



York Road Partnership is membership network of 40+ neighborhoods and affiliates promoting the vitality of Baltimore City's York Road community as a desirable urban environment in which to live, shop, work and worship.

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Cedric Crump & Christopher Forrest

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Business Engagement

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**York Road Partnership
Testimony for HB1408/SB0929: SB0929: Public Safety - Baltimore
City - P.R.O.T.E.C.T. (Public Resources Organizing to End Crime
Together) Program**

**Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee,
2/20/2020 - 12:00 p.m**

**House Judiciary Committee,
3/03/2020 - 1:00 p.m**

York Road Partnership supports HB1408/SB0929: Public Safety - Baltimore City - P.R.O.T.E.C.T. (Public Resources Organizing to End Crime Together) Program, which will extend the jurisdiction of Department of State Police to include traffic patrol and accident investigation into highways and major streets in Baltimore city.

York Road Partnership represents 40+ neighborhoods and organizations served by the Northern District of the Baltimore Police Department. Over the past several months, key blocks on the York Road corridor have experienced an influx of violent crime, including several shootings along the central node of the York Road commercial corridor this Fall.

As York Road Partnership works with BPD to better police our communities and prevent violent crime, it has come to our attention that the Northern District is also burdened with traffic patrol and accident investigation on I-83. It is our understanding that when an accident occurs on I-83, at least 3-4 officers are dispatched from Northern District to investigate. While we acknowledge that police presence is required in these situations, we believe that BPD should not be the enforcement agency. Taking away 3-4 officers from an already understaffed District impedes the ability for BPD to do their jobs in our communities. When officers are taken off the beat to respond to an accident a few miles away, they lose the ability to enforce the law, build trust with communities, and investigate violent crime in our neighborhoods.

Traffic patrol and accident response/investigation for highways in the State of Maryland is conducted by the Department of State Police. We are simply looking to be included in the existing practices of the Department of State Police.

York Road Partnership requests your support for the P.R.O.T.E.C.T Program.