

Alexandria's Families for Safe Streets ("AFSS")

Zoom Meeting 20 Sept 2022: 6:30 pm to 8 pm

Advisory Committee Notes

Introductions - 16 attendees

Agenda:

- Introductions
- Treasurer's report
 - \$18,094.04 is the balance
 - Expenses upcoming for 2022:
 - Web design \$4,800
 - Blinkers \$5,300
 - Facebook \$400
 - Banners and signs \$500
 - Misc. \$450
 - Estimated Incoming Revenues for rest of 2022:
 - ~\$2,500 estimated for Giving Tuesday
 - ~\$1,000 end of year gifting
- Guest Speakers
 - APD – Officer Matt Beinhauer
 - July 1 to Aug 31
 1. One crash fatality 8/27 at 10:17pm
 2. 16 yr old on scooter, left turn from Beauregard to Sanger
 3. In left turn lane, flashing yellow arrow
 4. Struck by Rav4 on Beauregard, driver remained on scene
 5. Driver had right of way
 6. No citation to driver of Rav4 but is still under investigation.
 7. Speed limit is 35mph there
 8. APD working with Commonwealth Attorney's office to develop a plan to protect cyclists and scooters.
 9. Question on whether juvenile operators of scooters know traffic laws or what a flashing yellow means.

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10. Scooters have to obey traffic laws like bikers, so looking at an education campaign.
 11. City of Alexandria has helmet law for 14 and under, but this victim didn't have a helmet. The scooter did have headlight and taillight. Rentable scooters have these automatically, so head & tail lights were present.
 12. If this was a "share" scooter, then it would require a CC or phone and 18 or over (even though riders could be younger) and so other parties also have some responsibility here.
 - This is the only fatality in the City or KSI since July 1.
- T&ES – curb cuts / right of way regs. Re: E Uhler Ave
 - (Yon Lambert and Lalit Sharma)
 - Process for curb cuts is in City code section 5.2.14, requires neighbor comments and City manager approval for stand-alone cuts.
 - Number of curb cut applications is small, typically for single home.
 - Most applications are business related or parking lot related
 - T&ES looks at safety aspect of E. Uhler, compatibility with existing sidewalk & traffic impact, per the code requirement.
 - Some discussion regarding the Uhler Ave and Commonwealth. Neighbors' issues were:
 1. impact on blind corner as an identified problem area which wasn't taken into consideration plus,
 2. the appeal was not reviewed plus,
 3. insufficient input taken sought from neighbors on this specific situation.
 - T&ES is reviewing the process for curb cuts for existing homes and should acknowledge that the process needs improvement specially to capture surrounding community (not just immediate neighbors) inputs.
 - Support Ped / Biking to School program (FKA SRTS)
 - Kristin Donley
 1. No funding for the SRTS program from VDOT.

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2. ACPS didn't put in anything in its budget for SRTS
 3. M. Doyle asked if Yon would consider putting this program under their Transportation department.
 4. "We are just beginning a new budget process, so happy to listen ... as part of 2023. We have no guidance yet."
 5. Budget proposal is rendered in Feb for adoption in May
 6. City money – if they provide that for schools, we'll identify the engineering / street design projects.
 7. Melissa said in Arlington, there's VZ program, but not a SRTS person in the Transportation Dept. It is helpful to have a dedicated SRTS / Transportation type person inside the school system – the person inside the school system has insights into how the school system works and the politics.
 8. Arlington does have someone under School System Transportation Dept., but Alexandria has nobody.
 9. Kristin D. says ACPS works with TPB on street engineering related items.
- Walk to School Day – Wed, Oct 12th
 1. Met with Brian Hayes, ACPS and Safety & Security to partner together for W2S Day. VDOT still supports these efforts but not the funding.
 2. Shared with T&ES yesterday (9/19) a W2S Day social media plan.
 3. Police Dept. will be present for this Oct. 12 date
 4. Kristin bought some items to hand out
 5. Principals get briefed 9/21 and likely will pass info to PTA, but no person to support beyond that (no SRTS person).
 6. Same for bike education – Kristin does this since no SRTS person.
 7. Ped Ed – all teachers have slotted for 2nd grade as unit of instruction. No longer a pilot. All schools – basic signs and signals, neighborhood scavenger hunt to practice safe walking (crosswalks, signage). And the small model town in gyms for practicing road rules as pedestrian.
 8. At 6th grade level, there's a pedestrian refresher unit piloted last year. (AFSS was guest speaker). Issue with GW

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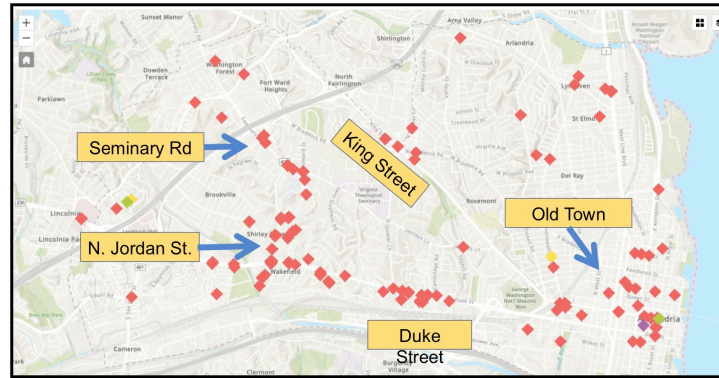
school slotting this when we'd want, but all 6th graders will get this to refresh on ped safety rules. AFSS speakers will be part of this. From the pilot, smaller sessions in the classrooms worked better than the larger sessions.

9. Kristin is working on the scheduling.
 - She did get funding for pedestrian / bike education support specialist (part-time). No SRTS but working on the curriculum. Waiting on Superintendent's approval.

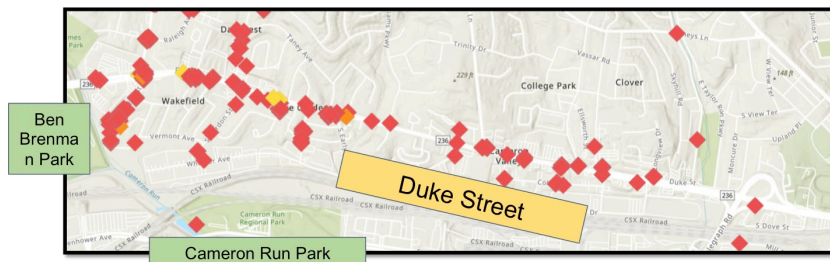
Old Business

- Latest NM survey results
 - Not presented b/c of time limit, but the general information is here
 - NoVA Overall –
 - Total of 1736 incidents in the database overall, of which 1,234 (71%) are in Alexandria, 258 Fairfax, 239 Arlington and 5 others.
 - Month over month incident reporting is declining from a high of 155 (March 2022) now averages around 100 per month
 - Alexandria averages 67 incidents per month
 - Alexandria Specifics – 198 incidents reported 6/21 – 9/18/22.
 - 96% report driver behavior as the issue
 - 76% of people reporting were pedestrians, 18% witnessing
 - 61% were failure to yield, by far the largest issue. 21% sidewalk blocked, 15% stop sign running and 11% red light running. Only 10% were for speeding.
 - 69% of dangerous locations were crosswalks. 68% were traffic lights and stop signs. 28% right turns and 8% left turns.

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6/22/22 to 9/18/22



All Incidents to August 31, 2022

- TPB Grant – Near Miss project update
 - Integrating with VDOT crashes data and displayed by districts and crash corridors. Hope to have new survey by Nov 1st.
- Polk Ave sidewalk project – City Council unanimously passed a motion for installing the sidewalk but at the elimination of eight parking spaces
 - AFSS suggested that perhaps the parking spaces could be re-installed if Polk Ave were made a one-way road.
- Duke Street Mobility Project & Polk Ave parking
 - About half the people who show up at a public meeting are against this – the City is supportive of the improvements and has some money to do it. Need people to get involved and provide input for the City.
 - Dane is in the process of drafting a general letter that can be sent to the Duke Street Advisory Group as well.
 - In October, the public will have opportunity to provide input
 - This is a once-in-a-generation opportunity.
 - Public input sessions begin Oct. 1 (could be surveys, focus groups)

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- City has a newsletter for all the projects, including Taylor Run, Telegraph Rd ramp, Duke street, etc.
<https://www.alexandriava.gov/DukeInMotion>
- If you go here:
<https://member.everbridge.net/1332612387832027/login>
Sign up for various eNews, including the Duke Street projects
- If people don't provide input, then nothing will get done.

New Business

- Farmers Market volunteers (2 hour shifts)
 - Old Town, Del Ray & Cameron Station
 - October and November
- WDoR planning – Sunday, Nov 20, 2022
 - Don't know if we can have one on Beauregard, and people in the West End to get involved.
 - Chris P suggested a white scooter (aka "Ghost Scooter) placed at crash site with a sign as to what happened
 - If you have an interest in supporting, or helping organize a WDoR march, let Mike know!

Plans for fall pedestrian safety campaign

- **Potomac River Generating Station (PGGS) – GW Parkway Ped-Bike crossing** between Slaters' Lane and Bashford Lane.
- Click [PRGS-GW pkwy](#)
- **Automated speed enforcement (i.e. speed cameras) in school zones, and speed limit reductions on key corridors.**
 - **Sept 26, 2022:** Traffic & Parking Board Public Hearing
 - Formal approval to implement at 5 schools, not determined which locations this will be
 - T&ES looking at data (speeds, number of students walking to school, where it'll be the most impact).
 - Cameras installed after first of year in 2023
 - Reducing speeds on certain roads such as Beauregard
 - **Oct 15, 2022:** City Council Mtg. AFSS member turn out is important

Upcoming Event

- **AFSS Meeting – Next meeting on Tuesday, Oct 18, 2022**