



MONTGOMERY COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

BUSTLING COUNTY RESOLVES SPEEDING COMPLAINTS USING DATA CAPTURED BY SPEEDALERT 24 RADAR MESSAGE DISPLAYS

Montgomery County is the most populous county in the state of Maryland. Located adjacent to Washington, D.C., Montgomery County contains many major U.S. government offices, scientific research and learning centers and business campuses, which provide a significant amount of revenue for the county.

The Montgomery County Department of Police (MCPD), along with the Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT), provides traffic safety services for over 1600 miles of residential streets, which can be challenging to say the least, particularly when it comes to traffic calming. SpeedAlert 24 radar message displays from All Traffic Solutions are an important component of the MCPD's strategy to make roads safer.

The department's seven existing custom speed trailers and seven message trailers were cumbersome to haul from location to location, and while the speed trailers displayed driver speeds, they did not record speed or volume information. After seeing all that SpeedAlert 24 web-enabled radar message displays could do for them—such as record accurate speed and volume data and display speed-dependent messages—MCPD purchased six. They also purchased six ATS 5 Trailers for their new signs which, unlike their old trailers, are lightweight and can be maneuvered easily without using a truck.



Versatile SpeedAlert Saves Department Money

Because the SpeedAlert 24 can also be used as a variable message sign, MCPD no longer needed their old message trailers and were able to reduce their monthly maintenance fees paid to the transportation department by half. “Our old speed trailers were really just window dressing that told drivers how fast they were going,” said Officer John Powell. “We now have dual-purpose speed and message trailers that provide valuable data we can use to clear complaints and calm traffic.”

Members of the Montgomery County Police Department like the TraffiCloud™ remote management system for its ease of use and the information it provides. Officer Powell and others can now access and download reports in real time from any Internet-connected device to measure average speeds, track trends, prioritize enforcement priorities and address citizen complaints with easy-to-understand reports.



TraffiCloud Reports Clear Neighborhood Speeding Complaints

The department employs TraffiCloud reports to respond to neighborhood speeding complaints. First, they validate the complaint by setting up a SpeedAlert at the location in stealth mode to gather speed data “undercover” without displaying driver speeds. Then they switch the sign to active mode, so it displays speeds as drivers pass, and compare the two data sets to measure the sign’s effectiveness on calming traffic.

Oftentimes, the speeding issue at hand is one of perception only. For example, one neighborhood complained of excessive speeding on a particular road and requested both a lower speed limit and more police enforcement. A SpeedAlert was deployed in stealth mode for eight days at the 30-mph location. TraffiCloud reports documented that not only wasn’t there a problem, the majority of drivers were going an average of only 11 mph.

When it’s determined that there is a bona fide speeding problem on a particular road, officers use the signs to narrow down when speeding violations are most prevalent. Each road has peak days and times when speeding is highest, and the Enforcement Priorities Report lets the department know exactly where and when they need to send more officers so they can manage resources better.

The Montgomery County community is happy to see the SpeedAlert signs and know that officers are stationed on the roads where they’re needed most, saving taxpayer money and keeping roads safe for everyone.