


F R O M	NAME & TITLE	Steve Sharkey, Director	CITY of BALTIMORE M E M O	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of Transportation 417 E Fayette Street, Room 527		
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill 22-0247		

TO: Mayor Brandon M. Scott
TO: Rules & Legislative Oversight Committee
FROM: Department of Transportation
POSITION: **No Objection**
RE: City Council Bill 22-0247

DATE: 7/19/22

INTRODUCTION – Obstructing Street - Racing or Stunt Driving

PURPOSE/PLANS – For the purpose of prohibiting the obstruction of public streets under certain circumstances; establishing certain penalties; defining certain terms; and generally relating to obstructing a City street.

COMMENTS – Council Bill 22-0247 looks to mitigate disturbances and potential safety hazards related to street racing and stunt driving on City streets by updating portions of the City Code, specifically Article 1, Subtitles 40 and 41, as well as Article 19, Subtitle 50. The legislation defines terms related to street racing and stunt driving and established penalties for both drivers and non-driver participants.

Baltimore City Department of Transportation (BCDOT) works closely with the Baltimore City Police Department (BPD) to improve public safety on City streets and corridors. Notable examples include BCDOT and BPD cooperation involving automated traffic enforcement, specifically school zone speed cameras and red-light cameras. More recently, BCDOT and BPD have partnered on the implementation of the I-83 Speed Camera Program. Preliminary test camera data collected during March of 2020 observed the highest vehicle speed recorded being 173 mph. BCDOT continues to work with BPD, meeting bi-weekly, to evaluate operational needs and the overall effectiveness of the new I-83 Speed Camera Program.

It is worth noting that BCDOT’s Traffic Enforcement Officers (TEOs) are not authorized to enforce moving violations. TEOs are primarily tasked with enforcing parking violations, directing traffic to reduce congestion, and assisting pedestrians crossing busy intersections during highly attended special events.

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT POSITION – The Baltimore City Department of Transportation foresees no direct operational or fiscal impact resulting from the advancement of the legislation and has **no objection** towards the advancement of Council Bill 22-0247.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Liam Davis at Liam.Davis@baltimorecity.gov or at 410-545-3207.

Sincerely,

Steve Sharkey
Director