



The Pennsylvania Municipal League  
*President – J. Richard Gray, Mayor, City of Lancaster*



The Pennsylvania State Association of Township Commissioners  
*President – Andrew Sharkey, Commissioner, Cheltenham Township*

## MEMO

TO: Members of the Senate and House Transportation Committees  
FROM: Amy Sturges, Director of Governmental Affairs, PML and PSATC  
RE: Support for the Local Use of Radar  
DATE: July 10, 2014

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On behalf of the membership of the Pennsylvania Municipal League (PML) and the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Commissioners (PSATC), I am writing in **full support** of the authorization to allow local police to use radar.

As you are well aware, Pennsylvania is the only state in the nation that does not permit local police to use radar. This has been a public safety issue for many years, and it is time to allow the use of radar by local police.

In terms of public safety, the use of radar would allow better monitoring of traffic speed on local roads that are not always easily monitored by the current methods. Pennsylvania has the distinction of being the third highest state in the nation for speed related fatalities with the majority of those fatalities occurring on local roadways. Furthermore, radar technology is more accurate, convenient, versatile and cost-effective than the current methods used by local police.

The concern that municipalities will use radar to generate revenue is unfounded. The personnel costs associated with monitoring traffic speeds far exceeds the small portion of fine revenue that makes its way back to the local municipality.

Finally, local law enforcement officers are fully trained and would be held to the same standards as state police when using radar.

PML and PSATC are pleased to see this issue on next week's hearing agenda. We believe there is no compelling reason to continue to prohibit radar at the local level and we stand ready to support Senate and House action to enact the necessary authorizing legislation.

Thank you.