



Testimony of the Mayor and Council of Rockville
HB 1032 – Montgomery County – Stop Sign Monitoring Systems –
Authorization MC 4-25
SUPPORT

Good afternoon, Chair Korman and members of the House Environment and Transportation Committee. I am Rockville City Councilmember Marissa Valeri. On behalf of the Mayor and Council, I want to thank the Montgomery County Delegation for sponsoring this important legislation.

The Mayor and Council unanimously support this legislation. HB 1032 authorizes the placement of stop sign monitoring systems in school zones in Montgomery County. It is modeled after HB 364 enacted in 2024, which provided similar authority in Prince George’s County. HB 1032 aligns with Rockville’s Vision Zero priority. We believe it is a much-needed tool to help our children travel safely to and from school.

In Rockville, we have multiple schools within our borders, including fifteen operated by Montgomery County Public Schools. One of the City’s top traffic related concerns received by the City Police are for stop sign violations. In fact, concerns about stop sign violations have been included on the City Police list for directed patrol for 247 weeks – almost five years! Since January of 2020, the Rockville City Police have issued 383 traffic citations and 4,143 warnings for stop sign violations. Further, in the past three years, there were 17 crash reports where one or more of the contributing factors was failing to stop at a stop sign. Due to the extremely high volume of requests, it is very difficult for our officers to conduct enforcement when they are handling calls for service. We believe the use of this technology would be a police force multiplier and incentivize changed driver behavior similar to what we experienced with speed and red-light enforcement systems.

HB 1032 is a major step forward that would provide added protection for our children and school communities. By allowing the use of stop sign monitoring systems in school zones in the areas of highest concern, we have a tremendous opportunity to reduce crashes, save lives, and change driver behavior. Keeping our children safe from drivers that are increasingly distracted and do not follow stop sign laws is essential. For these reasons, we urge the Committee to provide HB 1032 with a favorable report.