



Local Authority for Reducing Speed Limits

Board Transportation Committee
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Presentation Outline

- Overview of local authority
- 20 mph speed limits in other jurisdictions
- VDOT process and recommendations
- Implementation – pilot study and beyond
- Questions and feedback

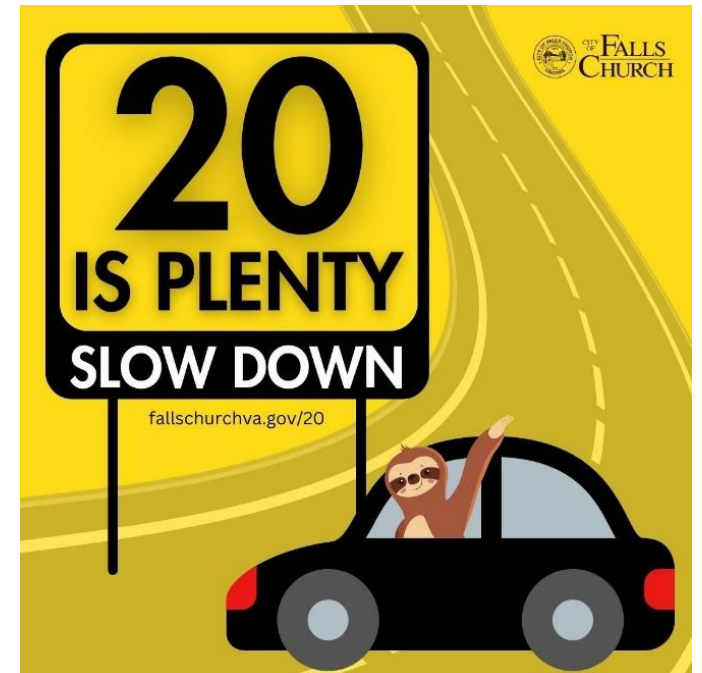
Local Authority to Reduce Speed Limits (HB 1071)

- May by ordinance reduce speed limits to less than 25 mph but not less than 15 mph
- Candidate roads must:
 - Have existing posted speed limit of **25 mph** (indicated by lawfully placed signs)
 - Be located in a business district or residence district
- Locality shall provide written notice to VDOT 30 days prior to changing a speed limit



20 mph Speed Limits in Other Jurisdictions

- Residential streets: City of Falls Church, VA
- Case-by-Case on Local Roads: Montgomery County, MD
- Tiered Approach by Road Type
 - Washington, DC
 - Portland, OR
 - Seattle, WA
 - Cambridge, MA



VDOT Process



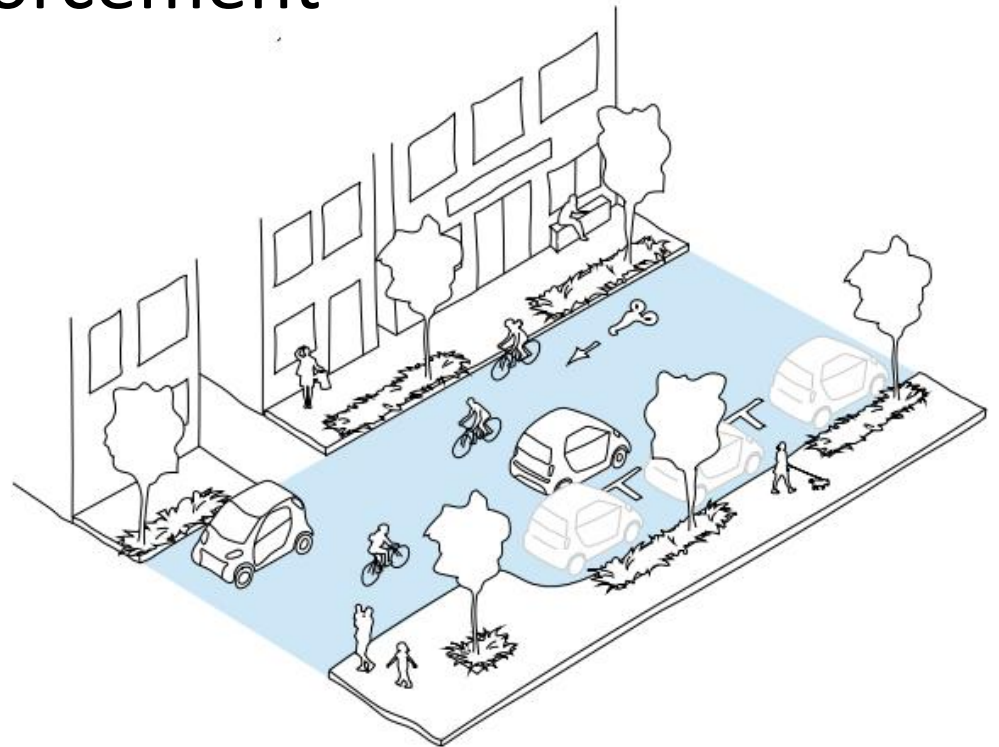
VDOT Guidance Document

- School zone speed limits
- Traffic signals
- Sign procurement and installation



VDOT Recommendations

- Develop process with local law enforcement
- Apply to roads with self-enforcing characteristics:
 - On-street parking
 - Pedestrian activity
 - Sidewalks
 - Marked crosswalks
- Minimum length = 0.2 mi (1000 ft)



Source: NACTO City Limits

Pilot Study Implementation

- Recommend reduced speed limit = 20 mph
- Number of pilot roads
 - Implementation capacity with existing staff
- Pilot road selection
 - BOS, FCDOT develop list of candidate pilot roads
 - Vulnerability Index
 - Roadway characteristics
- Community engagement



Beyond Pilot Study

- Pilot evaluation
 - Before and after speed studies
 - Feedback from FCPD, BOS offices, residents
- Future implementation considerations
 - Road selection process
 - Equity considerations
 - Prioritization
 - Community engagement
 - Funding/Resource Needs
 - Impacts to existing programs (RTAP)
 - VDOT process
 - Signage





Feedback Requested from the Board:

- Feedback on pilot study
 - Pilot number of streets and selection process
 - Reduced speed limit (20 mph?)
- Feedback on implementation beyond pilot study

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