

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

23 February 2022: 6:30 pm to 8 pm

*Location:* Zoom

## **Meeting Minutes**

**Introductions** – Ed Hazelwood, Hung Truong, Lucas Henneman, Cristina Burbach, Bayley Vanderpoel, Paul Ruiz, Gina Hoffman, Michelle Brydges, Alistair Watson, Mike Doyle

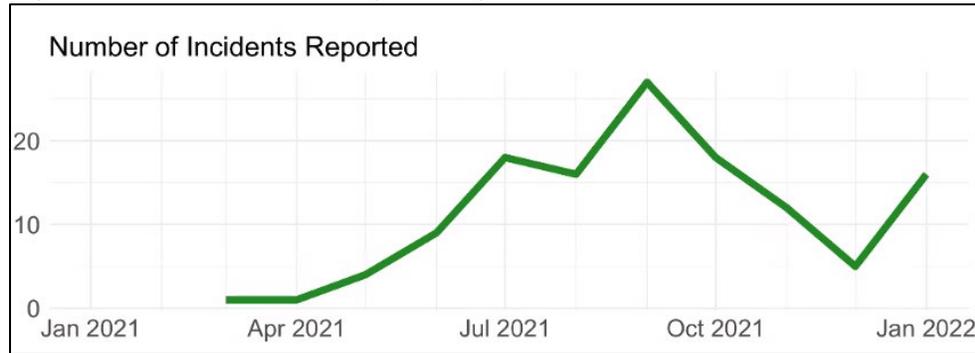
### **Old Business**

- Selected street corridor safety improvements campaigns
  - Courthouse West
    - There is a new project behind the Whole Foods in Clarendon that is under consideration. The public comment period was open in December-January. It includes an opportunity to make improvements such as a missing crosswalk, signals and addresses a concern about drivers rolling through crosswalks. Last month, Arl FSS drafted and sent a letter to the County staff, the folks involved in the project, and the VZ team. We have not yet heard a response.
    - Anecdotally, there have been more public education signage around Arlington (i.e. "Eyes up" signage)
  - Shirlington
    - There are numerous organizations we can target for our street safety marketing in Shirlington.
    - It would be good to get input from folks who live in this area
  - South George Mason near Four Mile Run
    - We should gather crowdsourced feedback on street safety problem in this area as well (via the Near Miss app, in person surveys, etc.)
  - Another section is the W&OD that reaches the Falls Church metro station.
  - National Landing
    - VDOT is preparing for the next phase. The County is preparing the final Crystal City bike network plan, but it is trying to have a specific plan with specific timelines. There's also some movement on the transitway design, which isn't as important as the frequency of service.
  - Other neighborhoods?
    - Identifying these areas can help us target our advocacy in Arlington. Please share recommendations with Arl FSS.
- How to improve Arlington Families for Safe Streets' outreach to the entire County?
  - Historically we have modeled our outreach on the Alexandria Families for Safe Streets organization. Outreach has been done at farmers markets, parks, and in schools.
  - This past year, we started a periodic newsletter.
  - In order to organize and track current marketing efforts, Hung has started a spreadsheet.
    - The spreadsheet can keep track of who is responsible for reaching out to various groups and track how many blinkers are distributed to each location.
    - Screenshot of the spreadsheet included below:

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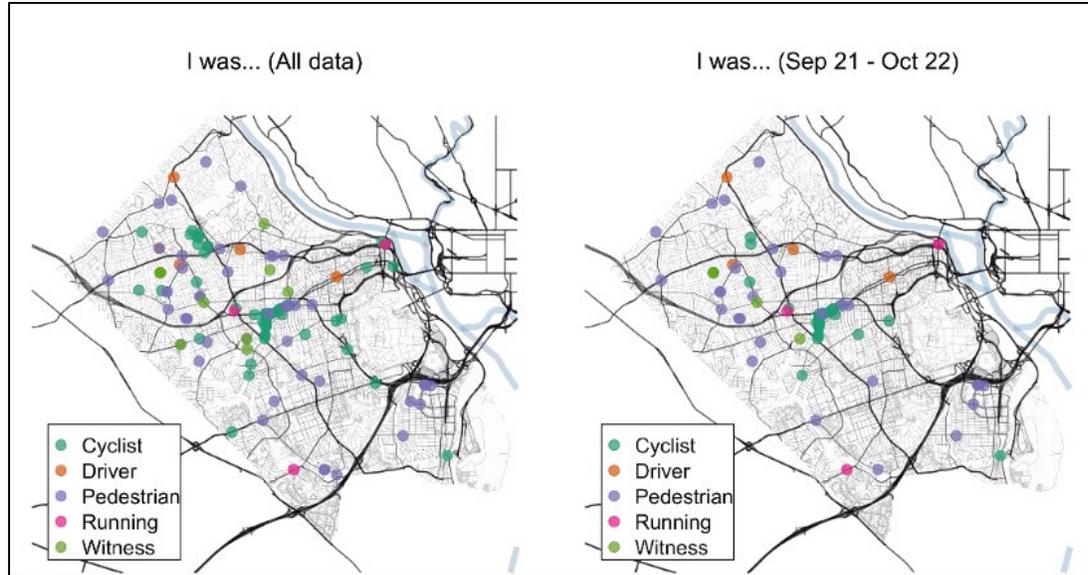
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
Organization Name	Category	Address	Description	Phone Number	Email	Point of Contact if applicable	Website	Alternate Phone	Contact (Y/)
Long Bridge Aquatic Fitness Center	Rec Centers	<a href="#">333 Long Bridge Drive, Arlington, VA 22202</a>							
Arlington Mill Community Center	Rec Centers	<a href="#">909 S Dinwiddie St, Arlington, VA 22204</a>							
Barcroft Community Center	Rec Centers	<a href="#">4200 S Four Mile Run Dr, Arlington, VA 22206</a>							
Animal Welfare League of Arlington	Neighborhood Organizations	<a href="#">2650 S Arlington Mill Dr, Arlington, VA 22206</a>							
WOOFSI Dog Training Center	Local Businesses	<a href="#">4160 S Four Mile Run Dr, Arlington, VA 22206</a>							
Mega Mart Express	Local Businesses	<a href="#">5001 Columbia Pike, Arlington, VA 22204</a>							
Phoenix Bikes	Local Businesses	<a href="#">909 S Dinwiddie St, Arlington, VA 22204</a>							
Wakefield High School	Schools	<a href="#">1325 S Dinwiddie St, Arlington, VA 22204</a>							

- More ideas suggested in discussion:
  - Arlington NAACP, Chamber of Commerce, High School Students.
  - We can also track online outreach (Arl Now, Twitter, NextDoor, etc.)
- How can we reach out to people who don't currently use the Near Miss survey and non-English speakers?
  - The text of the Near Miss Survey has been translated into Spanish. However, the survey is not usable in Spanish yet.
  - Distribute translated flyers at bus stops, coffee shops, libraries, etc.
  - Host pop-up events with volunteers to demonstrate the survey in underserved communities.
  - Hung is fluent in Vietnamese and has volunteered to help with translation.
- Near Miss Survey results update
  - Reviewed two datasets of Arlington incidents
    - 1. Entries from March-February 2022 (127 incidents)
    - 2. Entries from September-February 2022 (76 incidents)
  - Graph of number of incidents reported by month:



- Location of reports by the person reporting the incident:

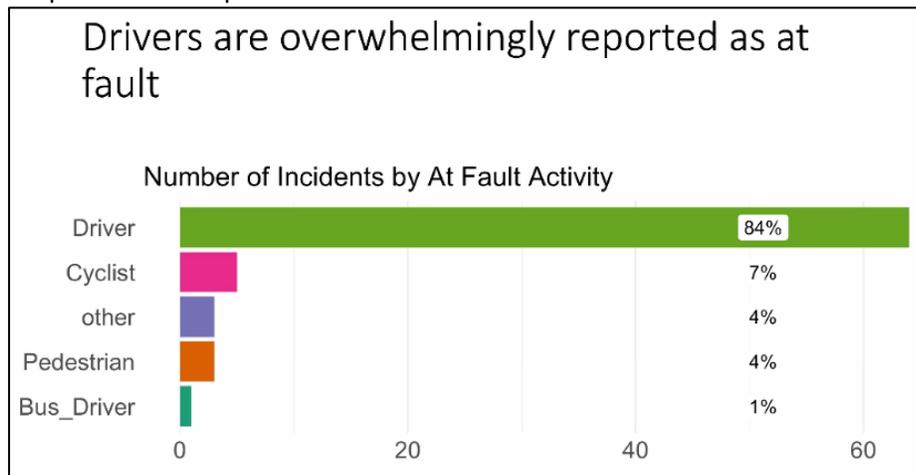
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- Graph of incidents reported by time of day:



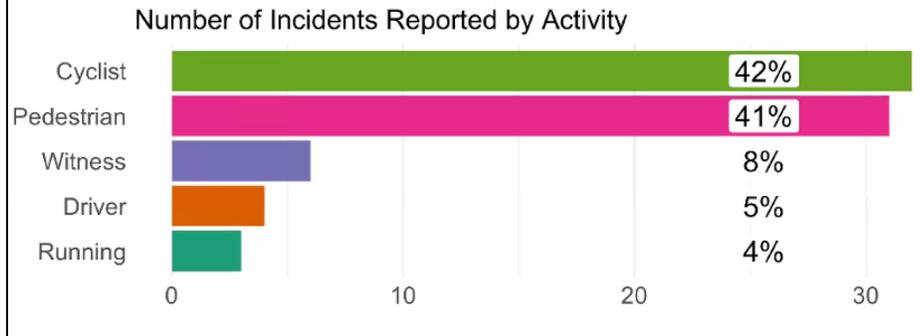
- Graph of who is reported at fault:



- Graph of what people who are doing when they report a near miss:

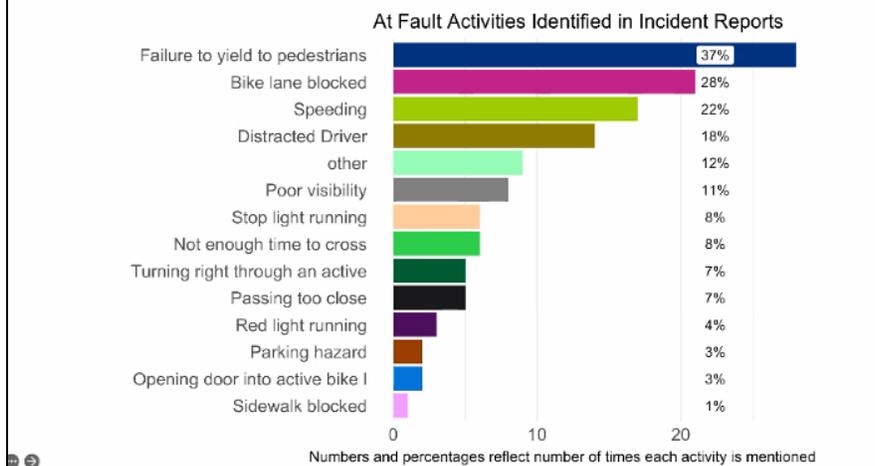
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What are people doing when they report a near miss?



- Graph of what reasons cited for the near miss (note that reporters may list more than one)

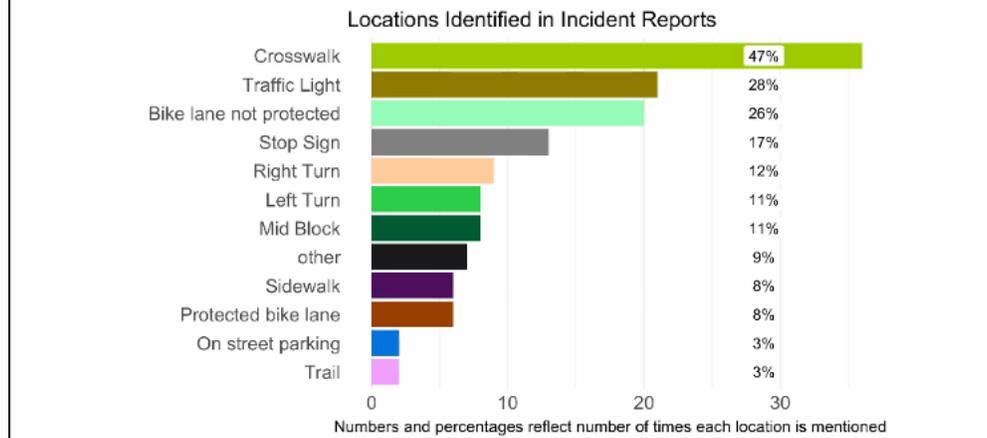
Which activities do people report?



- Graph of the locations of the near miss reports:

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### Crosswalks, intersections, and bike lanes are the most dangerous locations



- Comments from the Ballston-Rosslyn corridor:
  - “Several cars failed to stop for people in crosswalk. No protected medium so cars came very close to pedestrians. This happens every day in both directions but worst from cars westbound on Fairfax...”
  - “Car stopped in bike lane. There is an open parking spot immediately to the right of the unoccupied vehicle.”
  - “Several days after snow, this bike lane has snow and ice while streets are clear.”
  - “Snow and ice in bike lane. Streets had been cleared for several days.”
  - “Car blocking bike lane during food pickup at Taco Bamba or LebTav. Open parking spot is available immediately to the right of the vehicle.”
- Comments from elsewhere in Arlington
  - “Runner was wearing all dark clothing and was jogging across crosswalk while car was making a left turn.”
  - Intersection along Army Navy Drive
    - “Driver had a red light and stopped in the crosswalk while a man was crossing.”
    - “Driver had red light and stopped in crosswalk while people were crossing.”
    - “Two drivers who had a red light stopped in the crosswalk while people were crossing with a Walk sign.”

#### **New Business**

- Improve bench of volunteers with specific projects:
  - One project that the Alexandria organization does is working with the public school system.
    - Alexandria has pedestrian education in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, 6<sup>th</sup> grade, and in high school. We have volunteers presenting to 6<sup>th</sup> grade pedestrian education classes, sharing stories of near misses and other safety stories.
    - In Arlington, we used to have a connection with someone from the public schools. Maybe we can re-connect and plan an in-person event.

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- NM Survey outreach campaigns
  - Some people are uncomfortable with share survey responses b/c of personal security concerns. If we have outreach events with our own devices, we can demonstrate the app and enter reports on their behalf.
- Social media posting on FB/IG, NextDoor, WhatsApp, etc.
  - There are tools and strategies to use via Facebook professional. This would allow social media administrator to schedule posts in advance and send regular reminders of the Near Miss survey.
- Additional projects?
- Topics for Quarterly Arl FSS / Nova FSS Newsletter (Michelle Brydges)
  - Draft outline:
    1. Advocacy + Partnership News (NoVA level actions and results)
    2. Near Miss Data Trends
    3. Feature Story
    4. Alexandria FSS Highlights + Volunteer Opportunities
    5. Arlington FSS Highlights + Volunteer Opportunities
    6. Fairfax FSS Highlights + Volunteer Opportunities
  - We think it would be effective to combine the three NoVA FSS organizations into one newsletter.
  - Marketing volunteers from each chapter recently gathered to discuss this.
  - Idea: let's get a newsletter out near the end of the General Assembly on March 12. Then Alexandria's Spring2Action fundraising campaign is in April.
  - Call to Action: Need volunteers from each chapter to provide content.
- Arlington County's VZ Safety Benchmark Feedback Form
  - On February 23, Arlington Vision Zero released their February Update [LINK](#)
  - School Slow Zones in Effect:
    - School "slow zones" are a new safety tool currently being testing in Arlington. A school slow zone is a permanent 20 mile-per-hour speed limit on a neighborhood street within 600 feet of an access point to a school. New speed limit signs clearly define these slow zones.
    - Over the last month, Arlington staff added new 20mph speed limit and safety signage around 11 public and 2 private schools. These demonstration projects will test the slow zone policy in a few locations before applying them countywide.
    - Arlington transportation and police staff will begin monitoring speeds and behavior changes in these areas. They will also collect community feedback in Spring 2022 to learn about your experiences and observations during the demonstrations. They will take all of the lessons learned as they finalize our school slow zone guidelines and implement slow zones around more schools in Arlington. Look for updates in future newsletters.
  - Arlington's First Annual Safety Benchmark Feedback Form Coming Soon
    - The Vision Zero Action Plan calls for an annual transportation safety benchmark questionnaire to help the County understand and track how Vision Zero actions have impacted the experiences and perceptions of people traveling in Arlington each year.
    - The Vision Zero interdepartmental team will be pushing the feedback form through County listservs, social media channels, postcards, pop-up events, and

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kiosks at the Central and Columbia Pike library branches. The feedback form will be available in English, Spanish, Arabic, Amharic, Mongolian, and Chinese.

- Look out for an email with a link to the feedback form at the end of month. We ask that you please share this opportunity to provide meaningful feedback on transportation safety with everyone that you know. The more people we hear from, the more we will understand where we can expand and improve our Vision Zero program to best meet the needs of the community.

### **Upcoming Events**

- Next Arl FSS Meeting – 4<sup>th</sup> Wed of the Month, March 23, 2022
- Feedback Requested on the Arlington County's FY 23-32 Capital Improvement Plan – Survey opens through March 15
  - [Share your thoughts](#) on how Arlington should invest in major infrastructure for the future. Your input will help inform the proposed [10-year Capital Improvement Plan](#) to be presented in May. [Share your thoughts](#) now through March 15<sup>th</sup>!