



DetroitGreenways.org – P.O. Box 32013, Detroit, Michigan 48232  
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March 9, 2022

Re: Senate Bill 875

Honorable Michigan Senate Transportation and Infrastructure Committee members,

The Detroit Greenways Coalition opposes Senate Bill 875, but especially opposes restrictions on local authorities to equitably employ Speed Safety Cameras. Though not in the originally introduced bill, Senator Lana Theis indicated that a substitute bill would include a Speed Safety Camera restriction.

[Speed Safety Cameras](#) are recognized by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) as a proven safety countermeasure. FHWA notes that Speed Safety Cameras reduce all crashes on urban principal arterials up to 54%. In New York City, they reduced speeding in school zones up to 63% during school hours.

Michigan is experiencing major increases in road fatalities:

- There was a 12% increase in fatal road crashes from 2019 to 2020 with 1,083 deaths.
- The preliminary numbers show another double-digit increase for 2021.
- 2022 road fatalities are already +30 over 2021.

This is not the time to take proven safety countermeasures off the table.

**We would support legislation that restricts the potential negative aspects and abuses of automated enforcement, especially in relation to equitable enforcement. We believe this is the more prudent approach in light of our road safety crisis.**

Why is a greenways organization taking up this issue? Bicyclists, pedestrians, and other vulnerable road users are disproportionately represented in those road fatality statistics.

We are also a member of the Association for Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals (APBP). We are on the APBP policy committee and are leading the development of a best practices policy on speed cameras. We've done significant research on this topic and see they offer a potential opportunity for saving lives in Michigan.

Sincerely:

Todd Scott  
Executive Director

cc: Senator Lana Theis

Our **Vision** is a strong, healthy, vibrant City of Detroit and surrounding region where a seamless network of greenways, green spaces, blue ways and complete streets is an integral part of people's active lifestyle including day-to-day transportation and recreation.