Alexandria’s Families for Safe Streets (“AFSS”) Advisory Committee

15 November 2022: 6:30 pm to 8 pm
Location: Zoom
Meeting Minutes

Introductions – 8 people in attendance

Treasurer’s Report
- Back in August, Norm created an operating forecast. Currently, we are right on target with the plans.
- There were a few recent, regular expenses including social media expenses and some supplies for World Day of Remembrance.
- The current balance in the bank is $13,103.78. There will be a large expense (~$4,800) in the near future for the website updates.

Old Business
- Safe Routes to School update
  - Unfortunately, Safe Routes to School doesn’t exist anymore now that the program lost state funding.
  - Recently, AFSS did participate in the walk to school day event at Lyles Crouch. AFSS representatives handed out blinkers and flyers to both parents and children.
- Latest Near Miss survey results
  - The reporting tool currently has about 820 reports of near misses in Alexandria. There are increasing number of reports in Fairfax, but we are losing momentum in reports from Arlington and Old Town Alexandria. We need to do more outreach so that residents of the West End know about the tool and use it to report near misses.
  - AFSS occasionally gets a call from the City about the data in the Near Miss Survey. This is important feedback we can provide to Alexandria.
  - Currently, consultants are working with us to improve the NM tool. We are redesigning the survey and the dashboard to be easier to navigate. The consultants are being funded by the TPB grant won by APD / AFSS.
  - How can we better publicize the near miss survey? One idea is to laminate the NM cards with the QR code and attach them onto poles at intersections. This could be very useful and impactful, especially at sites that have had fatalities.
- Duke Street Mobility Project (Mtg on Nov 17th)
  - The Duke Street Mobility Project has been continuing with a month of citizen engagement efforts. It was wrapped up with an open house. At the open house, they discussed how they are still considering all options for how to incorporate bus rapid transit down Duke street. The three options are the following:
    - Buses drive with normal traffic
    - There are dedicated bus lanes down the center of Duke Street
    - There are dedicated bus lanes on the sides of Duke Street
  - For official updates on all Duke Street related projects, please sign up for the Duke Street Projects eNews.
  - The 6th Duke Street In Motion Advisory Group will take place on November 17 at 6:30 PM at Alexandria Police Department headquarters (3600 Wheeler Ave.), Room 106. This meeting will focus on discussing the October public engagement feedback. There will be
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a public comment period at the end of the meeting. Members of the public are welcome to attend virtually or in-person.

- Meeting materials are available at alexandriava.gov/dukeinmotion. A meeting recording will also be made available afterwards.
- The meeting can be accessed via Zoom by registering at the following link: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_mXAnVFaX5xO1qzc8G0cJWw

- Automated speed enforcement & speed limits
  - We’ve seen some changes in the implementation of automatic speed enforcement and reduced speed limits. Thanks to everyone who has supported our advocacy efforts!

New Business

- Farmers Market Volunteers
  - We are looking for volunteers to participate in AFSS outreach at upcoming Farmers Markets and hand out promotional ped street safety material and blinkers. Please reach out if you are interested in volunteering.
  - Old Town – Dec 17
  - Del Ray – Dec 10

- World Day of Remembrance planning – Sunday, Nov 20, 2022
  - All 3 chapters of Northern Virginia Families for Safe Streets will hold events. Alexandria will host a short event at William Ramsey elementary school. It is too dangerous to host it at the site of the scooter crash we are memorializing.
    - When: 11:30 am to 12:15 pm on Sunday, Nov 20th
    - Where: William Ramsey Elementary School
    - Why: WDoR is an international annual event to remember the millions of people killed and injured in traffic crashes around the world. In the case of Beauregard and Sanger, a 16-year-old male was killed while riding a scooter.
    - Speakers: Mayor, APD and Superintendent ACPS
  - Publicity - We can publicize it in newspaper. Kathy has contacts with press.

Upcoming Events

- AFSS Meeting – Next meeting on Tuesday, December 13, 2022