DRAFT GOCA Resolution on the County Speed Camera Program

Whereas the geographic area within Montgomery County with the highest number of speed camera citations is Olney-Sandy Spring with 85,451 citations and \$3.4 million in fines in calendar year 2013, significantly higher than any other locale in the County; and

Whereas Olney had three of the top five grossing speed cameras in Montgomery County and five of the top twenty grossing cameras in calendar year 2013; and

Whereas in calendar year 2013 Olney-Sandy Spring received 31 percent more citations than the second highest ranking speed camera locale, Silver Spring, despite having 7.7 million or 30% fewer vehicle passes, and Olney-Sandy Spring citations were more than all ten Bethesda speed cameras combined, and were more than twice the number of tickets than Montgomery Village's six speed cameras combined; and

Whereas Olney-Sandy Spring speed camera citations in CY 2013 were 5.7 times greater than the overall county average by geographic location and vehicles traveling in Olney-Sandy Spring were 3.4 times more likely to pass a speed monitoring camera than elsewhere in Montgomery County; and

Whereas accident rates in the Olney area, either before or after camera installation, do not explain the high number of Olney-Sandy Spring camera locations or citations;

Now therefore be it resolved that the Greater Olney Civic Association (GOCA) should formally transmit the Camera Task Force Report to the Montgomery County Executive, the County Council, the Montgomery County Police Department (MCPD) and ATEU, the Montgomery County Inspector General, appropriate District Delegates, and the State Highway Administration, asking that the County's elected officials take action to eliminate the disproportionate impact of the camera program on the Olney-Sandy Spring area by implementing the following recommendations:

- 1. Consistent with the Montgomery County Executive's stated commitment to transparency, the ATEU should publish to its website on a monthly basis speed camera citations and vehicle pass volumes by camera location.
- 2. Montgomery County should revise the Citizen's Advisory Board for Traffic Issues (CAB-TI) applicable to the speed camera program, ensuring the Board is selected independently of the MCPD and ATEU, has established term limits, represents the full

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- spectrum of views on the efficacy of speed camera usage, and that its views shall be considered by the ATEU.
- 3. Montgomery County should appoint, fully independent of the MCPD, ATEU, and Local Designee, a Citizen's Advocate to represent the citizens and communities regarding speed camera use, placement, and other concerns.
- 4. Montgomery County should modify the speed camera contract to stipulate that all data captured on each citation shall be the property of the County, not the vendor, and that such data on citations, citation camera location, ticketed speed, etc. will be provided to the ATEU and published on the county website (protecting all Personally Identifiable Information (PII)).
- 5. The ATEU should be provided with the appropriate funding to implement the internal controls, data integrity, and transparency improvements included in the GOCA Traffic Cameras Task Force report. Such funding should come from the positive net revenue generated by the speed camera fines, consistent with the stated public safety purposes for which speed camera net revenues are authorized to be used. This net revenue funding should also be utilized to address the substantial backlog of citizen's requests for speed monitoring cameras.
- 6. The SHA should modify the speed limit east bound on Olney-Sandy Spring Road, beginning immediately after Spartan Road, to be 35 mph, providing for a safe incremental speed approaching the current 40 mph section of Olney-Sandy Spring Road east of Prince Philip Drive.
- 7. The Task Force Recommends that SHA return the 40 mph to 30 mph changeover point on Olney-Laytonsville Rd (Route 108, near the Post Office) to Homeland Drive for both east and westbound traffic. Moving the 40 mph point back to Homeland Drive returns the Olney-Laytonsville Road speed limit back to what it was in 2009, while maintaining the current 30 mph speed limit before the Olney Library and through the Olney core commercial center.
- 8. The SHA should modify the speed limit on Georgia Avenue between King William Drive and Sandy Spring Bank to be 35mph, providing for a safe incremental speed between the existing 40mph roadway south of King William Drive and the 30mph area in the core Olney commercial center.
- 9. Montgomery County should take steps to have a plebiscite determine the future direction of the Safe Speed Program.