



ALEXANDRIA CITY SCHOOL BOARD RESOLUTION REQUESTING 15 MILES PER HOUR IN SCHOOL ZONES

WHEREAS, the Alexandria City School Board gives the utmost priority to the safety and well-being of each Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS) student; and

WHEREAS, reducing speed limits near schools where there is an increased presence of pedestrians and bicyclists during students' arrival and dismissal reduces excessive vehicle speeds leading to overall increased student safety; and

WHEREAS, according to the Virginia Department of Transportation, driving at a lower speed requires vehicles to stop at shorter distances, and provides motorists with an increased ability to see sidewalks and pedestrians walking along the roadway where there are no sidewalks due to a larger field of vision; and

WHEREAS, the likelihood of causing a death of or seriously injuring a person when struck at 25 miles per hour (mph) is significantly higher than if that person is struck at 15 mph; and

WHEREAS, the following school zones, and school sites, have a 25 mph speed limit:

- N Beauregard St - John Adams Elementary School, William Ramsay Elementary School and Ferdinand T. Day Elementary School zones
- Braddock Rd - Alexandria City High School (ACHS) - Minnie Howard Campus school zone
- Seminary Rd - Francis C. Hammond Middle School zone
- ACHS - King St Campus school; and

WHEREAS, the Alexandria City's Traffic & Parking Board met on Monday, September 26, 2022 and approved the following:

- Recommendation to approve proposed ordinance change authorizing the use of speed cameras in school zones and work zones. This now goes to the City Council.
- Recommendation for the City of Alexandria to reduce posted speed limits and school zone speed limits on N Beauregard St and Braddock Rd, and reduce school zone speed limits on Seminary Road and North Howard Street. This does not require further approval action. The City can replace the speed limit signs in these areas as soon as they are available.

WHEREAS, according to the Vision Zero Action Plan adopted on December 16, 2017 by the Alexandria City Council, "pedestrians and bicyclists are involved in 6% of all traffic crashes but represent 34% of crashes that result in serious injury or death. The young (ages 10 and under)

and the elderly (ages 91 and higher) have a higher risk of serious injury or death if involved in a crash;" and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Virginia Code section 46.2-873 H, "the maximum speed limit in school zones in residential areas may be decreased to 15 mph if (i) the School Board having jurisdiction over the school nearest to the affected school zone passes a resolution requesting the reduction of the maximum speed limit for such school zone from 25 mph to 15 mph and (ii) the local governing body of the jurisdiction in which such school is located enacts an ordinance establishing the speed-limit reduction requested by the School Board;"


NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Alexandria City School Board hereby requests that the City of Alexandria reduce the maximum speed limit for the aforementioned school zones from 25 mph to 15 mph.

Adopted and approved by the Alexandria City School Board on this 6th day of October, 2022.


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