

Committee: T&E

**Committee Review:** At a future date

**Staff:** Christine Wellons, Chief Legislative Attorney **Purpose:** To introduce agenda item – no vote expected

AGENDA ITEM #6A July 29, 2025 Introduction

#### **SUBJECTS**

Bill 28-25, Motor Vehicles and Traffic – Parking in Bikeways – Prohibited

Lead Sponsor: Councilmember Glass

Co-Sponsors: Councilmembers Luedtke, Friedson, and Fani-González

#### **EXPECTED ATTENDEES**

None

#### **COUNCIL DECISION POINTS & COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

N/A

#### **DESCRIPTION/ISSUE**

Bill 28-25 would:

- (1) prohibit the standing, stopping, or parking of vehicles in bikeways; and
- (2) generally amend the law regarding motor vehicles and traffic in the County.

#### **SUMMARY OF KEY DISCUSSION POINTS**

N/A

# **This report contains:**

Staff Report Bill 28-25 Pages 1-3

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#### MEMORANDUM

July 24, 2025

TO: County Council

FROM: Christine Wellons, Chief Legislative Attorney

SUBJECT: Bill 28-25, Motor Vehicles and Traffic – Parking in Bikeways - Prohibited

PURPOSE: Introduction – no Council votes required

Bill 28-25, Motor Vehicles and Traffic – Parking in Bikeways - Prohibited, is scheduled for introduction on July 29, 2025. The Lead Sponsor is Councilmember Glass. Co-Sponsors are Councilmembers Luedtke, Friedson, and Fani-González. A public hearing on the bill is tentatively scheduled for September 30 at 1:30 p.m.

Bill 28-25 would:

- (1) prohibit the standing, stopping, or parking of vehicles in bikeways; and
- (2) generally amend the law regarding motor vehicles and traffic in the County.

#### BACKGROUND

The purpose of Bill 28-25 would be to enhance safety for cyclists by prohibiting the standing, stopping, or parking of vehicles in bikeways.

#### **BILL SPECIFICS**

Under current County law, a person "must not stop, stand, or park a vehicle, whether occupied or not:

- (1) In any manner on a public highway which impedes the movement of traffic or constitutes a threat to public safety.
- (2) On a sidewalk.
- (3) Within an intersection.

- (4) On a crosswalk.
- (5) Alongside any street excavation, obstruction or barricade or opposite any street excavation, obstruction or barricade, when stopping, standing or parking would obstruct traffic.
- (6) Upon any bridge or other elevated structure upon a highway or within a highway tunnel.
- (7) On any ramp entering on or exiting from, any highway with two (2) or more traffic lanes moving in the same direction.
- (8) On any property owned or leased by the board of education of Montgomery County or Montgomery College where an official sign prohibits such parking.
- (9) In any place an official sign prohibits parking during specific a.m. or p.m. peak traffic periods.
- (10) Between a sidewalk or roadway curb and the property edge of a public street or highway, except in an emergency."

Bill 28-25 would add bikeways to the list of areas in which stopping, standing, or parking a vehicle is prohibited. The term "bikeway" would be defined as "[a]ny area expressly intended for bicycle travel, including:

- (a) associated curbs and gutters; and
- (b) any bike lane, off-street trail, separate bike lane, shared use roadway, or sidepath, as those terms are defined under Section 49-26."

For the definitions of bike lane, off-street trail, separate bike lane, shared use roadway, and sidepath, see Section 49-26, which provides:

- (a) Bike lane means a portion of a roadway designated by striping, signing, or pavement markings for the preferential or exclusive use of bicycles, and on which travel by motor vehicles is not allowed.
- (b) Off-street trail means paths located outside of the road right-of-way that provide two-way travel for people walking, bicycling and using other non-motorized modes. This facility was formerly referred to as a "shared use trail."

- (c) Separated bike lane, also known as a protected bike lane or cycle track means an exclusive bikeway that is physically separated from motor vehicles and distinct from the sidewalk. A separated bike lane may be in a one-way or two-way configuration.
- (d) Shared use roadway means a roadway open to both bicycle and motor vehicle travel and which is designated as a preferred route for bicycle use by warning or informational signs.
- (e) Sidepath means a paved path that is located parallel to and within the road right-of-way. Sidepaths provide two-way travel routes designated for walking, bicycling, jogging and skating. Sidepaths are separated from motorized traffic by a curb, barrier, or landscape panel. This facility was formerly referred to as a "shared use path".

This packet contains:	Circle #
Bill 28-25	1

BIII No		28-25	
Concerning	Motor Veh	icles and Traf	fic –
<u>Parking</u>	in Bikeways	- Prohibited	
Revised:	7/7/2025	Draft No.	1
Introduced:	July 29,	2025	
Expires:	Decemb	er 7, 2026	
Enacted: _			
Executive:			
Effective:			
Sunset Date	e: None		
Ch	l aws of Mor	nt Co	

# COUNTY COUNCIL FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

Lead Sponsor: Councilmember Glass Co-Sponsors: Councilmembers Luedtke, Friedson, and Fani-González

### AN ACT to:

- (1) prohibit the standing, stopping, or parking of vehicles in bikeways; and
- (2) generally amend the law regarding motor vehicles and traffic in the County.

## By amending

Montgomery County Code Chapter 31, Motor Vehicles and Traffic Sections 31-1 and 31-20

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following Act:

Boldface
Underlining
Added to existing law by original bill.

[Single boldface brackets]
Double underlining
Added by amendment.

[[Double boldface brackets]]

\* \* \* \*

Heading or defined term.

Added to existing law by original bill.

Added by amendment.

Deleted from existing law or the bill by amendment.

Existing law unaffected by bill.

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Sec.	r. Secuons	31-1	and SI-ZU a	re amended	as ionows:

21	1	$\mathbf{r}$	•	• 4	•
- 41		1)4	711	nıtı	ions.

For the purposes of this chapter, the following words and phrases [shall] <u>must</u>
have the meanings respectively ascribed to them in this article:

\* \* \*

*Bicycle*: A vehicle that is designed to be operated by human power or with assistance of a motor that has a capacity of less than fifty (50) cubic centimeters piston displacement or rated less than one (1) brake horsepower, that has two (2) or three (3) wheels of which one is more than fourteen (14) inches in diameter, that have a rear drive and with wheel configuration as follows:

- (a) Two (2) wheels in tandem.
- (b) Three (3) wheels; single front wheel with two (2) rear wheels on a horizontal axis perpendicular to the longitudinal plane of the front wheel and spaced substantially equidistant from the front wheel center line.

Bikeway: Any area expressly intended for bicycle travel, including:

- (a) <u>associated curbs and gutters; and</u>
- (b) any bike lane, off-street trail, separate bike lane, shared use roadway, or sidepath, as those terms are defined under Section 49-26.

Bus: Every motor vehicle except school buses designed for carrying more than ten (10) passengers and used for the transportation of persons; and every motor vehicle, other than a taxicab, designed and used for the transportation of persons for compensation.

\* \* \*

# 31-20. Parking prohibited, specifically.

26	Exce	pt whe	en necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic or in compliance	
27	with	with law or the directions of a police officer or official traffic-control device, a		
28	perso	on must	not:	
29	(a)	Stop,	stand or park a vehicle, whether occupied or not:	
30		(1)	In any manner on a public highway which impedes the	
31			movement of traffic or constitutes a threat to public safety.	
32		(2)	On a sidewalk.	
33		(3)	Within an intersection.	
34		(4)	On a crosswalk.	
35		(5)	Alongside any street excavation, obstruction or barricade or	
36			opposite any street excavation, obstruction or barricade, when	
37			stopping, standing or parking would obstruct traffic.	
38		(6)	Upon any bridge or other elevated structure upon a highway or	
39			within a highway tunnel.	
40		(7)	On any ramp entering on or exiting from, any highway with two	
41			(2) or more traffic lanes moving in the same direction.	
42		(8)	On any property owned or leased by the board of education of	
43			Montgomery County or Montgomery College where an official	
44			sign prohibits such parking.	
45		(9)	In any place an official sign prohibits parking during specific a.m.	
46			or p.m. peak traffic periods.	
47		(10)	Between a sidewalk or roadway curb and the property edge of a	
48			public street or highway, except in an emergency.	
49		<u>(11)</u>	On any bikeway.	
50			* * *	