

# Alexandria's Families for Safe Streets ("AFSS") Advisory Committee

13 December 2022: 6:30 pm to 8 pm

*Location: Zoom*

## **Meeting Minutes**

**Introductions** – 8 people in attendance

### **Treasurer's Report**

- Current bank balance is \$15,767.90. Giving Tuesday's donation = \$2,157 from 21 donors.
- Because of a pending a large expense (~\$4,800) for the website update that will be due in Q1 2023, Norm projects our balance by the end of Q1 2023 will be around \$8,000 unless we get some year-end donations.
- AFSS only "fixed costs" are the CPA for IRS filings and insurance. The office is free of rent and we since we are an all-volunteer organization all of the donation money we receive beyond the ~\$2,500 in overhead costs can be spent on street safety materials.

### **Old Business**

- A big THANK YOU to AFSS Board members Norm Lisy, Brian Shankman, Melissa McMahon, Patrick Wise, Dane Lauritzen, Chris Paletta for helping to organize and support our chapter throughout the year and projects like our recent WDoR event. Regarding the WDoR, a special thanks to Randy Cole for painting the scooter white and transporting to and from the event site
- WDoR summary and results
  - The Ghost (white) Scooter placed at the intersection of Beaugard and Sanger (near William Ramsey school) where 16 year old Miguel Angel Rivera was killed in early Sept 2022 while riding a scooter
  - NBC4 News ran a story about the "Ghost Scooter" WDoR on Nov 20, 2022. Click: [NBC4 News report](#)
  - Special Guest speakers were Mayor Wilson, APD Lt. Simon and Interim Superintendent of ACPS, Dr. Kay-Wyatt
  - AFSS members read the below list of request to improve safety on our streets

**WDoR Call to Action** - Alexandria Families for Safe Streets asks for specific safety improvements to be prioritized at high risk locations and near all schools, including:

- Install automated speed enforcement cameras at intersections around schools.
- Require "continuous sidewalks" in the final designs of all street and arterial road projects like Duke BRT
- Implement protected bike lanes and / or separated bike lanes not sharrows
- Deploy proven safety measures around schools and activity centers, such as chicanes, raised intersections or crosswalks, realigned intersections, and lighting at unsignalized crossings.
- Implement a safe routes infrastructure plan for all Alexandria schools.
- Install appropriate traffic calming; for example forced turn islands / barriers, lane diets, chokers, corner extension / bulb-outs, and increasing signal timing for peds

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

- Install leading pedestrian intervals at all signalized crossings in Alexandria.
- Require consideration of Protected Intersection Design and Roundabout alternatives for all current and future intersection and transportation projects in development.
- Prohibit construction of new slip lanes and remove existing slip lanes from all intersections within the City of Alexandria.
- Prohibit right-turns-on-red at all signalized intersections with the Alexandria.

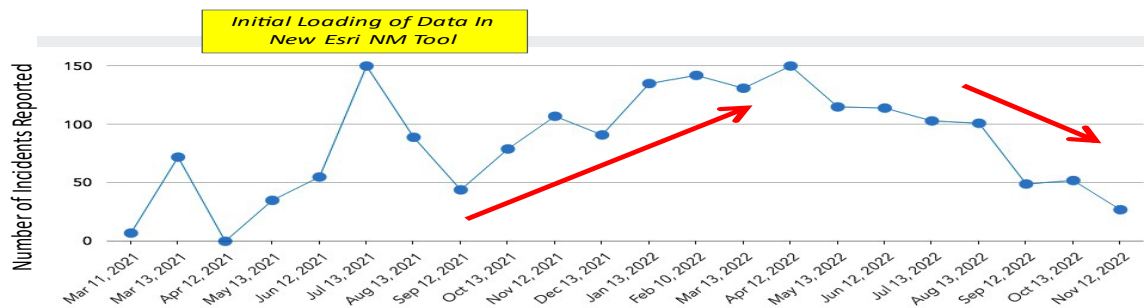
Alexandria Families for Safe Streets seeks to have more in depth and productive engagement, with both city and state transportation departments and their staffs.

- Requesting the City of Alexandria support Alexandria Families for Safe Streets and partners in street safety communication and education.
  - Requesting T&ES and other leadership to work with AFSS to promote citizen participation in Dangerous Location/Near Miss data collection
- Latest NM survey results – Brian Shankman presented an update.

### NoVA Near Miss Monthly Trend

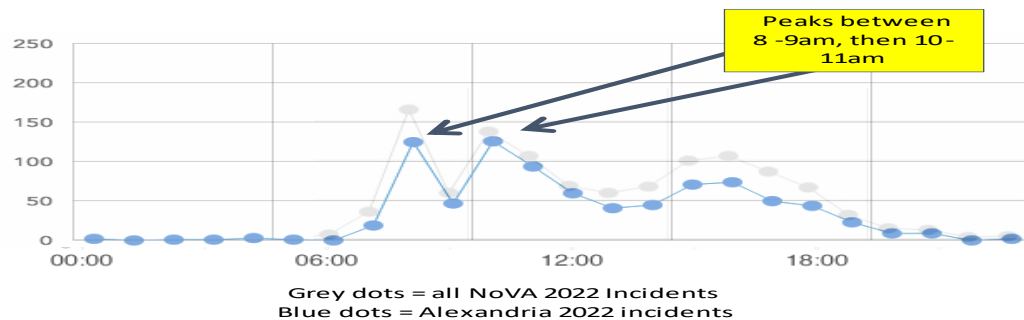
Decline in reporting month over month

1848 total incidents through 12/7/22



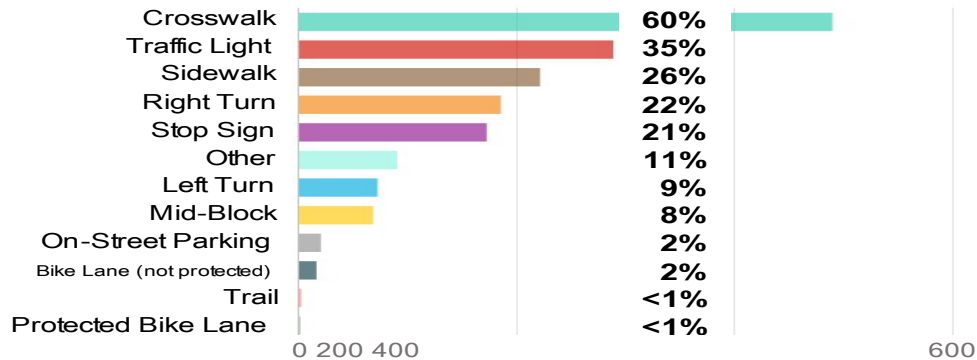
### Alexandria Incidents YTD 2022

By Time of Day

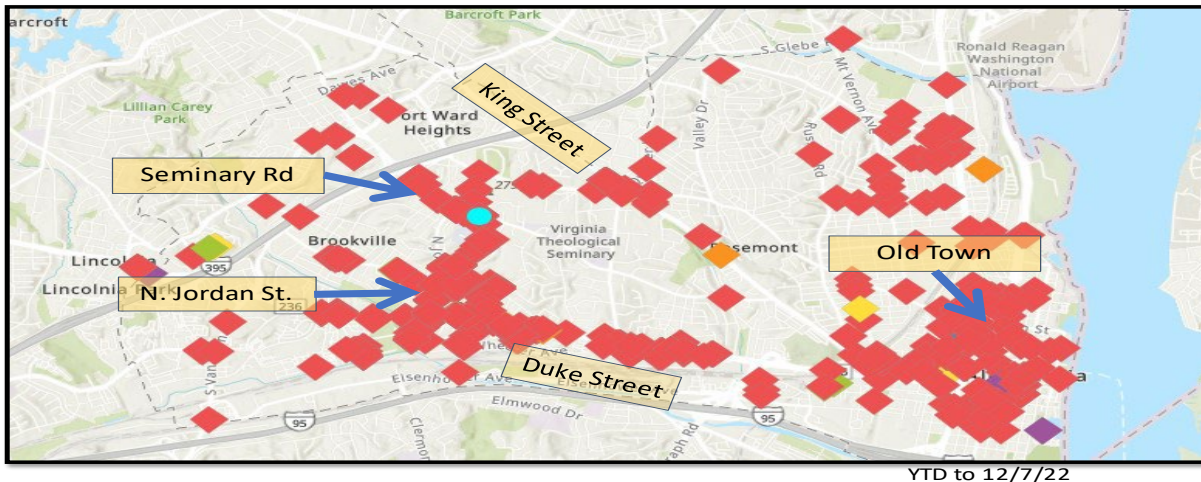


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### The Most Dangerous Locations



### Alexandria NM Reports YTD 2022



- Farmers Market
  - Del Ray – Dec 10<sup>th</sup> (thanks to Sarah Hashimi we distributed ~ 120 blinkers & ~100 NM cards)
  - Old Town – Dec 17<sup>th</sup> – volunteers needed for 8-10 am & 10-12 pm shifts
- Duke Street Mobility Project update – Dane Lauritzen reported that a public meeting is being held on Thursday, Dec 16<sup>th</sup> to focus on the center part of the Duke Street redesign. Some neighbors with the side street buffer between their homes and Duke Street oppose widening the Duke Street corridor for a two lane BRT at the expense of losing their protected side street. Discussions about a one lane BRT section in this part of the corridor are topics under consideration at this December meeting.
  - Public input from all members of the community is encouraged to help make a balance and safe set of recommendations for this upgraded major road.

## Alexandria's Families for Safe Streets ("AFSS") Advisory Committee

- ACPS
  - 6<sup>th</sup> grade general assemblies for blinker distributions
  - Potential pedestrian educational classes in January / February at Hammond and Jefferson Houston
  - ACPS should have SRTS staff to help protect students to and from schools. AFSS could talk to several school board members about supporting the program. Both Fairfax and Arlington school districts have full time SRTS staff employed in the school system' facilities department.
  - T&SE is planning a walk audit around William Ramsey. AFSS might be able to assist in such a walk audit.

### New Business

- Graham Fund grant application
  - Funding opportunity that Patrick Wise helped submit an application. Main criteria for funding are an organization that provides services to its community.
- Volunteer(s) is needed for posting AFSS messages on our social media sites. If interested, please contact us
- General Assembly Legislative Asks
  - Reinstate funding for the SRTS program
  - Allow jurisdiction, at their discretion, to utilize the VDOT / DMV funds for making changes on their jurisdictional roads. Decision would happen faster, and changes could be made quicker.
  - Proposal that DMV funding for ped/bike/driver educational programs.
- National FSS – 20 FSS chapters in 11 states. The National FSS / NYC FSS office is developing resources for all FSS such as,
  - Post-crash resource & advocacy guide book
  - Potential of a depository of urban planners / street engineers for helping a FSS chapter in responding to street design challenges in their jurisdiction.
- Ideas for improving greater Near Miss survey reports include,
  - Distributing the NM cards at Farmers Markets, Civic Association meeting and distribution via organizations like ALIVE, Carpenter Shelter, etc.
  - Find a research group who could develop statistical studies to determine that for every NM reported, pedestrians experience x times more incidents that go unreported.
  - Coordinate with Street Simplified, the traffic data analytics firm that is doing a study on Near Miss events via cameras focused 24/7 on about 50 intersections in Fairfax County. We can try to compare our NM incident reports with the Street Simplified data.
  - USDOT does some data extrapolation analysis. We should talk to them.

### Upcoming Event

- **AFSS Meeting – Next meeting on Tuesday, Jan 17, 2023**