

GTCC

The Greater Timonium Community Council

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The Honorable Kumar Barve, Chair
The Honorable Dana Stein, Vice Chair
Environment & Transportation Committee
House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

January 31, 2022

Sent via email

Re: HB 264

Dear Members of the Committee:

We have an epidemic of drivers speeding in our communities! This problem is not confined to the greater Timonium area, where I reside, but in talking with community leaders in other parts of the county, they echo that speeding and the need for traffic calming is one of the top challenges in most residential communities. Frequently, speeding leads to reckless driving, which can result in property damage and personal injury, as well.

Now traffic calming can be effective in residential subdivisions that do not carry large amounts of traffic, but in our county the traffic engineers do not apply traffic calming measures to collector streets that carry higher traffic counts. Police enforcement of speeding regulations can only do so much because the demands on personnel are far greater than the personnel that can be applied to the problem. So, what is the solution?

Unfortunately, I do not have a silver bullet to correct the problem. I do know, however, that by placing more tools at the disposal of our subdivisions, we can attempt to mitigate this problem. House Bill 264 is one such tool in the tool chest. It is already recognized that K-12 schools should be protected by the use of speed cameras where appropriate, and I want to recommend that this protection be expanded to where nursery schools are located as well.

Residents in the Timonium area have expressed concerns that nursery school areas are vulnerable to the uncontrolled speeding that they are seeing.

On behalf of the members of the Greater Timonium Community Council, I urge your support for House Bill 264.

Sincerely,

Eric Rockel

President