



## **The Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations, Inc.**

P.O. Box 203, Mount Vernon, VA 22121-9998

<http://www.mvcca.org>

Jessica Paris, P.E.  
Program Manager / NRO Traffic Engineering  
Virginia Department of Transportation

Mr. Neil Freschman, PE  
Chief, Traffic Engineering Section, Fairfax County Department of Transportation

July 28, 2022

Subject: Support for the “Richmond Highway (U.S. Route 1) Speed Limit Study” Recommended Reduction from 45 MPH to 35 MPH

The Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations (MVCCA) represents 15,000 households in the Mount Vernon District of Fairfax County. And on July 27, 2022, our member associations voted unanimously to **support** the recommendations of the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)/Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) Richmond Highway (U.S. Route 1) Speed Limit Study. A reduced speed limit will enhance the safety of our “Main Street” for all, pedestrians, bicyclists, and vehicular traffic.

The in-depth technical analysis conducted by VDOT, and their consultants clearly shows that reducing the speed limit from Jeff Todd Way north to the Beltway to 35 MPH is the correct decision. The speed reduction should reduce speed related fatalities, injuries, vehicle accidents, and property damage significantly. The recommendations are supported by the latest science-based data showing that lower speeds reduce the likelihood of deaths and reduces extensive auto damage when vehicles collide.

Knowing that noise reduction was not part of the study, we believe an unintended benefit of the lower speed will be lead to a reduction in noise levels that will lessen the potential requirement for sound wall barriers being erected in locations along the highway, thereby, supporting one of our goals of no installation of sound walls and avoid an unacceptable ugly blemish on our “Main Street.

We, therefore, fully endorse the immediate reduction of the posted speed limit from 45MPH to 35MPH from Jeff Todd Way to the Beltway. And encourage appropriate notifications and signage to inform the public / travelers of the speed limit change.

Sincerely,

*Katherine Ward*

Katherine Ward  
Cochair  
MVCCA

CC: Supervisor Storck  
Supervisor Lusk  
Director FCDOT  
Program Manager / NRO Traffic Engineering VDOT