

February 27, 2023

Esteemed Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee:

I am writing to express my support for HB1130, *Vehicle Laws – Noise Abatement Monitoring Systems – Authorization, Use, and Penalties*. As a member of the College Park City Council representing District 2, I am eager to have as many tools as possible to address what has become one of the biggest disturbances to quality of life in our area. We have posted signs informing the public of laws against modified mufflers. We have requested and received increased enforcement of those laws by our Contract Police Officers. Still, the issue persists.

When I was campaigning in 2021, noise from speeding cars and vehicles with modified mufflers was a common complaint. Last year, one resident appeared before the Council saying he was at his wits' end. He was near a main thoroughfare and was increasingly having difficulty sleeping through the night. He begged us to do something to help, saying it was negatively impacting his mental health. Studies have shown that noise pollution negatively impacts both mental and physical health, increasing the [risk of elevated blood pressure](#), causing stress, sleep disturbance, and [depression](#) – all of which are linked to negative health outcomes.

Thank you for putting this legislation forward. Employing noise abatement technology will allow us to further disincentivize the choices too many motorists continue to make.

Respectfully,
Susan Whitney
College Park City Council
District 2
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