

Testimony in Support of SB915 – Baltimore County Vehicle Laws – Privat Roadways in Residential Subdivisions and Communities

Submitted by: Max Wofthal, President Queen Anne Village, Owings Mills
March 5, 2025

Chair Smith and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee:

My name is Max Wolfthal. I am the HOA President at Queen Anne Village in Owings Mills, a community of 405 townhomes. I have been on the board here for 20 years, serving as President for the past 16. In this time, I have received many complaints from residents about the cars speeding and disobeying stop signs and other traffic control devices in our community. After asking our County Police to attempt some enforcement here, I was made aware that they have little-to-no authority to do so as our community is private property including our streets.

Several officers I have spoken to seem to have different opinions on the law regarding enforcement but none of them will do it. Some have even told me how badly people drive here but say their hands are tied.

I researched this and found that Calvert County is the exception to the rule in Maryland. In Calvert County, the law allows a police officer to enforce the provisions of the Maryland Vehicle Law on a private roadway located within a residential subdivision.

I believe that SB915, by adding Baltimore County to this existing law, will remove the confusion and create a safer driving experience for drivers in communities such as ours in Baltimore County.