



Solomons Civic Association
PO Box 575
Solomons, MD 20688

The Honorable Chair Kumar Barve
Environment and Transportation
6 Bladen Street, Room 251
Annapolis, MD 21401

February 17, 2020

Dear Chair Barve:

I am writing on behalf of the Solomons Civic Association (SCA) to urge the Maryland House of Delegates to approve the bill granting the Calvert County Board of County Commissioners authority to lower the speed limit on Solomons' secondary roads from 25 miles per hour to 15 miles per hour.

Excessive vehicle speed on Solomons has been a longtime issue for both residents and visitors and was a topic of widespread concern at the last four SCA meetings.

As you may know Solomons was first settled 150 years ago as a remote oystering and fishing village. It is now a busy residential neighborhood, commercial town center and a popular tourist destination with an elementary school, three churches, several marinas, restaurants, shops, galleries, two bed & breakfasts, professional offices, the Solomons Riverwalk and Pavilion, the Solomons Island Yacht Club, the Southern Maryland Sailing Association, the Calvert Marine Museum and the Chesapeake Biological Lab.

The few, narrow secondary streets have no sidewalks and host:

- Residents and overnight visitors on foot, bikes and in cars
- Our Lady Star of the Sea students and staff on foot, in buses and carpools
- Parishioners from three churches
- Restaurant and bar traffic including customers, employees and delivery trucks
- Gallery and shop owners and patrons
- Tourists and students visiting the Calvert Marine Museum for concerts, festivals and field trips
- Locals and visitors attending the Fourth of July Fireworks and Taste of the Town events
- Local and transient boat owners with trailers and touring on bikes from 3 marinas
- Runners and walkers in the many 5K charity events
- Joggers and dogwalkers
- Casual and avid bicyclists

- Baby stroller groups from local neighborhoods
- A busy Halloween scene for families with young children

The citizens of Solomons are concerned with this bustling and ever-changing mix of users on our narrow side streets. Lowering the speed limit from 25 to 15 mph could save lives.

Thank you for your support of this safety measure for our busy village.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 703-217-5641 or mcdougallfamily@comcast.net.

Warm regards and many thanks,

Jean McDougall
Secretary, Solomons Civic Association