

# Support Secure DC

With Secure DC, we have an opportunity to **rebalance our public safety and justice system** so that, above all else, it **prioritizes the safety of our community**.

In January 2024, Councilmember Brooke Pinto, Chair of the Committee on the Judiciary and Public Safety, introduced her omnibus legislation, **Secure DC**. Secure DC includes provisions from the **Mayor's Safer Stronger Amendment Act of 2023** as well as the **Addressing Crime Trends Now Act (ACT Now) of 2023**. Passing it will support a system that prioritizes **safety** and **accountability**. In 2023, we saw pieces of this legislation move our city in the right direction. Now we can make those provisions permanent and focus on strategies and policies that will continue to make our city safer.

The Council of the District of Columbia held a first vote on Secure DC on February 6.

**The second vote is scheduled for March 5.**

**Secure DC will:**



**Hold Criminals  
Accountable**



**Support MPD  
Officers**



**Rebalance DC's Public  
Safety and Justice System**

## Reach out to the Council

Call on the Council to **remove the amendment that will end the expansion of holding people before trial who have been caught committing a violent offense.**

This was already passed on an emergency basis last summer; **after it went into effect, we saw a decrease in crime**. When a person is caught committing a violent crime in our city, commonsense requires that we ask our judges to first consider whether the person poses a danger to the community if released as they await trial.

Call on the Council to **keep the threshold for first degree theft at \$500.**

We must take seriously the effect that repeat and organized theft is having on businesses and the residents who depend on those businesses. And we must **give MPD and prosecutors the tools they need to hold people accountable.**

## How you can help

### Share the facts and clear up misinformation:

#### Drug Free Zones...



...**will** allow the Chief to thoughtfully address open-air drug markets so that communities can reclaim public spaces.



...**will NOT** allow MPD to randomly break up any group of people in DC.

**More info:** The designation of a Drug-Free Zone is temporary and will be **based on crime data and other evidence**. Once a Drug-Free Zone is established, MPD will be allowed to disperse people who are gathering within the area **“for the purpose of committing an offense under Title IV of the Controlled Substances Act.”**

#### Reinstating the mask prohibition...



...**will** give MPD a common-sense tool to engage those wearing ski masks in our community who intend to do harm.



...**will NOT** include a ban on medical masks, hoods or hijabs.

**More info:** This will bring back a law that was already in effect, without issue, from 1982 until July 2020.

#### Requiring people to give their real name when they get caught hopping Metro fare gates...



...**will** give officers a tool for holding people accountable when they are caught jumping gates.



...**will NOT** give police the ability to ask anyone on the Metro for their identification.

**More info:** Cutting down on fare evasion will make the Metro safer and requiring people to give officers their real name if they are caught jumping the gates is commonsense.

#### Expanding officers' ability to engage in vehicular pursuits where there is an imminent danger to the public...



...**will** allow MPD to participate in reasonable and safe pursuits of criminals in DC.



...**will NOT** mean that MPD can conduct dangerous chases through the city.

**More info:** Before emergency legislation was put in place, some people had a perception that they could commit a crime in DC and get away with it since the police could not pursue them. Making that provision permanent will allow officers to chase, when a criminal poses an imminent threat to the public, will increase accountability.

#### Allowing MPD officers to view body-worn camera footage prior to writing a police report (except when a serious or deadly use of force occurs)...



...**will** increase the accuracy of police reports and support prosecutors' ability to bring charges.



...**will NOT** mean that MPD can make up facts that are not shown in the video.

**More info:** We want our officers to provide the most accurate police reports possible, and being able to view their body-worn camera footage to recall relevant details from the scene is important. Prohibiting viewing the video creates the opportunity for inconsistencies between the officer's recollection and the video, which can negatively affect prosecution. The U.S. Attorney's Office supports this amendment.