

# Rockville Transportation and Mobility Commission (TMC)

Updates on State Legislation | 10/28/2025





2025 State Legislative Session

# **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

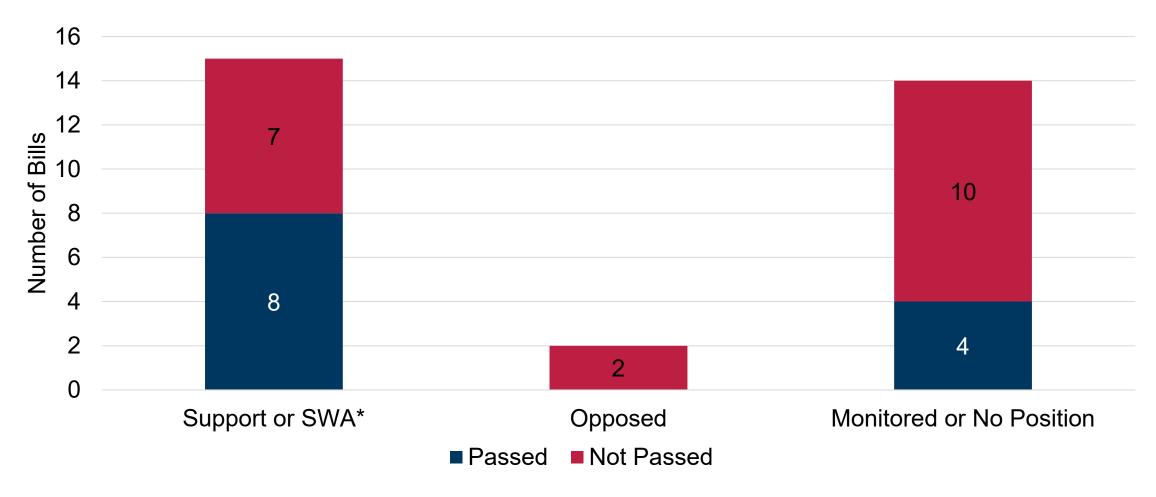
- Sgt. Patrick Kepp Act 6 points for speeding in excess of 30+ MPH and added violations that can count towards the three or more offenses to qualify for aggressive driving.
- o Requiring MVA to revoke license for person convicted of impaired driving that contributes to a crash, or fails to remain at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



<sup>\*</sup>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. (Bill vetoed by Governor).



What to expect in 2026?

### 2026 Calendar

### Planning for bills and finding sponsors starts right after the last session finishes.

- Montgomery County Delegation <u>Local Bill Hearings</u> in fall 2025.
  - November 17 Legislative priorities hearing.
  - November 20 Deadline to introduce bills for prefile.
  - December 4 Local and bi-county bill hearing #1.
  - December 11 Local and bi-county bill hearing #2.
  - Delegation committees will continue to meet to review and vote on bills throughout the 90-day session.
- 90-Day General Assembly <u>Important Dates</u> in winter and spring 2026.
  - January 14 General Assembly convenes.
  - o February 9 Senate bill introduction date. Last session 1,047 Senate Bills were introduced.
  - February 13 House bill introduction date. Last session 1,558 House Bills were introduced.
  - March 17 Committee reporting courtesy date.
  - March 23 Crossover date. Rare for bills to pass if not sent to opposite chamber by this date.
  - April 13 "SINE DIE" final day of the session.
  - May 3 Final date for presentment of bills to Governor.
  - June 2 Governor to sign/veto bills by this date.

# **Potential Topics to Watch**

Continued push by municipalities and counties to provide more leeway and efficiency for implementing roadway safety projects and hold dangerous drivers accountable.

#### Automated traffic enforcement

- Streamlining requests for new speed monitoring system locations during the legislative session.
- Use of speed monitoring systems in school zones and wider school walk shed.
- Piloting new technologies such as distracted driving and crosswalk enforcement.
- Use of speed monitoring systems in more locations.

### Pedestrian and bicycle related

 Potential to reintroduce bills unsuccessful in the 2025 session such as bicycle stop-as-yield law, driver penalties, statewide parking in bike lanes prohibition, etc.

### Speed, Impaired, and Reckless Driving

- Posted speed limit setting flexibility.
- Changing default speed limits.
- Speed limit changes and use of automated traffic enforcement.
- Penalties for impaired or reckless driving.

### Budget



**Questions?**