

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: MAY 4, 2001

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: PHILIP SUNDERLAND, CITY MANAGER *PS*

SUBJECT: PROPOSED ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES TO ESTABLISH CERTAIN ELECTRICALLY OPERATED SIGNALS AND DEVICES

ISSUE: Consideration of an ordinance to authorize the director of transportation and environmental services to establish certain electrically operated traffic signals and devices.

RECOMMENDATION: That council pass the ordinance on first reading and set it for public hearing, second reading and final passage on Saturday, May 12, 2001.

DISCUSSION: Under current law, the establishment of all electrically operated traffic signals and devices requires specific approval by the City Council. This requirement for Council action extends to pedestrian crossing signals, flashing warning lights, and similar devices, as well as to traffic lights.

The proposed ordinance amends the city code to authorize the director of transportation and environmental services to establish all electrically operated traffic signals and devices, other than traffic lights, without specific approval by the City Council. Thus, the director will be authorized to install pedestrian crossing signals, flashing warning lights, and similar devices. In addition, the proposed ordinance ratifies the installation by the director of all electrically operated traffic signals and devices, other than traffic lights, which may have previously been installed without Council's action.

Because this amendment will streamline the installation of pedestrian safety and other traffic calming signals and devices, while continuing to reserve to council the approval of traffic lights, I recommend approval of the ordinance.

STAFF: Richard Baier, Director, T&ES

EXHIBIT NO. 2

19
5-8-01

Introduction and first reading:
Public hearing:
Second reading and enactment:

5/08/01
5/12/01
5/12/01

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED ORDINANCE

Title

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Section 10-2-7 (TRAFFIC CONTROLS REQUIRING ACTION BY CITY COUNCIL) of Article A (TRAFFIC DIVISION), Chapter 2 (TRAFFIC REGULATION), Title 10 (MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC), of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981.

Summary

The proposed ordinance authorizes the director of transportation and environmental services to establish electrically operated signals or devices, other than traffic lights, without specific approval by city council. Current law requires that council approve all electrically operated signals or devices, including pedestrian crossing signals, flashing warning lights, and other similar devices.

Sponsor

Staff

Richard J. Baier, Director, Department
of Transportation and Environmental Services
Ignacio B. Pessoa, City Attorney

Authority

§ 2.04(g), Alexandria City Charter

Estimated Costs of Implementation

None

Attachments in Addition to Proposed Ordinance and its Attachments (if any)

None

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Section 10-2-7 (TRAFFIC CONTROLS REQUIRING ACTION BY CITY COUNCIL) of Article A (TRAFFIC DIVISION), Chapter 2 (TRAFFIC REGULATION), Title 10 (MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC), of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

Section 1. That Section 10-2-7 of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended, be, and the same hereby is, amended to read as follows:

Sec. 10-2-7 Traffic controls requiring action by city council.

The following shall be established by the director of transportation and environmental services only when authorized by action of the city council:

- (1) one-way streets;
- (2) parking meter zones;
- (3) ~~any electrically operated signal or device~~ traffic lights;
- (4) prohibition of parking on more than one-half of any city block, including both street sides;
- (5) transit routes, and
- (6) truck routes.

Section 2. That the establishment by the director of transportation and environmental services of any electrically operated signal or device, other than traffic lights, on or before the effective date of this ordinance, and without action by the city council, be, and the same hereby is, ratified and confirmed.

Section 3. That this ordinance shall become effective upon the date and at the time of its final passage.

KERRY J. DONLEY
Mayor

Introduction: 5/8/01
 First Reading: 5/8/01
 Publication:
 Public Hearing:
 Second Reading:
 Final Passage:

N.B. Underlining is not part of the ordinance but denotes language that is new or amended. Strike-outs or dashes are not part of the ordinance, but denote material that is being deleted.

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