


F R O M	NAME & TITLE	Steve Sharkey, Director	CITY of BALTIMORE M E M O	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of Transportation (DOT) 417 E Fayette Street, Room 527		
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill 20-0606		

TO: Mayor Bernard C. “Jack” Young
TO: Public Safety Committee
FROM: Department of Transportation
POSITION: **No Objection**
RE: Council Bill – 20-0606

DATE: 10/19/20

INTRODUCTION – Banning Face Surveillance Technology in Baltimore

PURPOSE/PLANS – For the purpose of prohibiting Baltimore City government from purchasing or obtaining certain face surveillance technology; prohibiting Baltimore City government from contracting or subcontracting with another for the purpose of face surveillance technology; prohibiting any person in Baltimore City from obtaining, retaining, accessing, or using certain face surveillance technology or any information obtained from certain face surveillance technology; providing for certain penalties; and defining certain terms.

COMMENTS – Council Bill 20-0606 looks to prohibit Baltimore City Government, or any entity contracted by Baltimore City Government, from purchasing or utilizing facial recognition technology. Additionally, the proposed ordinance looks to ban any person within Baltimore City from purchasing or utilizing facial recognition technology. It is worth noting that an exemption is written into the bill that ensures the prohibition on facial recognition technology not apply to facility security systems or security functions of electronic device – such as a smart phone.

The Division within the Department of Transportation (DOT) that the proposed legislation would most likely impact is the agency’s ATVES Division, home to DOT’s automated camera operations. DOT’s ATVES Division currently operates a variety of automated cameras, including speed cameras, red-light cameras, and oversized commercial vehicle cameras – all of which are regulated by State law. No automated cameras within DOT’s ATVES Division currently utilize facial surveillance technology.

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT POSITION – The Department of Transportation foresees no direct fiscal or operational impact resulting from the advancement of Council Bill 20-0606. The Department of Transportation has **no objection** to Council Bill 20-0606.

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