

Fairfax FSS Meeting Agenda

Monday, 12 Sept 2022: 6:30 pm to 8 pm

Location: Zoom

Agenda (with Meeting Notes)

- **Introductions** - 15 people in attendance

- **Guest Speakers**
 - FCPD (Officer Brian Rochefort)
 - Blake lane – subject charged with 2 counts of involuntary manslaughter
 - Total crashes of all types: 22 w/23 fatalities
 - Total crashes, just pedestrian fatalities – 12 crashes, 13 fatalities
 - Since June update, 3 additional pedestrian fatalities in Mason, Franconia, and Mount Vernon districts
 - Another pedestrian fatality reported on Dulles Access Road, but may be out of FCPD jurisdiction
 - Blake lane citations –123 citations issued since 6/8 crash; mostly speed general, reckless driving; speed feedback sign out on Blake periodically
 - FCPD working on ASE pilot for Blake Lane, but timing is unclear (Captain Hanson in charge of ASE implementation for around schools)

- **Old Business**
 - **High crash corridors arterial safety improvements**
 - Culmore (Rt 7) - Leesburg Pike
 - Recent community meeting had great turnout 120+ people including school kids - from community – lots of speaker concerns about safety on the street.
 - VDOT has implemented some quick fixes (painting harsh marks on shoulder, some new ped signs, extending ped crossing time

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at one intersection). Quick fixes aren't enough. VDOT says they won't do temp. sidewalk because they won't place fixed objects (i.e., jersey barrier or flex posts) in the roadway. Concerned cars will hit them. Ffx FSS submitted comments advocating for more to be done.

- VDOT will be doing a speed study of corridor – currently 40 mph – to be completed this fall
 - FCDOT doing a pedestrian crossing study to determine where signalized crossings are needed; that would be finished in spring 2023 with options presented to the public. Ask to extend study area to the other intersection in Culmore, Glenn Forest.
 - Three potential sidewalk segment projects identified. The missing segment in front of Liberty gas station top priority. Initial scoping and prelim design done. Funding and timeline unknown.
- Blake Lane Corridor
- Improvements – repainted, some new signs, vegetation removal, upgraded 3 crosswalks to hi-viz; new \$200 fine and 'Watch for Children' signs posted recently
 - Blake Lane-Sutton qualifies as school crossing/school zone; FCPS also responsible for installation and maintenance of school zone 25mph flashers but that is a FCPS decision and details on decision-making process and timeline have not been shared publicly
 - Police were very visible on first week of school, but enforcement is spotty
 - VDOT has put Blake on the Ped Safety Action Plan (PSAP) network (top 5% of pedestrian safety risk in the state); may allow Blake to qualify for 'special' accommodations not otherwise available?

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- VDOT will conduct a Road Safety Audit, but details on process and timeline have not been shared publicly
- Steve Welsh will be VDOT coordinator on Blake Lane corridor going forward
- New FCPS Super Dr. Michelle Reid she mentioned that she is interested in getting more student in walking & bike riding to school
- SRTS – a new position funded?
- Supervisor Palchik’s Blake Lane Advisory Group has been recently formed and will meet for the first time 9/14; role/purpose of group remains unclear
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- Richmond Highway – Rt. 1 South
 - VDOT finished speed study and recommended lowering speed to 35 mph for a large portion of the northern corridor; VDOT used using the 50% vs 85% in this recommendation
 - VDOT conducted intersection turn lane analysis – VDOT looked at 13 intersections – half the intersection the turn lanes will be eliminated. Half will not be changed. Still prioritizing drivers over ped safety.
- Update on FFX FSS’s Near Miss Survey data
 - Mike presented some NM data visualizations
- Update on Ffx FSS's website / social media
 - New website: <https://novasafeststreets.org/>
 - The website has tabs for each of the three chapters and a tab to read the site in Spanish.
 - Looking for social media volunteer
- **New Business**
 - **World Day of Remembrance (WDoR) on Nov 20th.** (15 min)

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- Planning could be:
 - Yard signs planted at intersections where pedestrians were killed.
 - Possible WDoR event at Blake Lane with invitations extended to policy makers, VDOT, FCDOT, FCPD
- **Advocacy for NoVA Ped/Bike infrastructure 20 yr budget**
 - We should ask FCDOT what the costs would be for permanent pedestrian / bike lanes that are independent from roads and streets. We need an estimate of the long term ped / bike infrastructure budget so that the State Legislators can find an independent revenue stream to fund such projects.
 - Ffx FSS will be Ped-centric & coordinate with bike groups.
- **Fairfax County's communications campaign to enhance Pedestrian, Bicycle & Traffic Safety on Sept 27, 2022, at 9:30 am. – Volunteer rep? at Wheely fire station – County wide effort**
- **Panel discussion on taming our arterials on Sept. 29 at 7pm.** Register here: [zoom registration page](#). Sponsored by FABB, Tool Design & CSG
 - Focus on bigger picture of what can be done
- **Healthy Together Fairfax on Sunday, Oct 2, 2022, 12-4 p.m.** at Lee District Park. Ffx FSS will be present - *Volunteers to help staff table?*
- **Upcoming Events:**
 - Falls Church City Council - Tue Sept 27th at 7pm. bikefallschurch.org
 - **October Fairfax FSS meeting** – Monday, Oct 3, 2022