

INTRODUCED: November 14, 2016

AN ORDINANCE No. 2016-280

To reduce the speed limit on Virginia State Route 161, also known as Park Drive, between its intersection with Blanton Avenue and its intersection with Pump House Drive from 35 miles per hour to 25 miles per hour.

Patron – Mr. Agelasto

Approved as to form and legality
by the City Attorney

PUBLIC HEARING: DEC 12 2016 AT 6 P.M.

WHEREAS, the speed limit on Virginia State Route 161, also known as Park Drive, between its intersection with Blanton Avenue and its intersection with Pump House Drive is currently 35 miles per hour; and

WHEREAS, this portion of Virginia State Route 161 passes through a nationally recognized area that encompasses Maymont, the Dogwood Dell amphitheater, the War Memorial Carillon, and William Byrd Park, and this roadway is currently an area frequented by bicyclists, pedestrians, and neighborhood vehicular traffic; and

WHEREAS, the Council believes that the number of bicyclists, pedestrians, and automobiles in the area warrants a decrease in the speed limit to reduce the growing likelihood of

AYES: 9 NOES: 0 ABSTAIN: _____

ADOPTED: DEC 12 2016 REJECTED: _____ STRICKEN: _____

collisions between bicyclists, pedestrians, and automobiles on this portion of Virginia State Route 161; and

WHEREAS, it is the consensus of the Council of the City of Richmond that it would be in the best interest of the citizens of the City of Richmond and especially of those who travel through and frequent the portion of Virginia State Route 161, also known as Park Drive, to reduce the speed limit on Virginia State Route 161, also known as Park Drive, between its intersection with Blanton Avenue and its intersection with Pump House Drive to 25 miles per hour; and

WHEREAS, section 2-428 of the Code of the City of Richmond (2015), 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 an 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;

NOW, THEREFORE,

THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEREBY ORDAINS:

§ 1. That the speed limit on Virginia State Route 161, also known as Park Drive, between its intersection with Blanton Avenue and its intersection with Pump House Drive is hereby reduced to 25 miles per hour.

§ 2. This ordinance shall be in force and effect upon completion of the traffic engineering investigation required by section 46.2-878(A) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended.



Richmond City Council

The Voice of the People

Richmond, Virginia

Office of the Council Chief of Staff

Ordinance/Resolution Request

TO Allen Jackson, City Attorney

THROUGH Lou Ali, Council Chief of Staff *W*

FROM Steven Taylor, Council Policy Analyst *ST*

COPY Parker Agelasto, 5th District Council Member
Amy Robins, 5th District Liaison
Haskell Brown, Deputy City Attorney
Meghan Brown, Council Deputy Chief of Staff *MKB*

DATE November 4, 2016

PAGE/s 1 of 2

TITLE Impose a 25 mph speed limit on Virginia State Rt 161 from the Nickel Bridge to the Boulevard in general vicinity of Byrd Park and Dogwood Dell.

RECEIVED

NOV 04 2016

OFFICE OF CITY ATTORNEY

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

REQUESTING COUNCILMEMBER/PATRON

P. Agelasto

SUGGESTED STANDING COMMITTEE

Public Safety

ORDINANCE/RESOLUTION SUMMARY

Patron requests that legislation be drafted for Council's consideration that would lower the speed limit on Virginia State Route 161 along Park Drive and Blanton Avenue between the RMA toll plaza at Pumphouse Drive ("The Nickel Bridge," officially called the Boulevard Bridge, vicinity) and the Christopher Columbus statue at the intersection of Grant Street and S. Boulevard, from 35 mph to 25 mph.

BACKGROUND

The current posted speed limit in this area is 35 mph. This portion of Rt. 161 passes through a nationally recognized historic area that encompasses Maymont, Dogwood Dell, The Carillon (which serves as Virginia's WWI Memorial), and William Byrd Park.

Generally, this area has many active recreational areas such as the VITA course, tennis courts, Fountain Lake and baseball fields. As a result many pedestrians and cyclists are in this area.



Richmond City Council

The Voice of the People

Richmond, Virginia

The Honorable Parker C. Agelasto

Councilman, Central 5th Voter District

October 31, 2016

Mr. Michael Sawyer
Department of Public Works
City Traffic Engineer
900 E. Broad Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Mr. Sawyer:

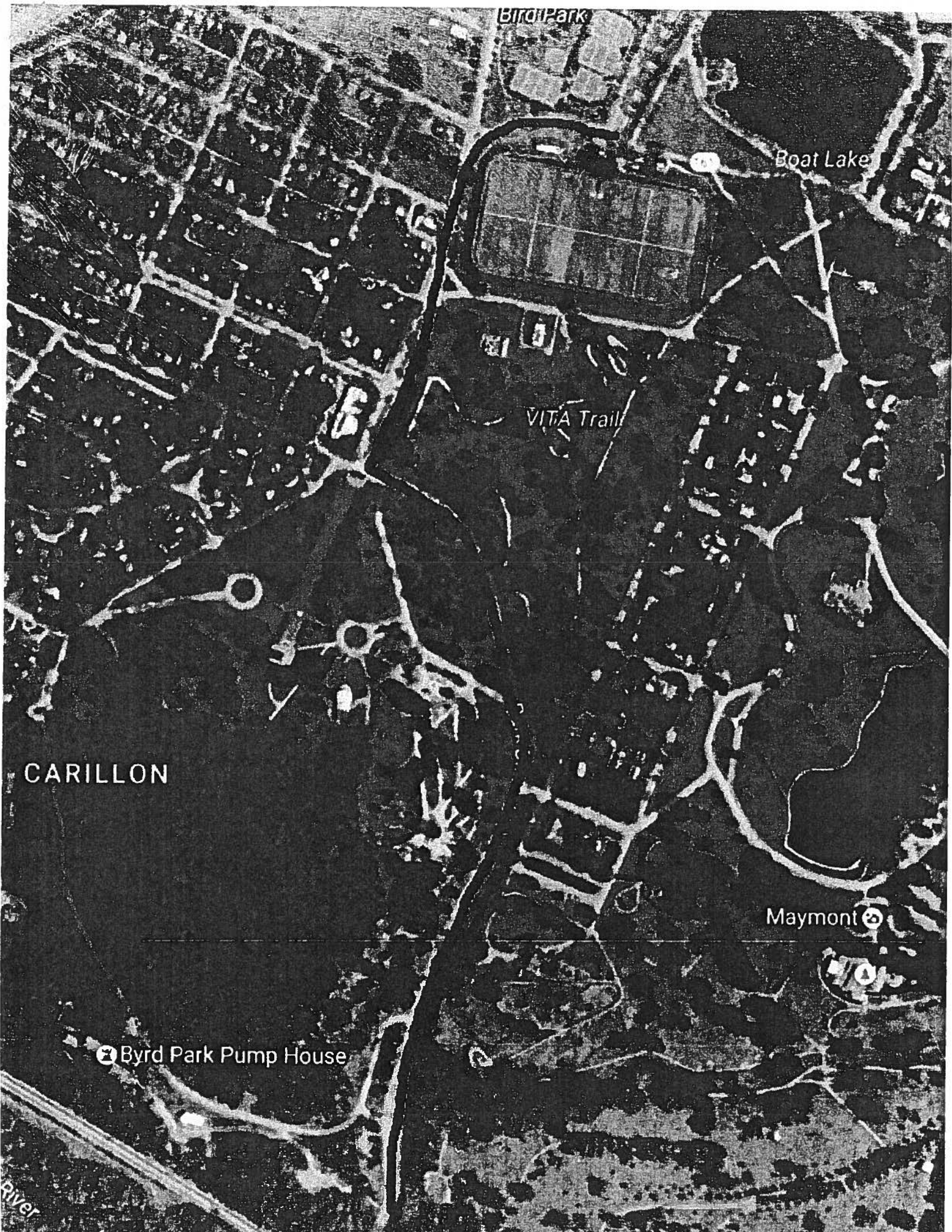
I am requesting that the Department of Public Works reduce the speed from 35 mph to 25 mph on Rt. 161 (Park Drive, Blanton Ave) between the Boulevard Bridge and S. Boulevard. This request is a result of residents concerned over the public safety for the people recreating (walking, jogging, biking) in the area.

Per ordinance 2004-144-157 adopted June 14, 2004; please accept this written request in lieu of a petition. Thank you for your assistance with this process. Please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "P. Agelasto", written over a circular stamp or mark.

Parker C. Agelasto
Richmond City Council, 5th District



Byrd Park

Boat Lake

VITA Trail

CARILLON

Maymont

Byrd Park Pump House

river