- Albert Einstein High School
- Newport Mills Middle School
- Rockview Elementary School



Automated Enforcement Expansion PlanMore sites and new technology

Recent Expansions

- 5 new red-light and 10 new speed cameras each year.
- 44 new speed locations approved in August.
- Start using red-light cameras as speed cameras where allowed on July 1.
- Permitted to use bus lane cameras. Pilot started with WMATA.
- New State Law passed in 2025 Maryland General Assembly Session will allow the County and municipalities to place speed cameras on High Injury Network corridors.

Needing State Law changes

 Using new technology for enforcing seatbelts, mobile phone use, crosswalks, move over law, HOV.





Examples of mobile phone use captured by distracted driving cameras. At 3 pilot sites, over 780 violations detected in 3 days.





BIKE RODEOS AND LEARN TO RIDE CLASSES





Summer Alcohol Task Force

Promoting Safe Rides Home

- First summertime task force built on successful winter holidays task force.
- Outreach to bars and restaurants with safety messages.
- Promote <u>Safe Ride Home page</u> to provide one stop shop for finding sober ride options in Montgomery County.





Finding latest crash and fatality data

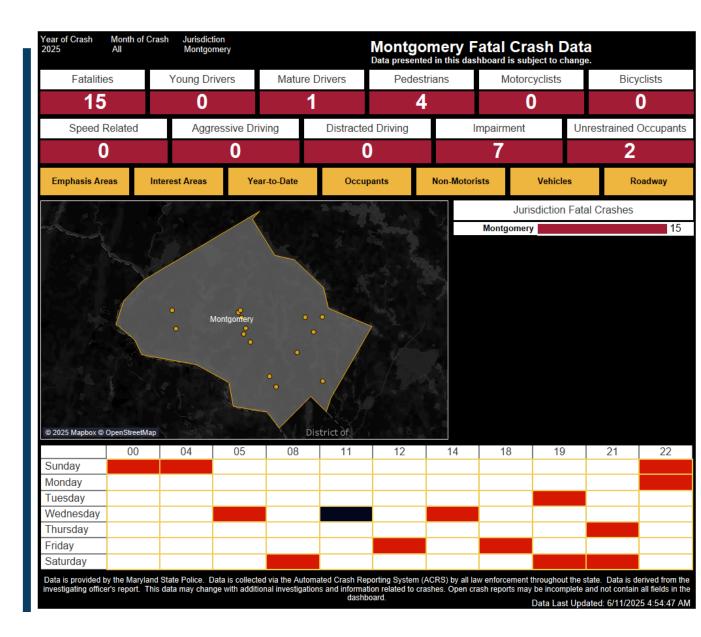
County and State Resources

Highway Safety Office Fatal Crash

Dashboard. Fatal crashes typically added within 24-48 hours.

<u>County Monthly Crash Summary</u>. Updated middle of each month for crashes through the prior month.

<u>Crash open data</u>. Raw version of crash data updated weekly.





State Legislation related to Vision Zero

Legislative Terminology

How to read the following bill summary slides

Abbreviations

- HB = House Bill. Designates the bill was filed in the Maryland House of Delegates.
- SB = Senate Bill. Designates the bill was filed in the Maryland Senate.
- <u>MC</u> = Montgomery County Local Bill. The bill was reviewed by the Montgomery County Delegation and, if given a house or senate bill number, was supported by the County Delegation. The bill only affects Montgomery County.
- E&T = House Environment and Transportation Committee.
- JPR = Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee.

Bill name color code

- Blue name = Passed to the Governor for signature or veto.
- Red name = Did not pass both houses prior to Sine Die (last day of the legislative session).

2025 Session At A Glance

The 2025 session ended Monday, April 7 and Governor's final signing session was May 20.

Major wins for automated enforcement

- Allow municipal and county police to place speed automated enforcement on High Injury Network corridors.
- Allows MdTA Police to place speed automated enforcement on the Intercounty Connector (MD 200).
- Allow City of Takoma Park to pilot stop sign monitoring cameras.
- Graduated fines based on how fast driver was going over the speed limit.

Increased penalties for reckless, aggressive, and impaired driving

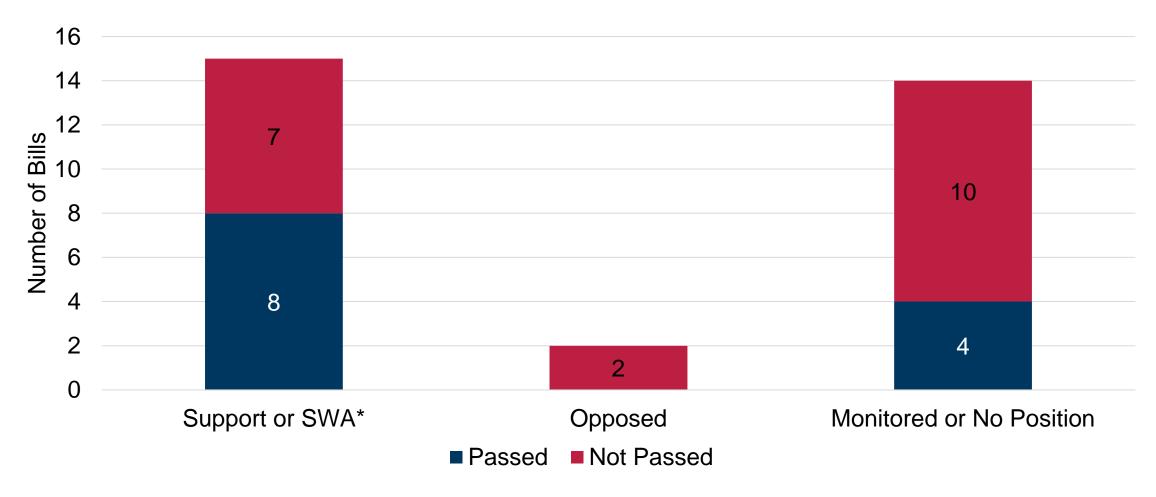
- Sgt. Patrick Kepp Act 6 points for speeding in excess of 30+ MPH and added violations that can count towards the three or more offenses to qualify for aggressive driving.
- Requiring MVA to revoke license for person convicted of impaired driving that contributes to a crash, or fails to remain at the scene of a crash, that results in the death or life-threatening injury to another person.

No changes for bicycle right-of-way

- Safety (Delaware) yield, stop-as-yield when crossing a 2 or fewer travel lanes, passed the House but received unfavorable report from the Senate's Judicial Proceedings committee.
- Bill to allow bicyclists in the travel lane to cross when the pedestrian signal gives walk indication passed the House, but after the crossover deadline.

2025 Maryland General Assembly

Results of Vision Zero Related Bills Supported or Opposed by the County.



^{*}SWA = Support with Amendment

Automated Enforcement Bills

Enhancing penalties and allowing speed cameras on HIN corridors.

- SB 600: Allow use of stop sign automated enforcement in school zones. Amended to only allow for Cities of Takoma Park and Baltimore.
- HB 988: Allow MdTA to install speed cameras on the Montgomery side of MD 200 (ICC).
- HB 1173: Allow Montgomery County and municipalities with a roadway safety plan to install speed cameras on routes designated as part of the high injury network.
- MC/PG 109-25: Allow WSSC Police to operate a work zone speed camera program. Bill was withdrawn by the sponsor as SHA or MCPD can provide WSSC with work zone cameras in certain areas.
- HB 18/SB 121: Extend time for noise camera pilot.
- HB 182/SB 118: Graduated fine schedule for automated speed enforcement based on the recorded violator's speed.
- HB 343/SB 390: Allow techs to approve ATE violations in addition to sworn officers.
- HB 348: Allow SHA to install speed automated enforcement on Pedestrian Safety Action Plan (PSAP) corridors.
- HB 516/SB 381: Create additional privacy and retention policies for automated enforcement programs.

Speed, Impaired, and Reckless Driving Bills

Increasing penalties for impairment and reckless driving. Bills allowing more flexibility for lowering posted speed limits did not pass.

Penalty Bills

- SB 207: Revoke license for conviction or probation before judgement for DUI that contributes to a crash that results in the death or life-threatening injury to another person.
- HB 189/SB 187: 1 year disqualification of commercial driver's license for having BAC 0.08 or greater.
- HB 744: Sergeant Patrick Kepp Act Altering the penalties and points assessments related to the offenses of reckless, negligent, and aggressive driving; and adding certain motor vehicle offenses as elements that may contribute to charges for reckless or aggressive driving.
- <u>HB 433</u>: Altering the penalties that may be imposed for reckless driving and aggressive driving to include a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or imprisonment not exceeding 30 days or both, and for a subsequent offense occurring within 3 years after a prior conviction, a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or imprisonment not exceeding 90 days or both.

Speed Limit Setting Bills

- HB 963: Allowing Montgomery County and municipalities to lower posted speed limits without a traffic investigation for roadways with set target speeds in the CSDG. The County noted to lawmakers that removing State Law required studies does not remove MUTCD requirements for studies when changing a non-statutory speed limit.
- SB 424: Allowing SHA to reduce speed limits by 5 MPH without a traffic investigation on urban highways.

Pedestrian and Bicycle Bills

Enhanced penalties for drivers striking vulnerable road users.

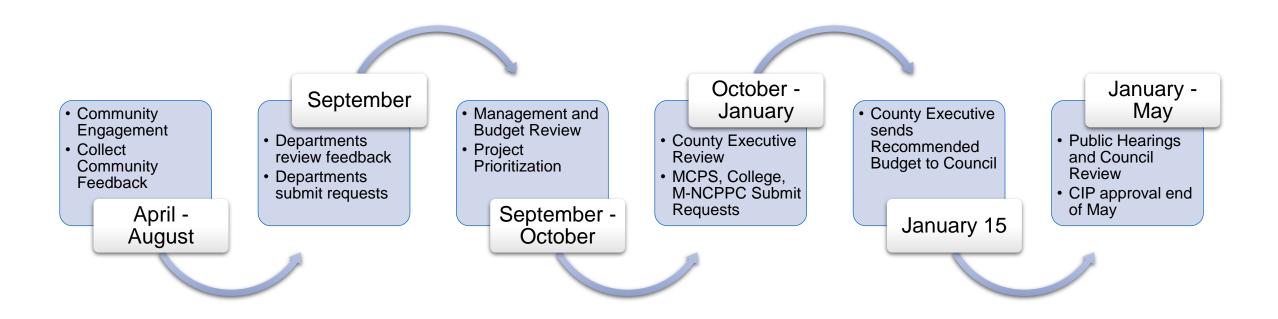
- HB 7: Bicycle Stop-As-Yield law for stops signs with two or fewer approaching lanes.
- HB 234/SB 385: Fine of \$2,000, imprisonment of up to 2 months, or both for causing the serious physical injury or death of a vulnerable road user.
- HB 178 / SB 133: Prohibiting a person from stopping, standing, or parking a vehicle in a bike lane or bicycle path.
- <u>HB 422</u>: Authorizing a person operating a bicycle, play vehicle, or unicycle at an intersection who is facing a red signal to enter the intersection to cross the highway in the direction of a pedestrian control "walk" signal; and requiring, before entering an intersection, a person operating a bicycle, play vehicle, or unicycle to yield the right-of-way to any vehicle or pedestrian lawfully using the intersection.
- <u>HB 628</u>: Requiring the State Highway Administration to prioritize funding for the construction and reconstruction of sidewalks and bicycle pathways to sidewalks and bicycle pathways that are, or are adjacent to highways that are, subject to a complete streets policy or another similar Vision Zero program. (Update 5/19: Bill vetoed by Governor).



Fiscal Year 2027-2032 Capital Budget Development

Capital Budget Process and Timeline

County Executive transmits recommended budget January 15



See <u>Budgeting Overview slides</u> from PBTSAC's November 2024 meeting for additional budget process details.

County Executive Capital Priorities

- Affordable Housing
- Climate Change
- Economic Development
- Health/Life Safety Issues
- Maintenance of Core Infrastructure
- Public Schools Capital Needs
- Projects Leveraging Outside Funding
- Racial Equity and Social Justice
- Transportation

Source: FY27 CAB CIP Presentation.

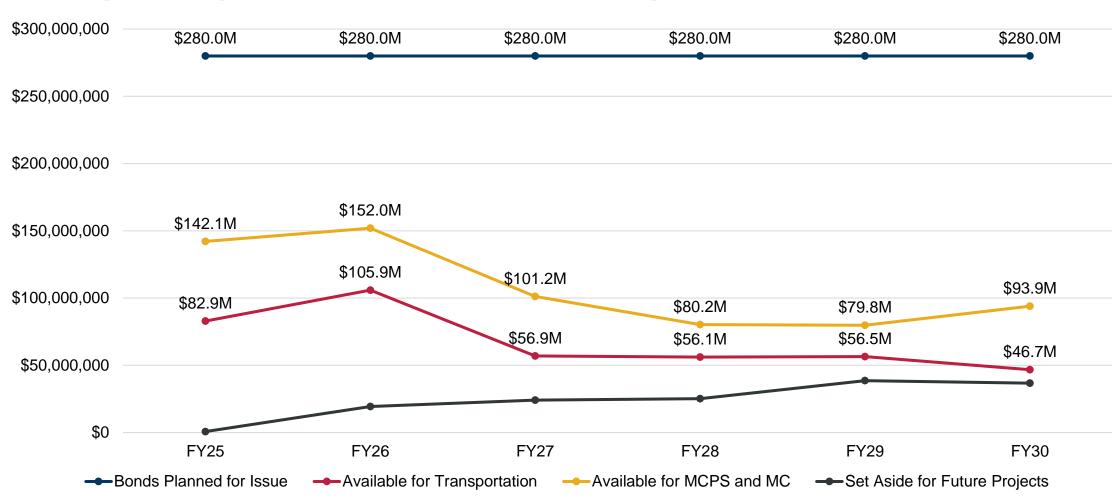
Capital Budget Challenges

- Great need
 - Aging infrastructure,
 - New and expanded facilities due to population changes,
 - Community expectation for new and improved infrastructure.
- Inflation
- Federal funding uncertainty
- Volatile revenues such as impact and recordation taxes
- General Obligation debt limitations

Source: FY27 CAB CIP Presentation.

Future General Obligation (GO) Bond Issuance

The <u>County Executive's Fiscal Plan</u> shows flat GO Bond issuance through FY30. The \$280 million planned represents a continued decline since the peak of \$340 million issued in FY16.





Questions?