



# CITY OF FALLS CHURCH

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**DATE:** June 7, 2023

**TO:** Members, Citizens Advisory Committee on Transportation

**FROM:** Zoe Larive, Planner

**SUBJECT:** Greenway Downs NTC Neighborhood Vote

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## **Project Background:**

The City of Falls Church received a federal grant from VDOT to develop and implement a neighborhood-wide traffic calming and pedestrian safety plan for the section of the City known as Greenway Downs. The streets included in the Study Area are Seaton Lane, W Rosemary Lane, Jackson St, W Marshall St, W George Mason Rd, W Greenway Blvd and W Cameron Rd.

This project is being undertaken at the request of several residents and is operated through the City's Neighborhood Traffic Calming (NTC) program which required the formation of a Working Group of residents for each street to work with staff and other residents in the development of plans to address speeding and pedestrian safety issues. Through the working groups guidance and an engineering consultant hired by the City, solutions and plans were developed for each street in the Study Area. Following the development of the 30% plans, submission to VDOT, and a public meeting, the plans were put to a neighborhood vote. The plans included 5 intersection reworks, 5 crosswalks, a walking path and 17 speed humps.

## **Neighborhood Voting Procedure:**

The Neighborhood Vote is required and described by the NTC Handbook. The vote ran from April 28, 2023 - May 19, 2023 with any mailed in votes postmarked by May 19, 2023 being accepted. Only one ballot per address was counted. Voters whose property was on the corner of two streets were able to fill out ballots for both streets. Each street's vote was independent of the others. The vote was limited to the proposed speedhumps, with the other proposed measures, such as the bump outs and walking trail were not up for a vote and will be constructed as a CIP project.

Ballots were sent by mail to all property owners on the effected streets with information about the project and a map of the proposed measures. An online ballot was also sent to working group members and other property owners who inquired via email. The ballot asked for the voters' name, email address, address, vote on proposed measures, and for any comments.

As dictated by the NTC Handbook, for a vote to pass the majority of those property owners, or 51% and above, must vote yes to the proposed measures. If a vote does not meet that threshold the vote will not pass and the measures will not be constructed.

### **Neighborhood Vote Results:**

The City received a total of 210 votes. Of the ballots received 72 were online ballots, 128 mailed in ballots, and 11 emailed ballots. 10 of the received ballots were disqualified due to being duplicates from the same household or being from properties not directly on or adjacent to the streets with proposed measures. Of the 200 valid ballots, 144 voters voted yes on the proposed measures and 56 voted no. The breakdown by street is listed below:

<b>Street</b>	<b># Properties</b>	<b># Votes</b>	<b># Yes</b>	<b># No</b>	<b>% Yes</b>	<b>Passed</b>
Seaton	46	28	20	8	71.4%	Yes
Rosemary	45	32	24	8	75%	Yes
Jackson	42	29	19	10	65.6%	Yes
Marshall	42	27	20	7	74.1%	Yes
George Mason	42	27	18	9	66.7%	Yes
Greenway	45	31	25	6	80.6%	Yes
Cameron	51	26	18	8	69.2%	Yes

All streets had over 50% participation. Each street received over 50% “yes” votes (all but one received 66% or more “yes” vote). By the NTC Program, all measures will proceed to 60% designs and construction.