

Arlington's Families for Safe Streets ("Arl FSS") Advisory Committee

7 December 2021: 6:30 pm to 8 pm

Location: Zoom

Meeting Minutes

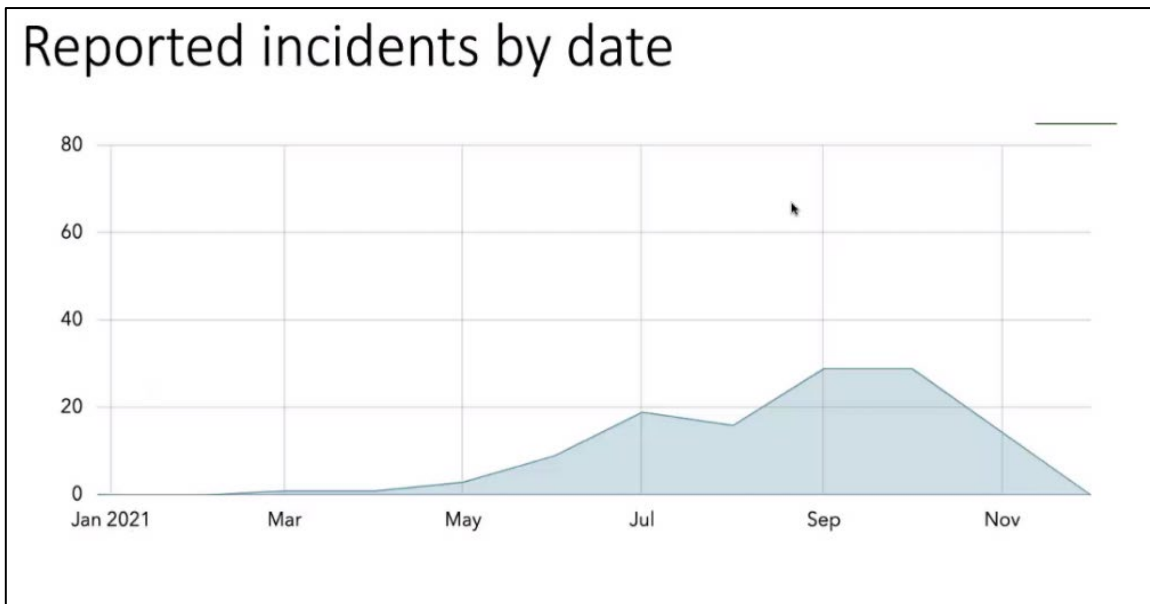
Introductions – 7 people in attendance including Mike Doyle, Ed Hazelwood, Alistair Watson, Lucas Henneman, Gina Hoffman, Michelle Brydges, Gillian Burgess

Old Business

- World Day of Remembrance
 - NoVA and Richmond Families for Safe Streets chapters hosted a virtual event to observe World Day of Remembrance on November 21, 2021
 - There were approximately 60 participants including several policymakers including Arlington Board members Takis Karantonis and Katie Cristol.
 - Two speakers shared stories of how their lives have been impacted by traffic violence.
 - We asked transportation street safety specific questions to the policymakers in attendance. We congratulated Takis on how the County's will be putting ASEs and reducing speeds to 20 mph speed limits around selected schools. We then asked Takis:
 - When will the County's Vision Zero plan provide details as to when specific street engineering changing will be made?
 - If the County would consider prohibiting "No Right on Red" at all lighted intersection? Takis said he comes from a Country where right on red is not allowed so he personally would be open to such a rule.
 - NoVA FSS purchased lawn signs with image and wording about a pedestrian fatality and placed these signs at crash sites in Northern Virginia (including Arlington) to draw attention to dangerous locations and to the WDoR event.
- Traffic regulation advocacy
 - GA 2022 – State wide VZ program
 - There is a national zero traffic fatalities resolution that NoVA FSS asked Senators Warner and Kaine plus Representative Don Beyer to sign the resolution. All three of our Congressional Representative agreed to co-sponsor the resolution.
 - Arl FSS intends to advocate for a Virginia state-wide Vision Zero Resolution with the State policymakers.
 - Mike recently received a call from House of Delegate elect Elizabeth Bennett-Parker. She expressed possible interest in helping to advance a potential state-wide Vision Zero resolution.
 - Ideally, we can find a Republican co-sponsor for the bill to help get it through the new General Assembly.
 - We would like to connect with more state politicians, but we need connections through people who reside in other jurisdictions.
 - Arlington County – Right on Red
 - Arl FSS intends to advocate for eliminating turning right on red and implementation of automatic speed enforcement.
 - Gillian has spoken to all 5 County Board members about ASE and they all express support for it.

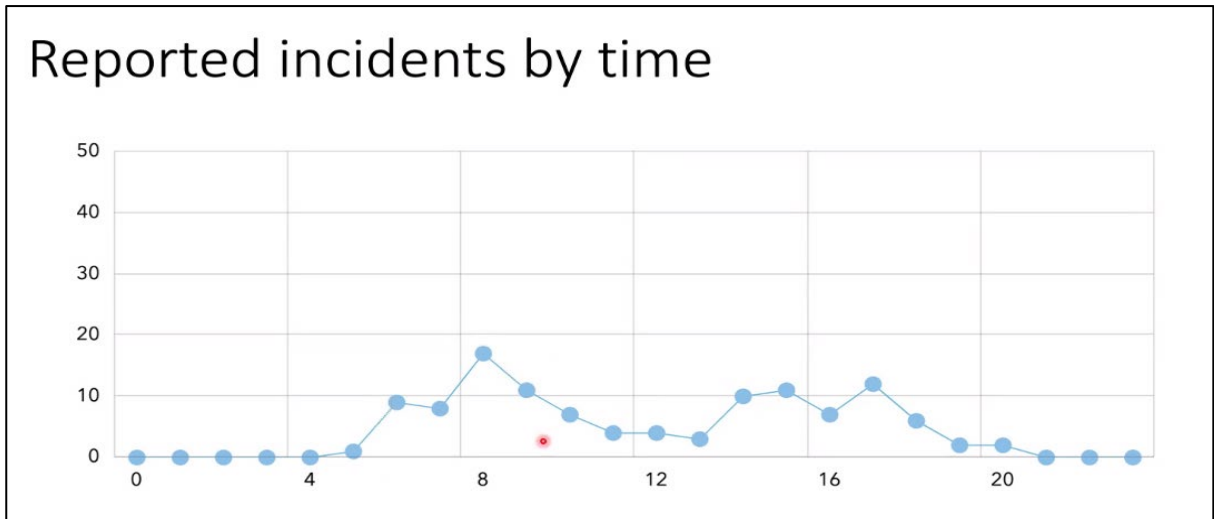
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- VDOT – National Landing update – Gillian Burgess
 - The People Before Cars Coalition was formed by National Landing BID, Sustainable Mobility for Arlington County, Arlington Families for Safe Streets, WABA, and JBG Smith to unite area organizations around shared priorities to create a safer and more accessible transportation network in National Landing.
 - The best way to get support for safe streets is to present a business case for it so that local businesses support it. Walkable, bikeable, safe areas are better for business.
 - We are seeing support for reduced speeds and reducing the number of lanes on Route 1. We still want to see protected bike lanes incorporated into plans.
 - From a planning perspective, the biggest problem is that the study starts north of 23rd street. It is difficult to plan for significant change when there are no changes happening south of 23rd street as well.
 - We also would like to see Arlington County take more of a lead on planning over VDOT in National Landing.
- Near Miss Survey
 - Ed Hazelwood wrote an article about the NM survey that was sent out to approximately 2,000 members of the Potomac Peddlers group via the Pedal Patter monthly newsletter.
 - Results in Arlington from 6/1/2021-12/2/2021
 - In total, we have 610 reported NM incidents. Patterns are beginning to emerge
 - We have seen an increase in the number of reports since the survey launched in June but a decrease in the month of November.

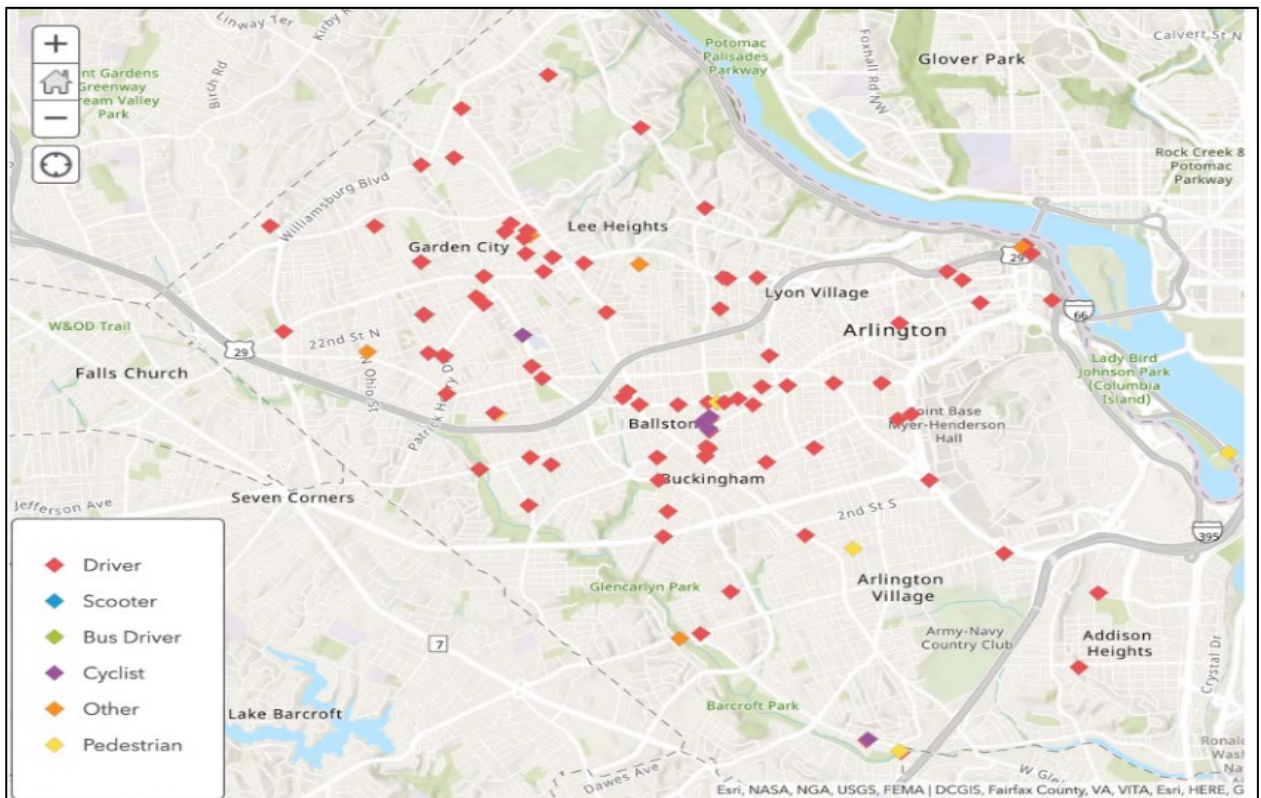


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- We have consistently seen more reports in morning and early evening hours, coinciding with rush hour.

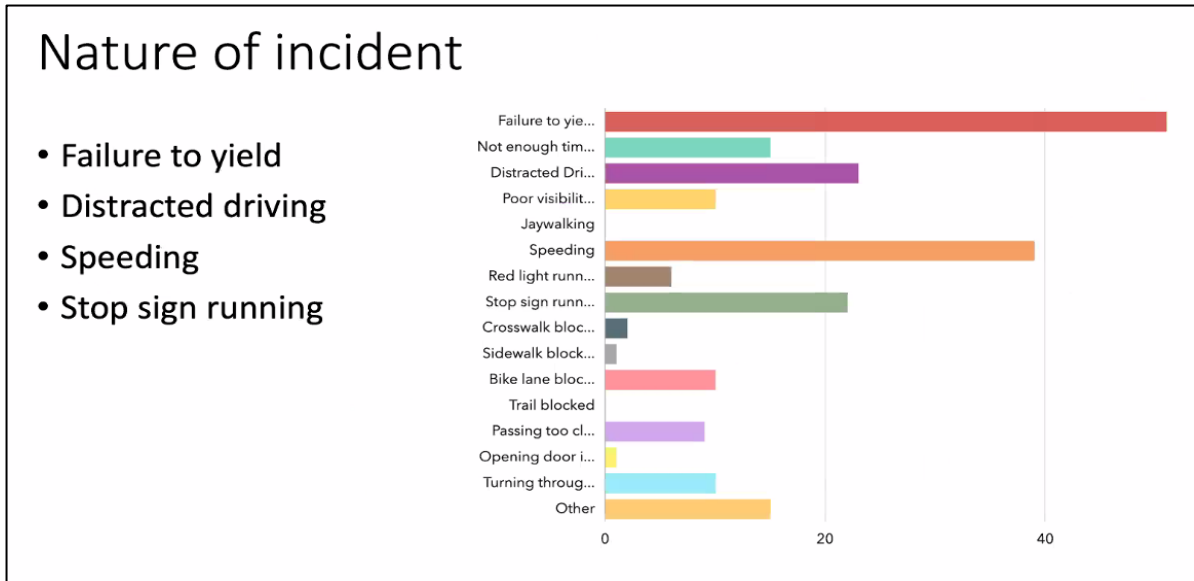


- We are starting to see some hot spots in the map of where incidents are reported. Additional data will help make trends clearer.
- Drivers are overwhelmingly reported as at fault. Few reports have indicated that cyclists, pedestrians, or "other" were at fault.



- Most incidents were reported at a crosswalk or intersection.

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- Most respondents indicated that they found out about the survey through Twitter, Facebook, ArlNow, and word-of-mouth.

New Business

- Update on public outreach efforts regarding street safety events (Michelle Brydges)
 - Farmers Markets; Newsletters; PTA connections; Civic Associations
 - Arl FSS has now published two newsletters in the new format and has plans to publish every 2 months.
 - Michelle and Alistair have been to local farmers markets. They have been received well at these events with the near miss promotional cards and the safety blinkers to give away.
 - Arl FSS has connected with two PTAs of schools in high-traffic areas. Provided them with blinkers to give away to students.
 - Michelle and Alistair will be writing a publishing a blurb for the Federation of Civic Associations in Arlington.
 - A professor from George Mason University has expressed interest in the NM survey. He specializes in quantitative analysis and would like to do some analysis of the data. To begin, they will start with a lit review between now and the new year. If you would like to participate in this project, please reach out.
- TPB grant application
 - NoVA FSS applied for the MWCOG Transportation Planning Board (TPB) grant earlier this year but did not win a grant. In August NoVA FSS reapplied with sponsorship from Alexandria and letters of endorsement from Fairfax County.
 - A second round of grant funding was opened in August and this time the TPB recommended AFSS's Near Miss Survey App for \$45,000 of funding by the Regional Roadway Safety Program (RRSP) Selection Panel. The TPB officially approved the grant award at its December 15, 2021, meeting.
 - This grant will fund the development of correlation analysis between our NM data compared to VDOT's crash data regarding pedestrian who were killed or seriously injured. The goal is to understand the common characteristics between the NM data and the characteristics of the crashes that cost people their lives or inflicted serious

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injuries and explore the feasibility of predictive analytics when using both data sets. In addition, we hope to expand the NM app's usability through language translation (e.g. Spanish) and the creation of a mobile app.

- The grant money will go directly to the consultants who will help us with the improvements to the survey so Arl FSS / NoVA FSS nor Arlington County will ever touch the money.
- Year-end fund-raising ideas
 - Arl FSS will launch some communications for end-of-year donations.
 - Michelle recommends publishing an impact report to demonstrate the positive impact Arl FSS has had in the past year to assist with the fundraising call to action.
 - Ed recommends reaching out to cycling organizations to promote Arl FSS and the Near Miss survey. He can link the Near Miss survey on the Potomac Peddlers website.
- Arlington FSS is still seeking one or two more Board Members. Please reach out if you are interested.

Upcoming Events

- Next Arl FSS Meeting – 4th Wed (Change) of the Month - **Wednesday, Jan 26, 2022**