

ORDINANCE 07-2026

Code of the Town of Bladensburg

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BLADENSBURG TO AMEND CHAPTER 112 “VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC ” BY ADOPTING §112-13, “TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNAL MONITORING SYSTEMS” AMENDING SECTION 112-13.2 (PENALTIES, REMEDIES, AND FEES) TO CHANGE OR ESTABLISH CERTAIN FINES OR FEES; AND GENERALLY RELATING TO AUTOMATED TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT SYSTEMS.

WHEREAS, pursuant to §5-201 *et seq.* of the Local Government Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, the Town of Bladensburg (hereinafter, the “Town”) has the power to pass such ordinances as it deems necessary to protect the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the municipality and to prevent and remove nuisances; and

WHEREAS, §21-202.1 of the Transportation Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, as amended, authorizes the Town to operate a Traffic Control Signal Monitoring System to enforce compliance with §21-202 of the Transportation Article with respect to red light traffic signals; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council have determined that it is in the public interest that the Town adopt this enforcement mechanism for increased public safety; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council have the authority to set fees and fines for collecting payments and subsequent late fees for failure to make timely payments.

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[Brackets]
Asterisks * * *
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: Indicate matter added to existing law.
: Indicate matter deleted from law.
: Indicate matter remaining unchanged in existing law but not set forth in Ordinance
: Indicate matter added in amendment
: Indicate matter deleted in amendment

Section 1. NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED, by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Bladensburg, that Chapter 112, “Vehicles and Traffic,” §112-13, “Traffic Control Signal Monitoring Systems,” be and it is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§112-13 -3 TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNAL MONITORING SYSTEMS

C. Red-light (Traffic Control Signal Monitoring Systems) violations.

(1) THE PENALTY SHALL BE PAID TO THE TOWN OF BLADENSBURG, AND ALL UNPAID VIOLATIONS SHALL BE FORWARDED TO THE TOWN'S CONTRACTOR FOR COLLECTION. EXCEPT IN UNCONTESTED CASES INVOLVING A RED- LIGHT VIOLATIONS ADMINISTRATIVE COLLECTION ACTION, THE PENALTY SHALL BE COLLECTED BY THE DISTRICT COURT OF MARYLAND IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 7-302(A) OF THE COURTS AND JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS ARTICLE OF THE MARYLAND ANNOTATED CODE AND § 21-202.1 OF THE TRANSPORTATION ARTICLE OF THE MARYLAND ANNOTATED CODE, AND DISTRIBUTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 12-118 OF THE TRANSPORTATION ARTICLE OF THE MARYLAND ANNOTATED CODE, AS ANY OF THE FOREGOING MAY BE AMENDED FROM TIME TO TIME.

E. OTHER VIOLATIONS AND REMEDIES. A VIOLATION OF SUBSECTION V OF SECTION §112-13, (TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNAL MONITORING SYSTEMS) SHALL BE DEEMED A MUNICIPAL INFRACTION, AND THE PENALTY SHALL BE A FINE OF \$250. IF NOT PAID WITHIN 20 DAYS OF THE DATE OF NOTICE OF VIOLATION, THE FINE SHALL DOUBLE

TO A FINE OF \$500. A CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OR OTHER DESIGNEE MAY FILE A PETITION FOR INJUNCTIVE RELIEF, A REQUEST FOR AN ABATEMENT ORDER, OR A REQUEST FOR SUCH OTHER RELIEF IN ANY COURT HAVING A PROPER VENUE FOR THE PURPOSE OF REQUIRING COMPLIANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ARTICLE.

F. LATE FEE. UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED ON THE CITATION FORM AS AUTHORIZED BY STATE LAW OR ORDINANCE, ANY PERSON ISSUED A CITATION UNDER THIS ARTICLE SHALL PAY THE FINE WITHIN 20 DAYS OF THE ISSUANCE OF THE CITATION. ANY PERSON ISSUED A CITATION WHO FAILS TO PAY THE PENALTY SET FORTH IN THIS ARTICLE WITHIN THE PRESCRIBED TIME, OR SHOULD ANY PERSON FAIL TO ELECT TO STAND TRIAL WITHIN THE PRESCRIBED TIME, A LATE FEE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$[25]40 SHALL BE ASSESSED THE PERSON LIABLE FOR THE CITATION UNDER THIS ARTICLE. IF NOT PAID WITHIN 30 DAYS OF THE DATE OF NOTICE OF VIOLATION, THE LATE FEE SHALL DOUBLE TO A FEE OF \$XX. Except for late fees accrued for unpaid or untimely paid speed camera (i.e., speed-monitoring system) violations issued pursuant to Section 112-13,

G. RETURNED CHECK FEE. ANY PERSON WHO PAYS ANY PENALTY ASSESSED UNDER THIS ARTICLE SHALL FURTHER PAY A RETURNED CHECK FEE OF \$[35]50 TO THE TOWN SHOULD THE CHECK BE RETURNED UNPAID FOR ANY REASON BY THE PAYOR'S BANK.

H. **FLAGGING FEE.** THE CHIEF OF POLICE SHALL, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROCEDURES PRESCRIBED BY THE STATE MOTOR VEHICLE ADMINISTRATION AND STATE LAW, GIVE OR CAUSE TO BE GIVEN NOTICE TO THE ADMINISTRATION AND THE RESPECTIVE OWNERS OF ALL VEHICLES REGISTERED BY THE STATE AND THE SUBJECT OF ANY UNSATISFIED CONTESTED OR UNCONTESTED AND PAST DUE PARKING, RED-LIGHT OR SPEED-MONITORING SYSTEM VIOLATIONS OF THIS ARTICLE THEREBY REQUESTING THAT THE ADMINISTRATION REFUSE REGISTRATION OR TRANSFER OF REGISTRATION OF THE SUBJECT VEHICLE, UNTIL NOTIFIED BY THE TOWN THAT THE VIOLATION PENALTY HAS BEEN SATISFIED. IN SUCH CASES, THE CHIEF OF POLICE SHALL IMPOSE AN ADDITIONAL COST OR MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATIVE FLAGGING FEE OF \$[40]60 FOR EACH REGISTRATION OR TRANSFER TO BE WITHHELD, SUSPENDED OR DENIED, AND THE OWNER OF THE VEHICLE SHALL BE LIABLE OR FURTHER SUBJECT TO THE PAYMENT OF SUCH COSTS, AND ALL OTHER FINES, PENALTIES, FEES AND CHARGES THAT HAVE ACCRUED OR HAVE BEEN ASSESSED PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE BEFORE NOTICE IS GIVEN TO THE ADMINISTRATION THAT THE SUBJECT VIOLATION PENALTY HAS BEEN SATISFIED AND THE REGISTRATION IS TO BE RELEASED.

I. **DEBT COLLECTION FEE.** ANY FINE OR ASSOCIATED FEES OR COSTS PERMITTED BY THIS ARTICLE THAT REMAIN UNCOLLECTED FROM

AN OWNER OR OPERATOR MADE CIVILLY OR CRIMINALLY LIABLE UNDER THIS ARTICLE, AFTER AT LEAST 30 DAYS FROM THE DATE THE DEBT ACCRUES AND WRITTEN NOTICE IS PROVIDED TO THE OWNER OR OPERATOR, SAID DEBT OWED TO THE TOWN MAY BE REFERRED TO A COLLECTION AGENCY OR ATTORNEY FOR COLLECTION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE AND FEDERAL LAW. SAID FEE OR COST FOR COLLECTION OF THE DELINQUENT DEBT (I.E., FINE, LATE FEE, RETURNED CHECK FEE, AND/OR FLAGGING FEE) AS PERMITTED BY THIS SUBSECTION SHALL NOT EXCEED TWO TIMES THE PAST DUE AMOUNT OR TOTAL SUM INDEBTED TO THE TOWN. THE TOWN MAY ALTERNATIVELY OR FURTHER ELECT TO FILE A CIVIL SUIT AGAINST THE RESPONSIBLE PARTY TO RECOVER THE FINE AND ASSOCIATED FEES.

J. **BOOT OR IMMOBILIZATION FEE.** IN ADDITION TO ANY OTHER AUTHORIZED CHARGES, A BOOT OR IMMOBILIZATION FEE OF \$100 SHALL BE CHARGED A VEHICLE OWNER WHO VIOLATES THIS ARTICLE OR IS OTHERWISE RESPONSIBLE WHICH RESULTS IN IMMOBILIZATION AS DESCRIBED IN THIS ARTICLE TO DEFRAID THE TOWN'S COST OF INSTALLING, REMOVING AND MAINTAINING THE BOOT DEVICE OR OTHER EQUIPMENT.

K. RESOLUTIONS ESTABLISHING FINES, CHARGES, AND FEES. THE TOWN COUNCIL IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO SPECIFICALLY ESTABLISH, SET, ADOPT, AMEND OR CHANGE FROM TIME TO TIME BY FORMAL

RESOLUTION ANY FINES, FEES, ALLOWED INTEREST, OR CHARGES
ESTABLISHED BY THIS ARTICLE OR AS OTHERWISE PERMITTED BY STATE
LAW.

Section 2 **AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED AND ENACTED**, that any prior ordinances adopting and enacting any provision of Section 112 of said Code or any other ordinance or resolution previously adopted pertaining to a subject or subjects embodied by the title of this Ordinance or the provisions found herein shall be deemed repealed and superseded by the provisions of this Ordinance. Should a previously enacted ordinance cover a provision or subject that is not covered by this Ordinance, it shall remain in full force and effect unless it directly conflicts with the express language of this Ordinance.

Section 3. **AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED** that this Ordinance shall take effect twenty (20) days from the date of its adoption.

Section 4. **AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED** that if any provision of this Ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid for any reason, such invalidity shall not affect the other provisions or any other applications of the Ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid provision or applications, and to this end, all the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable.

INTRODUCED by the Mayor and Town Council of the Town Bladensburg at a regular meeting on September 8, 2025.

ADOPTED by the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Bladensburg, Maryland, at a regular meeting on October 20, 2025, and thereafter, this Ordinance was prominently posted for ten (10) days in the Town Hall and available for inspection by the public.

WITNESS

TOWN OF BLADENSBURG

Regine Watson, Town Clerk

Takisha D. James, Mayor

First Reading: September 8, 2025

Second Reading: October 13, 2025

Adopted: October 13, 2025

Effective: October 13, 2025