

BALTIMORE POLICE DEPARTMENT



FREDERICK H. BEALEFELD, III
Police Commissioner

June 29, 2009

TO:

The Honorable President and Members

of the Baltimore City Council

Room 400 City Hall Attn. Karen Randle

FROM:

James H. Green, Legal Affairs Section

Baltimore Police Department

RE:

City Council Bill No. 09-0342-Speed Monitoring Systems-Establishment

The Baltimore Police Department (BPD) has reviewed and supports City Council Bill No. 09-0342-Speed Monitoring Systems-Establishment which authorizes the City to establish speed monitoring systems in work and school zones. The proposed legislation also requires that rules and regulations be developed to govern the placement and operation of these systems.

Over the last several years, the BPD has partnered with the Department of Transportation to support the state enabling legislation in Annapolis. Speed is a contributing factor in the majority of the fatal/serious injury crashes that occur in Baltimore City and throughout the state each year. This legislation will allow for the implementation of a safety program that utilizes technology to save the lives of pedestrians, as well as vehicular drivers and passengers.

In the Law Department's letter dated June 23, 2009, it is recommended that the rules and regulations approval by the Board of Estimates be deleted. The BPD joins this request and will work with the Department of Transportation to adopt rules consistent with the legislation. The BPD requests a favorable report from the Committee. Utilizing technology to enforce speed violations is not only effective and efficient, but it is also safer for the citizens of Baltimore as well as the police officers who enforce these violations. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this legislation.

cc: Frederick H. Bealefeld III, Police Commissioner, BPD Angela Gibson, Mayor's Legislative Liaison

