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AMESBURY CITY CLERK

SPONSORED BY: Kassandra Gove **BILL No. 2021-048**  
**Kassandra Gove, Mayor**

SPONSORED BY: Pam Gilday  
**Pam Gilday, Councilor**

**An Order** to enable reduction of the speed limit from 30 miles per hour to 25 miles per hour in thickly settled and business districts.

**Summary:** This Order will authorize the City of Amesbury to accept the provisions of MGL Chapter 90, Section 17C, allowing the City to reduce the posted speed limit from 30 miles per hour to 25 miles per hour on roadways in thickly settled and business districts, and to amend the City's Traffic and Parking Regulations consistent therewith.

**Be it Ordered by the City Council of the City of Amesbury assembled, and by the authority of the same as follows:**

Whereas, the City streets are currently subject to a speed limit of 30 miles per hour; and

Whereas, by accepting the provisions of MGL Chapter 90, Section 17C, the City of Amesbury may establish a speed limit of 25 miles per hour on any roadway inside a thickly settled or business district in the City on any way that is not a state highway, providing an added level of safety to people residing along these streets and to all people traveling along those streets, be it walking, jogging, biking, or driving; and

Whereas, the 5 miles per hour reduction is one of several traffic calming measures available to the City to help address the added traffic volume, and speed of that volume, that exists now and will increase with the current and continued business and residential development expansion taking place in the City; and

Whereas, residents have requested that the City reduce the speed on several streets to 25 miles per hour as allowed by acceptance of MGL Chapter 90, section 17C.

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NOW THEREFORE, the City Council hereby accepts the provisions of MGL Chapter 90, Section 17C to reduce the speed limit uniformly on all thickly settled and business districts streets in Amesbury, from 30 miles per hour to 25 miles per hour.

AND FURTHER, the City Council hereby amends the provisions of Article VII, Section 7-21 of the Traffic and Parking Regulations of the City of Amesbury as it pertains to thickly settled and business districts, unless otherwise posted, by inserting the following language therein:

Notwithstanding any contrary provisions contained herein, a speed limit of 25 miles per hour shall be in effect for any roadway inside a thickly settled or business district in the City on any way that is not a state highway unless otherwise posted.

AND FURTHER, the City shall provide notice to the Division of Highways of its adoption of MGL Chapter 90, Section 17C and may post the 25 miles per hour speed limit, with the express permission of the Division of Highways, on all public ways so affected by such reduction to alert motorists of the change in speed limit. The failure of the City of Amesbury to post the speed limit on any public ways shall not affect the validity or enforcement of the reduced speed limit.

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