



Automated Speed Enforcement Program

Town of Berlin

What is Automated Speed Enforcement?

In October 2009, the State of Maryland authorized the use of Automated Speed Monitoring Systems (speed cameras) in school and highway work zones. The system uses radar technology to measure the speed of every vehicle that passes the camera. Vehicles found to be exceeding the posted speed limit by at least 12 miles per hour will be photographed to document the violation and determine the vehicle's registered owner. After the violation is reviewed and approved by a duly sworn and authorized law enforcement officer, a citation, including the violation photos and the vehicle's speed, will be sent to the registered owner.

How much is the fine?

The maximum fine is \$40.00 for each violation and is stated on the citation. Since the citations are a civil violation, no license points or vehicle insurance penalties can be assessed.

How will I know if I'm in a Speed Monitoring System zone?

Automated Speed Monitoring Systems may only be placed in designated schools zones within 1/2 mile of the school and must be clearly signed in accordance with state and local guidelines. The signs must state that "Photo Enforcement" is in use.

When do the Speed Monitoring Systems operate?

Speed Monitoring Systems operating in school zones may only do so between the hours of 0:600am and 0:800 pm, Monday through Friday. The cameras remain operational throughout year.

How do I know my ticket is accurate?

Speed Monitoring Systems are required to undergo annual calibration testing by an independent calibration laboratory. The laboratory must issue a signed certificate of calibration to be included as evidence in court. Additionally, law enforcement operators must validate that the camera successfully completed the manufacturer system self check each morning and record the results to be included as evidence in court.

How is the funding spent?

Maryland Traffic Article 21-809 states that all funds must be used for public safety. The municipality will establish what is appropriate public safety. The maximum fine amount is \$40.00 per citation.

Placement of cameras

The Town may recommend locations for placement however the final decision is made by the vendor based on speed studies (and State Highway approval, if needed).

To initiate a speed camera program –

The Town must adopt language into the Town ordinance authorizing the use of speed cameras.

Sign Contract with a vendor (usually a three-to-five-year contract).

Once a contract is signed. Vendor will begin all other processing to establish an Automated Speed Enforcement program.

There are three roles required.

- *Program Administrator (with the authority to assign staffing). The program administrator may also approve/reject evidence packages.

- *Reviewer (a law enforcement officer to review evidence packages).

- *Ombudsman (act as liaison between the public and the police department). The Ombudsman may only review a citation brought in by the recipient of the citation.

Town must erect signage indicating photo enforcement technology is being used. Some vendors incur all capital costs including all drawings, permits, equipment, maintenance and upgrades. No negative investment from the Town.

MUNICIPALITY	GROSS REVENUE	NET REVENUE	# CAMERAS
Delmar PD	\$21,360	\$11,784	1
Denton PD	\$30,266	\$18,071	3
Snow Hill PD	\$52,280	\$31,564	1
Pocomoke PD	\$15,600	\$ 2,720	3
St. Michaels PD	\$109,480	\$68,425	2
Fruitland PD	\$208,396	\$29,380	4
Pittsville PD	\$150,120	\$92,875	3
Centreville PD	\$43,960	\$24,608	2
Chestertown PD	\$113,340	\$66,215	1
Salisbury PD	\$595,797	\$394,097	6

One photo you
DON'T
want to be in...

