



Submitted testimony on MC 10-24

Delegate Julie Palakovich Carr, House Chair
and Members, Montgomery County Delegation
House Office Building
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

December 4, 2023

Dear Delegate Palakovich Carr and Members of the Montgomery County Delegation:

My name is Dan Reed and I serve as the Regional Policy Director for [Greater Greater Washington](#), a nonprofit that works to advance racial, economic, and environmental justice in land use, transportation, and housing throughout Greater Washington. GGWash supports bill MC 10-24, which will remove the requirement for an engineering and traffic study before reducing speed limits.

I live near the intersection of Sligo Avenue and Piney Branch Road in Silver Spring. Almost a year ago, on December 23, 2022, a 22-year-old driver lost control and crashed, killing himself and injuring his two passengers¹. I cross these streets multiple times a day with my dog, and each time I walk past the demolished brick retaining wall that the car crashed into. It's a reminder that one day I could be next. I know lots of places like this, where someone, occasionally someone I know personally, was injured or lost their life due to their actions or the actions of someone else behind the wheel of a car.

Requiring a study in order to reduce a speed limit will only increase the likelihood that another tragedy occurs. Alongside bills MC 6-24 and MC 15-24, this bill will ensure that we can respond quickly. A lower speed limit is just the first step to making a street safer, but an important one. We ask the county delegation to give this bill a favorable report. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Dan Reed'.

Dan Reed
Regional Policy Director
Greater Greater Washington

¹ <https://www.sourceofthespring.com/silver-spring-news/2801415/police-investigating-piney-branch-rd-fatal-collision/>

The Washington, DC region is great and it can be greater.