

FROM	NAME & TITLE	Alfred H. Foxx, Director	CITY of BALTIMORE MEMO	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of Transportation 417 E. Fayette Street, Room 527		
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill 09-0342		

DATE: June 11, 2009

TO The Honorable President and Members
 of the Baltimore City Council
 c/o Karen Randle
 Room 400 City Hall

I am herein reporting on City Council Bill 09-0342.

Speed Monitoring Systems - Establishment

For the purpose of authorizing the certain speed monitoring systems, in certain areas, and subject to certain standards, procedures, requirements, and limitations; authorizing certain civil penalties for violations; defining certain terms; requiring certain rules and regulations; mandating a certain period during which violations may be enforced only by issuance of warnings; and providing for a special effective date.

The proposed legislation deals with a serious public safety concern, vehicle speeding and pedestrian safety. The issue, specifically the use of speed monitoring technology (speed cameras) to protect the lives of citizens has been vetted through the State's legislative process over the last two years. During its most recent session, the General Assembly, aided by the leadership of the Baltimore City Delegation and with the support of the Baltimore City Council, passed a bill that allows local jurisdictions to enact local programs. Under the proposed law, speed monitoring, using cameras, will be allowed exclusively in school zones, areas where pedestrians, children and adults, travel to and from schools. Additionally, cameras can also be placed in work zones, areas where construction workers might be endangered by speeding vehicles. Similar technology has been used successfully in Washington D. C. and in Montgomery County.

As dictated by law, the Department of Transportation will implement a warning period for 30 days prior to the institution of the program.

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The prime benefit of the program is that lives will be saved and injuries reduced. The Department of Transportation thanks the City Council for its leadership on this issue and urges the Committee to give this legislation a favorable report.

The Department of Transportation has no objections to the passage of this bill.

Respectfully,



ALFRED H. FOXX
DIRECTOR

AHF/WD:zs

cc: Ms. Angela C. Gibson
Mr. Bill Driscoll
Mr. Jamie Kendrick
Mr. Frank Murphy

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