



**Resolution supporting a decrease in the speed limit
on Telegraph Road in the Newington area**



Whereas, Telegraph Road (Route 611) is a arterial roadway that varies from two to four lanes with turn lanes running northeast to southwest between Richmond Highway in Lorton and Duke Street in Alexandria, serving several communities across Fairfax County and the City of Alexandria,

Whereas, Telegraph Road is one of the oldest roads in Fairfax County and a key north-south arterial road in the south and eastern part of the County that roughly parallels Interstate 95 and Route One. Historically a two-lane rural road prior to the 1980's, much of Telegraph Road has seen a significant amount of residential development since then,

Whereas, shopping centers Landsdowne Centre and Hilltop Village draw traffic along Telegraph from the Fairfax County Parkway as well as Fort Belvoir and the National Museum of the Army, measuring 24,075 average daily traffic,

Whereas, a 1.5 mile stretch of Telegraph Road consists of four lanes of traffic, bike lanes, and pedestrian walkways bisecting the communities of Hollybrook Farms, Hunter Estates, Hunterwoods, Mount Air, Newberry Station, Raceway Farms, Twinbrook at Mount Air, Winstead Manor, and the Village at Mount Air,

Whereas, those communities collectively form the NewingtonVA.org community association, a permanent member of the South County Federation since April 2017,

Whereas, the 2002 VDOT widening of Telegraph to four lanes has promoted average speeds to increase to well in excess of the 45-mph legacy speed limit, as well as corresponding increases in pedestrian and bicycle traffic in the improved four-lane cross-section. The development of the Hilltop Village and Landsdowne Center shopping centers has magnified the increase in bike and pedestrian traffic along both sides of the road as well,

Whereas, relative to bicycle traffic, which has correspondingly increased, the dangers posed by high-speed traffic traveling 55 to 60 mph alongside bicycles is of grave concern to these communities. On the Fairfax County Parkway, bicycles and vehicles are physically separated from drivers at those speeds.

Whereas, relative to pedestrian traffic, crosswalk opportunities are very limited having only one crosswalk within the roughly 1.5-mile stretch of residential development. This has led to an increase in jaywalking across Telegraph Road and near-misses between pedestrians and vehicles that have been documented by NewingtonVA.org,

Whereas, Alden Hill and other communities in Franconia District have asked to reduce the 45-mph speed limit and received approval of reductions to 35 mph on Beulah Street and 40 mph on Telegraph, from Beulah to Jeff Todd Way,

Whereas, in May 2024, the Virginia General Assembly granted authority to local jurisdictions to adjust speed limits on roads maintained by the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT),

Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the South County Federation supports the request of the NewingtonVA.org community association that the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors instruct VDOT to decrease the posted speed limit on Telegraph Road from Fairfax County Parkway to Beulah Street from 45 mph to 35 mph, matching the similar residential area on Beulah.

Further be it resolved that this stretch of Terminal Road receive additional attention from law enforcement in order to provide for the safety of all who use it.



President

7/15/2026

Date