



Submitted testimony on MC 6-24

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 6-24, which would direct fines from violations on state highways enforced by school bus cameras to pedestrian safety projects in the areas where those violations occurred. Funding for pedestrian infrastructure is limited, and as a result communities can wait years for something as basic as a sidewalk to be installed. As of October 2023, 36 people have been killed this year on Montgomery County streets<sup>1</sup>. We need to use all of the tools available to make those streets safer and prevent further tragedies from occurring.

School bus cameras go off when a driver passes a school bus while the automatic stop sign is out, suggesting that violations are most likely to occur on multi-lane roads where drivers can speed, and where students getting on or off the bus or at the greatest risk of being hit by a speeding driver. By using funds from camera violations in the locations where they occur, we can prioritize the streets that most need a redesign to calm traffic and improve safety for children walking to and from the school bus. 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

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://moco360.media/2023/10/05/marylands-2023-traffic-fatalities-may-top-2007s-grim-death-toll/>

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