

ORDINANCE NO. 526

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 18 OF THE CITY CODE REGARDING TRAFFIC TO CREATE NEW ARTICLE VI REGARDING TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES; TO ESTABLISH A MAINTENANCE FEE TO BE COLLECTED FROM REAL PROPERTIES THAT BENEFIT FROM TRAFFIC CALMING DEVICES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, increased congestion on the City's arterial and collector road network, combined with drivers' desires to find shorter and faster travel routes, have caused drivers to seek alternate travel routes by using the City's local and residential neighborhood streets; and

WHEREAS, the City desires through this Ordinance to manage and control the negative impacts of increased traffic volume and speeding that residents in the area often experience by establishing a traffic calming program whereby eligible neighborhoods may petition the City to install traffic calming devices on local and residential streets within their neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to fully fund the installation of approved traffic calming measures but will charge all property owners located within the impacted area an annual maintenance fee of twenty dollars (\$20.00) per traffic calming device, which will be assessed each year on the property owner's property tax bill; and

WHEREAS, the boundary of the impacted area shall be determined by the City Engineer and the Public Works Department and shall include adjoining and/or nearby streets to which traffic may be diverted by virtue of the traffic calming measures; and

WHEREAS, the City finds that an annual maintenance fee is necessary to defray the City's actual costs to maintain the traffic calming measures including, but not limited to, restriping, sign replacements, damage repairs, repairs necessitated by ordinary wear and tear, and replacement; and

WHEREAS, the amount of the annual maintenance fee has been calculated to closely approximate the City's actual costs to maintain and/or replace the traffic calming devices and will be reviewed periodically and potentially modified by the City Council, upon recommendation from the Public Works Department, to ensure that the total revenue generated by said fee is sufficient to meet the cost of maintenance and/or replacement of the traffic calming measures but is not excessive; and

WHEREAS, a policy consistent with the intent of this Ordinance, to be created by the Public Works Department and approved by resolution of the City Council, will express the details of the traffic calming program and shall govern the administration of the City's traffic calming program; and

WHEREAS, the City Council hereby finds this Ordinance to be in the best interest of the health, safety and general welfare of City residents and the general public.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CLARKSTON AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 18 of the City Code concerning traffic is hereby amended by adding a new Article VI to read as follows:

“Article VI. TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES

Sec. 18-56. – Traffic calming program established.

There is established a traffic calming program whereby eligible neighborhoods may petition the city to install traffic calming measures within their neighborhood. The public works department shall create and maintain a traffic calming program policy that the city council shall approve by resolution. Such policy shall contain minimum criteria for the installation of traffic calming measures, the process for submitting and reviewing petitions for traffic calming and the removal of traffic calming measures, and any other matters necessary or incidental to the implementation and administration of the program.

Sec. 18-57. – Council approval of districts.

Prior to the installation of any traffic calming measures, the city council shall approve by resolution the establishment of each such traffic calming district, pursuant to the adopted traffic calming policy. Each address within the area impacted by the proposed traffic calming measures shall receive notice of the city council meeting wherein establishing the traffic calming district will be considered, via U.S. Mail, prior to the city council’s final vote. Upon the approval of a traffic calming district by the city council, each property owner within the district shall be promptly notified, via U.S. Mail, of the approved district and the number of traffic calming devices within the district for which the owner will be assessed an annual fee.

Sec. 18-58. – Annual maintenance fee.

- (a) Each property in the impacted area for traffic calming measures, as defined and identified in the adopted traffic calming policy, shall be assessed an annual fee of twenty dollars (\$20.00) per traffic calming device within the area. Fees collected pursuant to this section shall be separately accounted for and used only for maintenance of traffic calming measures. Such fee will be assessed annually on the property owner’s property tax bill, beginning the year after the devices are installed. Maintenance may include, but is not limited to, tasks such as restriping, sign replacements, damage repairs, repairs necessitated by ordinary wear and tear, and replacement of traffic calming devices.

- (b) The public works department shall periodically compare the annual revenue generated by the maintenance fee to the cost of maintaining traffic calming devices and may recommend adjustments to the fee amount to the city council if costs increase or decrease relative to the revenue generated.

Sec. 18-59----18-60. – Reserved.”

SECTION 2. This Ordinance is intended to be severable. If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence or word of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid, such a decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance. The City Council hereby declares that it would have passed each section, subsection, paragraph, sentence or word of this Ordinance irrespective of the invalidity of any other section, subsection, paragraph, sentence or word.

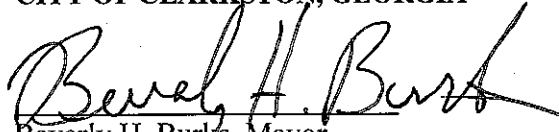
SECTION 3. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its approval by the City Council and signature by the Mayor.

SO ORDAINED, this 2nd day of September, 2025.

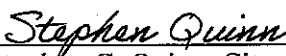
ATTEST:

**CITY COUNCIL,
CITY OF CLARKSTON, GEORGIA**

By 
Tomika R. Mitchell, City Clerk


Beverly H. Burks, Mayor

Approved as to Form:


Stephen G. Quinn, City Attorney

