

INTRODUCED: January 10, 2022

AN ORDINANCE No. 2022-020

To reduce the speed limits on Huguenot Road from its intersection with Riverside Drive to its intersection with the Chesterfield County line; on Richmond Highway from its intersection with Hopkins Road to its intersection with the Chesterfield County line; on Warwick Road from its intersection with Belt Boulevard to its intersection with German School Road; on Commerce Road from its intersection with Commerce Road Access to its intersection with Bells Road Access Road; on Forest Hill Avenue from its intersection with Sheila Lane to its intersection with the Chesterfield County line; on Broad Rock Boulevard from its intersection with Belt Boulevard to its intersection with Patsy Anne Drive; on Ironbridge Road from its intersection with Patsy Anne Drive to its intersection with the Chesterfield County line; on Belt Boulevard from its intersection with Warwick Road to its intersection with Broad Rock Boulevard; on the Manchester Bridge from its intersection with Byrd Street to its intersection with Semmes Avenue; and on U.S. Route 1 from its intersection with Rowe Street to its intersection with Riverside Drive, to 35 miles per hour.

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Patron – Mr. Jones

Approved as to form and legality
by the City Attorney

PUBLIC HEARING: MAR 28 2022 AT 6 P.M.

WHEREAS, the speed limits on Huguenot Road from its intersection with Riverside Drive to its intersection with the Chesterfield County line; on Richmond Highway from its intersection with Hopkins Road to its intersection with the Chesterfield County line; on Warwick Road from its intersection with Belt Boulevard to its intersection with German School Road; on

AYES: 9 NOES: 0 ABSTAIN: _____

ADOPTED: APR 11 2022 REJECTED: _____ STRICKEN: _____

Commerce Road from its intersection with Commerce Road Access to its intersection with Bells Road Access Road; on Forest Hill Avenue from its intersection with Sheila Lane to its intersection with the Chesterfield County line; on Broad Rock Boulevard from its intersection with Belt Boulevard to its intersection with Patsy Anne Drive; on Ironbridge Road from its intersection with Patsy Anne Drive to its intersection with the Chesterfield County line; on Belt Boulevard from its intersection with Warwick Road to its intersection with Broad Rock Boulevard; on the Manchester Bridge from its intersection with Byrd Street to its intersection with Semmes Avenue; and on U.S. Route 1 from its intersection with Rowe Street to its intersection with Riverside Drive, currently exceed 35 miles per hour; and

WHEREAS, the Council believes that a lower speed limit these streets will improve traffic safety; and

WHEREAS, it is the consensus of the Council that the speed limits on these streets should be 35 miles per hour; and

WHEREAS, section 2-428 of the Code of the City of Richmond (2020), as amended, requires an appropriate study by the Department of Public Works prior to the adoption of an ordinance regulating motor vehicle traffic within the City, and section 46.2-878(A) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, provides that any increase or decrease in speed limits shall be effective only when prescribed after a traffic engineering investigation and when indicated on the highway by signs; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Works has submitted the requisite traffic engineering investigation to the Council, pursuant to Resolution No. 2019-R041, adopted September 23, 2019;

NOW, THEREFORE,

THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEREBY ORDAINS:

§ 1. That the speed limit on Huguenot Road from its intersection with Riverside Drive to its intersection with the Chesterfield County line shall be 35 miles per hour.

§ 2. That the speed limit on Richmond Highway from its intersection with Hopkins Road to its intersection with the Chesterfield County line shall be 35 miles per hour.

§ 3. That the speed limit on Warwick Road from its intersection with Belt Boulevard to its intersection with German School Road shall be 35 miles per hour.

§ 4. That the speed limit on Commerce Road from its intersection with Commerce Road Access to its intersection with Bells Road Access Road shall be 35 miles per hour.

§ 5. That the speed limit on Forest Hill Avenue from its intersection with Sheila Lane to its intersection with the Chesterfield County line shall be 35 miles per hour.

§ 6. That the speed limit on Broad Rock Boulevard from its intersection with Belt Boulevard to its intersection with Patsy Anne Drive shall be 35 miles per hour.

§ 7. That the speed limit on Ironbridge Road from its intersection with Patsy Anne Drive to intersection with the Chesterfield County line shall be 35 miles per hour.

§ 8. That the speed limit on Belt Boulevard from its intersection with Warwick Road to its intersection with Broad Rock Boulevard shall be 35 miles per hour.

§ 9. That the speed limit on the Manchester Bridge from its intersection with Byrd Street to its intersection with Semmes Avenue shall be 35 miles per hour.

§ 10. That the speed limit on U.S. Route 1 from its intersection with Rowe Street to its intersection with Riverside Drive shall be 35 miles per hour.

§ 11. That the Department of Public Works shall install and maintain appropriate signs along the aforementioned portions of these streets indicating the speed limits established by this ordinance.

§ 12. This ordinance shall be in force and effect 60 days after the date of adoption.



Richmond City Council

The Voice of the People

Richmond, Virginia

Office of the Council Chief of Staff

Ordinance/Resolution Request

TO Haskell Brown, Interim City Attorney

THROUGH Joyce Davis, Interim Council Chief of Staff

FROM Steven Taylor, Council Policy Analyst

COPY Michael Jones, 9th District Council Member
Dominique Thaxton, 9th District Liaison
Tabrica Rentz, Interim Deputy City Attorney

DATE October 28, 2021

PAGE/s 1 of 2

TITLE Establishing a City Wide Maximum Speed Limit of 35 mph

This is a request for the drafting of an **Ordinance** ☒ **Resolution** ☐

REQUESTING COUNCILMEMBER/PATRON

Jones

SUGGESTED STANDING COMMITTEE

LUHT

ORDINANCE/RESOLUTION SUMMARY

The patron requests that legislation be drafted for Council's consideration establishing a maximum speed limit of the 35 mph throughout the City, where legally permissible, effective 90 days from the date of passage of the proposed limit.

Note: This proposal does not seek to increase limits where it is already lower than 35 mph or regulate those roadways that are controlled by State and federal laws governing speed limits that are within the City limits.

BACKGROUND

The patron hopes to prevent speeding, collisions, and lessen the severity of accidents and collisions that might occur on the City's roadways with a lower speed limit throughout the jurisdiction. Various residents and businesses, in different parts of the City, have petitioned their Council Members and the City's Administration to address speeding concerns after a number of auto crashes and increased incidents of speeding - some of which have included fatalities and costly property damage. Generally, these petitions have led to piece-meal

attempts around the City to install stop signs, lower limits, and installation of bump-outs, speed tables, and traffic circles. These approaches have not lessened the overall speeding problems throughout the City leading to this proposal lowering overall speed limits.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Fiscal Impact Yes ☐ No ☒

Budget Amendment Required Yes ☐ No ☒

Estimated Cost or Revenue Impact \$ N/A

Note: We are not able to estimate cost of signage changes and labor at this writing.

Attachment/s Yes ☐ No ☒