

Meeting Venue: Zoom conference call

**12 Jan 2021**

**Attendees:**

[Gillian Burgess, Mike Doyle, Cristina Burbach, Michelle Brydges, Debbie Spiliotopoulos, Mary Dallou, Ruth Shearer, Carol Regier, Lauren Hassell, Bob Tretchny]

**Discussion points:**

- ❖ **New day for monthly meetings** - Arlington FSS meetings are being moved to the fourth Wednesday of each month. There will almost certainly be some shuffling of this day each November to avoid the conflict with Thanksgiving.
  
- ❖ **Old Business**
  - **Virginia General Assembly** – 2021 session opens tomorrow. The Virginia General Assembly is a part-time assembly; this session will only last through the end of February. There are limited opportunities to get bills heard during this session.
    - We have two current initiatives before the General Assembly. One (HB 1903) gives local jurisdictions the option to reduce speed limits to 15 MPH. That bill is being heard on Thursday morning. The other is the Bicycle Safety Act, which includes provisions for a “Delaware” safety stop that allows cyclists to yield at stop signs, allows cyclists to ride side by side on streets, and requires cars to move into the adjacent lane in order to pass bicycles.
    - Advocacy for these two initiatives is strongly encouraged. Gillian Burgess has pre-addressed, stamped postcards that can be completed and mailed. The postcards should be completed with a specific mention of the proposed legislation as well as a statement of why the legislation is important to you.

- Another proposed initiative was to allow Automated Speed Enforcement cameras (ASE) to be installed in residential and commercial areas; however we are pausing this initiative until next year. It was noted that this initiative will benefit from statistics gained from other jurisdictions. Alexandria is implementing ASE in school zones and we hope to get some data from there. We should be supporting the implementation of ASE in school zones in Arlington as well, so we can gain data from that as well.
- **Nova Transportation Authority** - it is the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority that funds safe streets initiatives, including changes to local roads and improvement of local multi-use trails. Northern Virginia includes Loudoun, Prince William, Fairfax, Alexandria, and Arlington. Their next meeting is at 7 pm on Thursday evening.
- **Arlington Vision Zero** - The Arlington Board has adopted Vision Zero as County Policy, and is now finalizing a draft plan to realize that goal. Gillian Burgess is the Arlington FSS representative for that drafting. The draft plan is the main topic of a meeting to be held next month.
- **Safe Routes to School** - Lauren Hassell provided an update on this initiative. Mike Doyle has provided Lauren with some “Wear White (and illumination) at Night” flyers that she will distribute.

#### ❖ **New Business**

- **National FSS survivor video/story telling effort** - The national chapters of FSS are gathering stories from families who lost loved ones to vehicle / pedestrian crashes or crash survivors. The goal is to collect these stories as short videos or pictorial to convey the consequences of vehicle violence. National FSS organization will then send this montage to President Biden along with a call to eliminate traffic deaths by 2040. More information on this story telling effort can be found [here](#).

#### ❖ **Upcoming Events**

- Next Arl FSS Meeting – 4th Wednesday of the Month, February 24
- Sister Alx FSS Meeting – 3rd Tuesday of the Month, Jan 19
- Sister Ffx FSS Meeting – 3rd Thursday of the Month, Jan 21
- Arlington meetings:
  - Pedestrian Advisory Committee: Wednesday, 1/13
  - Advisory Committee on Transportation Choices (schools)  
1/14
  - Bicycle Advisory Committee: Monday, 2/1
- NoVa Transportation Authority's annual meeting: Thursday, 1/14  
7pm - **sign up to speak by Wednesday, 1/13 5pm**