

Sign Locations, Songs, and Descriptions

Spotify Playlist Link:

<https://open.spotify.com/playlist/4XBZ1A3ZsSlh8hUxzFL9VO?si=dfb47d4d96ab40dc>

- 1. Rollins Avenue Park:** Bustin Loose by Chuck Brown and the Soul Searchers
Chuck Brown started his career as a shoe shiner, but he died as the Godfather of Go-Go. Brown's band, the Soul Searchers, were one of the genre's most well-known acts; their 1979 debut on Soul Train garnered them national attention and started a national (though short-lived) go-go craze. And even if Chuck Brown's name doesn't ring a bell, his lyrics might: they are prominently sampled in [Hot in Herre by Nelly](#).
- 2. 5000 Marlboro Pike,** Early country concerts in PG County: Rumble by Link Wray
In the 1950s, Marlboro Pike was home to the bars and nightclubs that hosted Prince George's County's first pop music scene. At this site was the Senate Inn and just down the road were the Hilltop Restaurant, Detta's Musical Bar, and Strick's. These nightspots had been open since the 1930s, but they truly grew into a music scene with the repeal of the Prohibition. This track features Link Wray, whose performances in the DMV saw him develop one of rock's trademark sounds: the power chord.
- 3. 9206 Darcy Road** In a Sentimental Mood by Duke Ellington
Although some venues allowed the nation's biggest acts to pass through regardless of race, most of midcentury America's local venues were strictly segregated. In order to travel and perform safely during the Jim Crow era, many African American musicians played a collection of Black-owned restaurants and theaters that came to be known as the Chitlin Circuit. At this site was one stop on the nationwide network, the Evans Grill, which hosted Duke Ellington, Ray Charles, Little Richard, Ike and Tina Turner, and many other legends.
- 4. 7857 Walker Mill Road,** Walker Mill Skate Park: Iron Maiden Youtube link
For the music scene in Prince George's County, the underground bootleg trade was just as important as live performance. Area music stores would facilitate local trades, where a punk house show recording might be exchanged for concert recorded from within the crowd at the Capital Centre.
- 5. Capital Centre Blvd, 515,** The Who
The Capital Centre was part-sports arena, part concert-venue, and it was the DMV's connection to national acts for nearly 30 years. The first ever concert featured the Allman Brothers Band, and two days later it hosted The Who on their Quadrophenia tour. This track is taken from that concert.
- 6. Capital Centre Blvd,** Heavy Metal Parking Lot: You've Got Another Thing Coming, Judas Priest
Among the many Cap Centre concerts through the years, one has been immortalized by filmmakers Jeff Krulik and John Heyn, whose documentary [Heavy Metal Parking Lot](#) highlights the audience antics and atmosphere of a tailgate outside a Judas Priest concert in 1986.
- 7. Near 7600 Bay Way in Forestville** (private residence), Bad Brains House Show: Banned in DC by Bad Brains
By 1980, hardcore punk band Bad Brains was banned from performing at DC venues like the 9:30 Club and Madam's Organ due to the unconstrained violence and often, rioting at their shows.

But when the band started in the mid 70s, they were cutting their teeth (perhaps literally) at house shows hosted by local punks. Anyone could host a house concert—but that meant concert flyers, like the one for [this neighborhood's show](#), had to include maps so that fans could find the location.

8. **Outside Fed Ex Field Gray Parking Lot** (adjacent to where Xanman grew up): Gucci Down by Xanman

You might have come to know Xanman through his TikTok viral *Gucci Down*, but the music world came to know him through his uncle, legendary go-go drummer Ricky “Sugarfoot Wellman.” After meeting a series of industry pros at a young age, Xanman was convinced that this would be his path--and after dropping a prolific 6 mixtapes at age 16, his listeners in the DMV and beyond were convinced, too.

9. **Kentland VFD**, Early Go-Go venue: Overnight Scenario by Rare Essence

In the 1960s and 70s, it wasn't uncommon for local fire stations to double as community gathering space and often, impromptu concert venue. The Kentland VFD was an early home of young go-go bands, but soon the local government gave them an even bigger stage. Driving around in “Showmobiles,” the city carted bands from neighborhood to neighborhood to perform free concerts during the summer.

10. **Capitol Heights Metro Station**: Say Sumthin by Kev Brown

After Jay-Z released *The Black Album*, he encouraged bedroom producers on home laptop setups to remix it. Kev Brown's take, what he called [The Brown Album](#), garnered him national recognition. Brown is also a founding member of the Low Budget Crew.

11. **Seat Pleasant Metro**: iPhone by Rico Nasty

Rico Nasty is punk, trap, and hyperpop all at once. In a style of her own invention, dubbed “sugar trap,” (also the name of a Rico Nasty mixtape and her own label) she raps over beats that sound like “you're inside Willy Wonka's chocolate factory,” according to critic Israel Damarola. While she owes her gritty vocals to Joan Jett, Rico Nasty's influences stretch over genre boundaries and include David Bowie and Chuck Brown.

12. **Morgan Blvd Metro**: Lady Marmalade by Mya

Inspired by her father to become a musician Mya (Harrison) was already looking for professional opportunities before she even graduated from Greenbelt High School. After signing with Interscope records at age 16, Mya recorded songs with a bent for history: her cover of Janet Jackson's *Control*, and her collaborative remake of Labelle's *Lady Marmalade* along with Pink, Christina Aguilera, and Lil' Kim became signature tracks.

13. **Community-generated playlist**: includes link to submit a song to the playlist plus a link to the separate playlist

14. **PG Arts Council**: Links to apply for grants