Town of Middleburg

County of Loudoun

10 West Marshall Street Post Office Box 187 Middleburg, Virginia 20118-0187 Telephone: 540-687-5152 Fax: 540-687-3804



TOWN COUNCIL
Trowbridge M. Littleton, Mayor

Chris W. Bernard, Vice-Mayor
Pamela Curran
J. Kevin Daly
Bud Jacobs
Darlene Kirk
Peter Leonard-Morgan
Cindy C. Pearson

Danny Davis, Town Manager

January 30, 2024

Transportation Infrastructure and Funding Subcommittee Committee on Transportation Virginia House of Delegates

VIA EMAIL

RE: HB793 – Speed Limit Reductions – Local Authority

Committee on Transportation Members,

The Town of Middleburg requests that you support House Bill 793 (HB793) that is currently in the House Committee on Transportation. This bill gives any local governing body the authority to reduce speed limits in a business district or residence district and would be important to the Town of Middleburg for enhancing safety in our historic downtown.

HB793 clarifies language approved last year that gave this authority to localities. Since that time, VDOT has taken the position that only localities that maintain their own roadways were given the authority to reduce speed limits.

While the Town has disagreed with VDOT's position, we have also been unsuccessful in obtaining an adequate response to our request to reduce speed limits in Town. HB793 would give Middleburg the authority to make this determination based on our particular needs and community preferences.

As you may know, Middleburg is historic and has a thriving downtown business district. We have a significant number of visitors, business owners, and residents that walk through down and cross Route 50 on a daily basis. Our particular needs may not always fit the VDOT standard model that is used across the Commonwealth.

For the safety of our pedestrians and drivers, we believe the opportunity to reduce speed limits will reduce accidents, prevent serious injuries (and even death), and ensure enjoyment of our Town roadways for years to come. Thank you for supporting HB793, and please let us know if you need any additional information.

Please feel free to reach out directly to me with any questions regarding this position at <u>blittleton@middleburgva.gov</u> or by phone at 571-276-7730, or to our Town Manager, Danny Davis, at <u>ddavis@middleburgva.gov</u> or 571-209-0523.

Sincerely,

Trowbridge M. Littleton Mayor, Town of Middleburg