

TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
4229 Edmonston Road
Bladensburg, Maryland

Introduced: Takisha James on behalf of the Town Administration

Adopted: September 14, 2026

PROPOSED | RESOLUTION NO: 5 – 2027

**A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH SCHOOL ZONES ON TOWN HIGHWAYS WITHIN
ONE-HALF MILE OF A SCHOOL.**

WHEREAS, § 21-803.1(a)(1) of the Transportation Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland provides that, within a half-mile radius of any school, a local authority may establish a school zone and maximum speed limits applicable in the school zone; and

WHEREAS, § 21-803.1(a)(2)(iii) of the Transportation Article provides that, in Prince George’s County, a municipal corporation may establish a school zone on any highway that is not under State jurisdiction and is located within the corporate limits of the municipal corporation; and

WHEREAS, § 21-803.1(b)(2) of the Transportation Article requires that the signs designating a school zone indicate the maximum speed limit applicable in the school zone; and

WHEREAS, § 112-4.A of the Code of the Town of Bladensburg provides that the Town Administrator, in consultation with the Police Department, may authorize the placement, removal, or modification of traffic control devices and signs determined to be for the protection of traffic and persons in the Town, and § 112-3.B makes it unlawful to disregard or disobey the message of any traffic control device regulating speed; and

WHEREAS, § 21-803.1(b) of the Transportation Article requires that signs designating a school zone be placed in accordance with specifications of the State Highway Administration and indicate the maximum speed limit applicable in the school zone, and § 21-803.1(c) provides that a maximum speed limit in a school zone is in effect when posted on appropriate signs giving notice of the limit; and

WHEREAS, several schools serving children are located within or immediately adjacent to the corporate limits of the Town, and the Mayor and Town Council find that reduced speeds on Town highways in the vicinity of those schools are necessary to protect the safety of children walking to and from school and of other pedestrians and motorists; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Town Council further find that establishing school zones by reference to the statutory half-mile radius and to posted official signage,

rather than by a fixed list of street segments, will permit the Town to respond as school locations, enrollment, and pedestrian routes change over time; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Town Council deem it appropriate to establish school zones on Town highways within the corporate limits, without at this time altering any maximum speed limit.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Bladensburg, pursuant to § 21-803.1(a) of the Transportation Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, that a school zone is hereby established upon every highway that:

- (a) Is located within the corporate limits of the Town of Bladensburg;
- (b) Is not under the jurisdiction of the State of Maryland;
- (c) Lies within a one-half mile radius of a school; and
- (d) Is posted with official signs designating a school zone, placed in accordance with the specifications of the State Highway Administration; and

1. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution does **not** alter any maximum speed limit, and the maximum speed limit applicable within each school zone established by this Resolution shall be the maximum speed limit otherwise lawfully established and posted for that highway, which limit shall be indicated on the signs designating the school zone as required by § 21-803.1(b)(2) of the Transportation Article; and

2. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that for purposes of this Resolution, “school” means any public or nonpublic school serving any grade from prekindergarten through grade twelve; and

3. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Administrator, in consultation with the Chief of Police, is authorized and directed under § 112-4.A of the Town Code to determine the specific limits of each school zone and to cause signs designating the school zones, and such other traffic control devices as may be appropriate, to be placed and maintained in accordance with the specifications of the State Highway Administration; and

4. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Administrator shall maintain a current written list of the street segments designated as school zones under this Resolution, which list shall be available for public inspection at the Town Hall and posted on the Town website, and shall provide a copy of the list to the Mayor and Town Council upon any change; and

5. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a school zone established by this Resolution is in effect only upon the placement of official signs designating it, as provided in § 21-803.1(b) and (c) of the Transportation Article, and the Town shall

be responsible for the cost of placing and maintaining such signs, as provided in § 21-803.1(b)(4); and

6. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution does not establish a school zone on any highway under the jurisdiction of the State of Maryland, and the Town Administrator is directed to request that the State Highway Administration establish school zones on such highways within the corporate limits where warranted, as provided in § 21-803.1(a)(2)(i) of the Transportation Article; and

7. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that nothing in this Resolution limits the applicability of § 21-803.1(e) of the Transportation Article, under which a person may not drive a motor vehicle at a speed exceeding the posted speed limit within a school zone, or of any other provision of State law governing school zones; and

8. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED by the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Bladensburg, Maryland, at a regular meeting on September 14, and thereafter this Resolution was prominently posted in the Town Hall and available for inspection by the public.

By Order of the Mayor and Town Council

ATTEST:

TOWN OF BLADENSBURG

Brian Wood, Acting Town Clerk

Takisha James, Mayor

Approved as to Administration:

Brian Wood, Town Administrator