

The Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations, Inc.

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

http://www.mvcca.org

Supervisor Dan Storck Mount Vernon District Supervisor

Chairman Jeffrey McKay Board of Supervisors

September 25, 2020

Ref: Proposal to Reduce the Speed Limit on Richmond Highway

Dear Supervisor Storck and Chairman McKay:

The MVCCA strongly supports the proposal to reduce the speed limit to 35 MPH on Richmond Highway between the Beltway and Jeff Todd Way as a way to increase safety and underline our determination to transform the highway into one of Fairfax County's Main Streets. We hope the change in the speed limit can be made quickly.

Our resolution of September 23 is attached.

Respectfully,

Lynn Pascoe

Cochair

MVCCA

Cc: Supervisor Rodney Lusk, Lee District

Brian Hill, County Executive

Rachel Flynn, Deputy County Executive

Thomas Biesiadny, Director, FC Dept. of Transportation

Dan Reinhard, Senior Project Manager, VDOT

MOUNT VERNON COUNCIL OF CITIZENS' ASSOCIATIONS (MVCCA) JOINT RESOLUTION (TRANSPORTATION, PLANNING & ZONING, AND PUBLIC SAFETY) JOINT (PZ, TRAN, PS) 2020-03

SUPPORTING THE IMMEDIATE REDUCTION IN THE CURRENT SPEED LIMIT OF 45 MILES PER HOUR (MPH) TO 35 MPH ON THE RICHMOND HIGHWAY CORRIDOR (FROM THE CAPITAL BELTWAY TO JEFF TODD WAY)

- 1. Whereas: The 2007 VDOT safety study concluded that reducing the speed limit from 45 miles per hour (MPH) to 35 MPH will reduce the auto accidents and pedestrian deaths on Richmond Highway, and;
- 2. Whereas: VDOT road widening report data from 2011-2016 indicates that Richmond Highway accidents occur at a far greater rate than the entire state of Virginia 263.13 crashes per 100 million vehicle miles traveled compared to all of Virginia with 142.35 crashes per 100 million miles traveled. (213 crashes with property damage per 100 million vehicle miles, 22 crashes involving pedestrians, 247 crashes with injuries, 1 fatality), and;
- 3. Whereas: Since Feb 2019 thru mid-2020 there have been 5 deaths due to auto's hitting pedestrians, and;
- Whereas: Risk of pedestrian deaths from being hit by an automobile are 90% at 45 mph, 25% at 32 mph (AAA 2011 study), and;
- 5. **Whereas**: The Comprehensive Plan (as amended by EMBARK) states that Richmond Highway is our main street and as such should be pedestrian safe, calm and attractive, and;
- 6. **Whereas**: Lowering the speed limit will reduce highway noise, reduce the need for sound barriers, and creates our Main Street a place where people live, work and play rather than just speed through.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations (MVCCA) supports the immediate reduction in the current speed limit of 45 miles per hour (MPH) to 35 MPH on the Richmond Highway corridor (from the Capital Beltway to Jeff Todd way).

END JOINT RESOLUTION (TRANSPORTATION, PLANNING & ZONING, AND PUBLIC SAFETY) JOINT (PZ, TRAN, PS) 2020-03.

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Passed by the MVCCA General Council Meeting on September 23, 2020.