



# **Yield to Pedestrian Code Update**

**Introduction and First Reading of Proposed  
Changes to Motor Vehicles and Traffic  
Ordinance**

**City Council**  
December 2023

# Yield to Pedestrians in Crosswalks

Currently:

- City Code § 10-3-924(a): the City **may install and maintain yield signs at marked crosswalks** requiring drivers to yield the right-of-way to pedestrians crossing or attempting to cross the street.
- 2023 legislative session: SB 1069 provided authority to named localities, including Alexandria, to **install signs requiring drivers to stop for pedestrians** crossing or attempting to cross the street. Va. Code § 46.2-924(D).
- **Vision Zero Action Plan** identifies the strategy 2A.4 to “pursue and support state legislation to require drivers to stop, rather than yield, for pedestrians in the crosswalk.”



# Update City Code

- Section 10-3-924(D) - Mirror state legislative language.
- Sec. 10-3-924 - Failure to yield right-of-way to or stop for pedestrians.
- (a) In specifically marked crosswalk. The director of transportation and environmental services is authorized to install and maintain signs at marked crosswalks specifically requiring operators of motor vehicles, at the locations where such signs are installed, to yield the right-of-way to or stop for pedestrians crossing or attempting to cross the street.



# Benefits

- Consistent with Vision Zero goals
- Increases the legal standing to enforce crosswalk infractions
- Safer streets

# Financial Impacts

- Updating signs Citywide
- Up to \$5,000

# Recommendation

That City Council consider the proposed ordinance (Attachment 2) on first reading and schedule it for second reading, public hearing and final passage on Saturday, December 16, 2023.