



**Testimony of the City of Rockville Mayor and Council
Bill 14-24
Montgomery County Council Public Hearing**

Good afternoon, County Council President Friedson and County Councilmembers. I am Monique Ashton, Mayor of the City of Rockville. I thank you for this opportunity.

The Mayor and Council of Rockville strongly support County Bill 14-24 – Vehicle Noise Abatement Monitoring – Pilot Program. This legislation is an important follow-up to the enactment of HB 155 – Noise Abatement Monitoring Systems - Authorization sponsored by Delegate Palakovich Carr. The State legislation authorizes Montgomery County and Prince George’s County to establish a pilot program that allows the placement of up to three noise abatement monitoring systems in their respective jurisdictions.

Our strong and consistent advocacy in support of the State legislation over the past several years helped to get the bill passed. The City is pleased to see the County move forward with Bill 14-24 and implement this important pilot program.

For several years, Rockville neighborhoods have experienced excessive noise from vehicles with illegally modified exhaust systems. The noise has negatively impacted our residents by frightening those on sidewalks, in nearby cars, and disturbing residents in their homes. We frequently receive concerns about this persistent problem, from residents living on urban highways to community members with sensory issues.

There are heavily traveled State and City roads throughout Rockville. The Rockville City Police identified several locations where the noise is acute. We ask you to please consider placing one or more of the County allotted noise enforcement systems at the following locations:

- 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.

There is simply not enough police officer capacity to enforce these violations. This new technology is a promising new tool that could dramatically reduce noise pollution and excessive noise violations, often occurring concurrently with excessive speed and unsafe driving.

The Mayor and Council and the community are very excited about this technology and the possibility of the City being included in the pilot program. If a Rockville location is selected as a pilot site, we would offer financial support to the County towards the cost of administration.

We welcome the opportunity to partner with the County and work on a solution to help restore peace and quiet in our community and keep our residents safe. Thank you.