

## TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE TRAFFIC RESTRICTIONS AND SIGNAGE POLICY

Under the provisions of the Municipal Code of the Town of Chevy Chase, “all laws, ordinances and regulations enacted by the state and county with respect to the operation of motor or other types of vehicles are in effect in the town. The town council, however, reserves the right to establish more rigorous restrictions on the operation of motor or other types of vehicles in the public interest.” This policy delineates the decision process to be followed by the Town in considering such additional restrictions and their implementation, including appropriate signage.

### REQUESTS RELATED TO OPERATION OF MOTOR VEHICLES

A request related to restrictions on the operation of motor vehicles within the Town may originate with

1. an individual
2. the Public Services Committee
3. the Town Council

Such requests may include, but are not limited to:

1. Speed limits
2. Stop signs
3. Parking restrictions
4. One-way, do not enter and turning restrictions
5. Warning signs

Requests from individuals should be submitted to the Town. Petitions from multiple individuals are not required. The request should specify the change(s) requested and state the reason(s) for the request. Any existing roadway conditions which support the request should be noted, which may include the following, as appropriate:

- history of traffic accidents or vehicular/pedestrian crashes
- identified or documented evidence of speeding or other violations of traffic laws
- proximity to schools and other pedestrian destinations, such as the Leland Center, transit stops, parks, and places of worship
- data from past traffic studies
- other unique circumstances that support the proposed change

### EVALUATION OF REQUESTS

The Town Council may refer the request to the Town’s Public Services Committee for its consideration and recommendation. The Town may invite public comment at any time it deems appropriate. If the Town Council determines that the change(s) may be warranted, then it may commission an engineering study to evaluate the proposal and its feasibility, considering factors such as:

- Whether the change is an appropriate way to address the underlying concern;
- What is the potential benefit of the change;

- Whether there are potential adverse effects, such as introduction of new safety concerns, including pedestrian safety;
- Whether there are potential unintended effects, such as significant alterations in traffic patterns;
- Whether the change can be implemented in conformance with existing standards of traffic control and safety;
- Whether there are alternative solutions to the stated problem that the Town might consider.

The results of the study will be available to the public.

#### CITIZEN INPUT AND FINAL DECISION

If the Town Council wishes to proceed with consideration of the proposed change following review of the engineering study, then the Town will hold a public hearing to consider the proposal. The Town will provide sufficient written notice of the public hearing to those residents on the blocks that are directly affected and will use other available communication means to inform all Town residents of the same. Any resident may attend the public hearing and testify.

Following the public hearing and consideration of any written comments provided in response to the public hearing, the Town Council will make a final decision as to the proposed change.

*Adopted by Council 2/13/08*