



Testimony of the Mayor and Council of Rockville
HB 18 – Vehicle Laws – Noise Abatement Monitoring Systems Pilot Program
– Inspection and Extension
SUPPORT

Good morning, Chair Korman and members of the House Environment and Transportation Committee. I am Rockville City Councilmember Marissa Valeri. I thank you for this opportunity. On behalf of the City, I want to thank Delegate Palakovich Carr for sponsoring this important legislation that aligns with our Vision Zero priority.

The Mayor and Council of Rockville unanimously support HB 18, which would extend the noise abatement monitoring systems pilot programs in Montgomery and Prince George’s Counties and reporting requirements by two years. The bill would provide additional time for the counties to enter into contracts with a vendor, locate appropriate placements for the technology, and gather useful data.

This pilot program is extremely important to Rockville to address ongoing concerns that residents have with noise disruptions. In recent years, excessive noise from vehicles with illegally modified exhaust has negatively impacted our community by frightening those on sidewalks, in nearby cars, and disturbing residents in the privacy of their homes. These systems will broadly expand the capability of Police to address this public nuisance, as there aren’t enough police patrols in the City and Montgomery County to respond to noise violations through traffic enforcement.

The City has advocated with County elected officials and the Montgomery County Police Department to be a pilot site for the program. We’ve received positive indications that Rockville will be included in the County’s pilot program. We asked the County to consider placing the technology at several key locations on State roads in Rockville, including the intersection of MD 28 and MD 355; the length of Lewis Avenue; the intersection of MD 586 and Atlantic Avenue; and the intersection of MD 355 and Gude Drive.

HB 18 is a critical step forward. The two-year extension from June 2026 to June 2028 sets up the pilot for success and to lay the groundwork for the technology to be authorized in all counties and municipalities in Maryland. For these reasons, we urge the Committee to provide HB 18 with a favorable report. Thank you.