

AN ORDINANCE to amend Division 1, Article III, Chapter 22 of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1963, as amended, by adding thereto a new section numbered 22-49.1; which Chapter 22 relates to MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC, which Article III relates to OPERATION OF VEHICLES, which Division 1 relates to IN GENERAL and which new section 22-49.1 relates to COMMUTER BUS LANES.

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to facilitate the rapid and orderly movement of traffic through the City of Alexandria during peak traffic periods; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to encourage the use of mass transit facilities; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is of the opinion that the creation of exclusive commuter bus lanes is an effective method of facilitating the rapid and orderly movement of traffic and commuters through the City of Alexandria during peak traffic periods; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is of the opinion that the North Washington Street corridor is a congested area which would benefit greatly from the establishment of a commuter bus lane; therefore

THE CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

Section 1. That Division 1, Article III, Chapter 22 of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1963, as amended, be and the same hereby is amended by adding thereto a new section numbered 22-49.1 to read as follows:

Sec. 22-49.1. Commuter bus lanes.

(a) The east curb lane of North Washington Street from the northeast corner of Cameron Street and North Washington Street, north to its intersection with the east curb lane of East Abingdon Drive and then north along the east curb lane of East Abingdon Drive to its intersection with the George Washington Memorial Parkway is designated a commuter bus lane.

(b) The commuter bus lane reservation will be in effect during the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 am., Monday through Friday, excepting legal holidays.

(c) The commuter bus lane designated in (a) above, shall be reserved for the exclusive use of any bus whether publicly or privately operated during the specified hours except as provided in (d)(1), (d)(2), and (d)(3) below.

(d) No other vehicles will be allowed to be operated in the commuter bus lane during the specified hours except for the following purposes:

(1) Turning right at the next intersection where a right turn is permitted or to turn right at any entrance before the next intersection.

(2) Turning right onto North Washington Street. Such maneuver will require the operator to merge into the adjacent lane before crossing the next intersection that permits a right turn unless the driver turns right at or before the intersection.

(3) Stopping momentarily to pick up or discharge a person.

(e) The operator of any vehicle, other than a bus, continuing across an intersection in the commuter bus lane and not turning right where such a turn is permitted, or stopping or standing in the commuter bus lane longer than momentarily, will be in violation of this section.

(f) Signs designating the commuter bus lane shall include the times and days that the restriction is in effect and will be plainly posted along the entirety of the route, two per block. A sign will be posted in the block preceding the first block of the commuter bus lane and will indicate that the commuter bus lane will begin in the following block. The commuter bus lane designation signs shall be of a design approved by the Virginia State Highway Commission, and the Alexandria City Council.

(g) Any person operating a vehicle in a designated commuter bus lane in violation of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be fined not less than ten nor more than fifty dollars.

Section 2. That this ordinance shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation published in the city not later than five days following its introduction together with a notice containing the time and place for a public hearing. The clerk of the council shall note the date of introduction and first reading, the date of publication, the date of the public hearing, and the date of the second reading and final passage in the minutes of the meeting. This ordinance shall become effective July 3, 1973.

Charles E. Beatley, Jr.
Mayor

Final Passage: June 26, 1973