

From: Mike Doyle

Sent: Thursday, May 13, 2021 1:10 PM

To: stephen.brich@vdot.virginia.gov; rob.cary@vdot.virginia.gov

Subject: VDOT new district manager for Northern Virginia

Please allow me to introduce our pedestrian / cyclist street safety nonprofit organization, Northern Virginia Families for Safe Streets (NoVA FSS). NoVA FSS's mission is to bring the communities of Alexandria, Arlington County, and Fairfax County together to create safe streets where everyone can travel without risk by:

- Telling impact stories of families who have lost loved ones to vehicle / pedestrian crashes or people who have been seriously injured due to a vehicle crashing into them;
- Educating via street safety programs in schools and at community venues that raise public awareness of street safety risks;
- Helping foster policy changes regarding infrastructure-and traffic laws / penalties; and
- Providing enhanced "Near Miss" data analytics to alert decision makers and citizens to high-risk vehicle and pedestrian/cyclist potential crash locations

We understand that VDOT will be appointing a new Northern Virginia VDOT District Manager. Jurisdictions such as Fairfax, Arlington, Alexandria and, to a lesser extent, Prince Williams and Loudoun counties are becoming more urbanized communities and residents, employees, and tourists are increasingly interested in traveling primarily on foot, by bike, or via transit. We believe it is important for VDOT to appoint a person with a progressive approach when it comes to road infrastructure and traffic regulations.

For example, we urge VDOT to consider exploring alternatives to Level of Service (LOS) paradigm as well reexamine when / how the 85th percentile speed rules are applied. Suggesting that speeds should be increased on roads that have already experienced pedestrian serious injuries / fatalities because drivers are consistently speeding on that road is difficult to understand. NoVA FSS consist of some members who are vehicle / ped-cyclist crash survivors, other members have lost a loved one to vehicle / pedestrian violence plus we count over 1,000 of our members who are just concerned citizens about safety on our streets. More information about us can be found at: <https://novasafestreeets.org> As advocates for all vulnerable road users we are hopeful that VDOT's new Northern Virginia District Manager will be a transportation professional that values all modes of travel and works to support road users of all ages and abilities.

Thank you for all you do for Virginia's transportation system. Ideally NoVA Families for Safe Streets can be a partner with VDOT to explore innovative approaches to street design and transportation systems in Northern Virginia. We look forward to meeting the new District Administrator and working together on new ideas about street safety.

Sincerely,
Mike

Mike Doyle
Founding Member – Northern Virginia Families for Safe Streets (NoVA FSS)