



Preliminary Discussion: Local Authority for Setting Speed Limits

Board Transportation Committee

September 17, 2024

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Presentation Outline

- History
- Overview of HB 1071
- Information for In-Depth October BTC discussion
 - Reduced speed limits in other jurisdictions
 - Implementation parameters in Fairfax County
 - VDOT guidance
 - Input from other county departments

History

- 2021: General Assembly passed legislation authorizing local governments to reduce speed limits
 - VDOT: Legislation does not apply to state highway system (most roads within Fairfax County)
- Fairfax County 2023, 2024 Legislative Programs
 - Board Initiative to request authority to reduce speed limits
- HB 1071 passed and became effective July 1, 2024



HB 1071

- Amends §§ 46.2-878 and 46.2-1300 of the Code of Virginia to provide that the governing body of any county, city, or town may by ordinance reduce speed limits to less than 25 mph but not less than 15 mph (and restore the speed limit previously posted) on any highway within their respective boundary's including those in the state system for which the existing posted speed limit is 25 miles per hour, where such highways are located in a business district or residence district, and such reduced or restored speed limits are indicated by lawfully placed signs.



Items for October BTC Discussion

- Reduced speed limits in other jurisdictions
- Implementation
 - Consider equity when prioritizing roads
 - Impacts to existing programs (speed cameras, RTAP)
- VDOT guidance and requirements
- Resources
 - Staff, sign materials and future maintenance
- Input from other County Departments
 - OCA, FCPD



Feedback Requested from the Board

- Feedback on items to discuss, information to be presented at October BTC meeting

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