

## Fairfax FSS Meeting Notes

Monday, 6 February 2023: 6:30 pm to 8 pm

### Advisory Committee Agenda on Zoom

#### Introductions 18 attendees

#### Old Business

- Update on new Near Miss dashboard in Fairfax County
  - Chris French provided an overview of a recently updated Near Miss Survey & Dashboard. The Dashboard analytics shows Dangerous Locations and types of Near Misses by pedestrian, cyclist, scooter rider or driver. It shows clusters of numerous NM reports in a particular road corridor, and with some filters, one can see the DMV's TREDIS crash data where fatalities or serious injuries happened. The TREDIS data is reporting just pedestrian and cyclist crashes, not vehicle to vehicle crashes. The TREDIS data goes back to 2015. We have roughly 200 Near Miss reports to-date in Fairfax County.
    - One of the NM report's features that jumps out is the lack of penetration in some of the high crash corridors such as Bailey's Crossroads / Culmore, Blake Lane, Route 50 and Richmond Highway South. Part of our problem is that we don't have material yet to show the QR codes in the multiple languages. One of our primary efforts in 2023 will be developing a plan on how we can achieve better penetration and awareness in these communities

Click here to see the dashboard [Near Miss and Dangerous Locations data reporting and dashboard.](#)

- Update on 2023 Fall outreach plans
  - Introduction of TikTok app
    - Colleen Cranna and Daniel are volunteering to help Ffx FSS become functional with TikTok in order to connect to the 12 to 18 years old segment of our population. Some of these young students are learning how to drive and through short videos / clips we can provide pedestrian safety tips to new drivers and young pedestrians.
    - Another example is to post street safety petitions videos of what a particular petition means to members of the public.

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- Colleen has provided Ffx FSS with occasional (and great!) social media support for the past year and now with Daniel joining we can broaden our outreach efforts.
  - Seeking Ffx FSS liaison volunteers to attend associations in a region.
    - Our liaison reps could explain Ffx FSS's mission, educate people about the NM app and make sure the NM cards / flyers with QR codes are distributed throughout the community.
    - We hope to identify Ffx FSS liaison volunteers with each District Supr. office and selected associations. Anyone who can volunteer please connect with Phil Kemelor: [philkemelor@gmail.com](mailto:philkemelor@gmail.com)
  - Establish communications with FCPS, its SRTS staff and PTAs
    - Try to schedule for student Ped Ed presentations and enlist student / parent volunteers to help disseminate the NM material
  - Other groups Ffx FSS could work with regarding street safety
    - Kiwanis, Elks, Churches, etc.
  - Define specific task or roles volunteers can sign up for to execute the above work and other projects.
  - Phil Kemelor suggested that we create a sub-committee of volunteers to help plan and organize a fall ped safety campaign with defining specific tasks and roles for different volunteers.
- Update Virginia General Assembly traffic regulatory bills
    - Mike reported that last week was a disappointing exercise with three different Transportation bills sponsored by the following Delegates all were killed because the Transportation Committee Chair and his fellow Republicans voted against each proposal and saying that VDOT is best to handle such issues. At one point in the "debate" about Del Plum's bill, the VDOT representative said that VDOT is the appropriate authority to determine speed limit reductions, not a local jurisdiction.
      - Del Plum (jurisdictional discretion on reducing speed limit minimal from 25 mph to a low as 15 mph),
      - Del Roem – using surplus state funds for explicit highway safety improvement programs
      - Del Carr – Speed limit jurisdictional authority to reduce speed limits to 15 mph in the City of Richmond

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One of the Ffx FSS attendees during the meeting commented that Del Plum once told her that VDOT does a good job in making the roads safe and is responsive to a community's needs.

### New Business

- Introduction, "Fairfax County Safe Streets Reports – 2022"
  - Karen McClusky presented an overview of her work which provides details on the 32 pedestrians killed in 2022. Karen's report shows maps of the location (by District Supervisor territory) where the fatalities occurred and some basic details of each crash. In addition, the report shows the status of the charges filed against the drivers who killed the pedestrians.

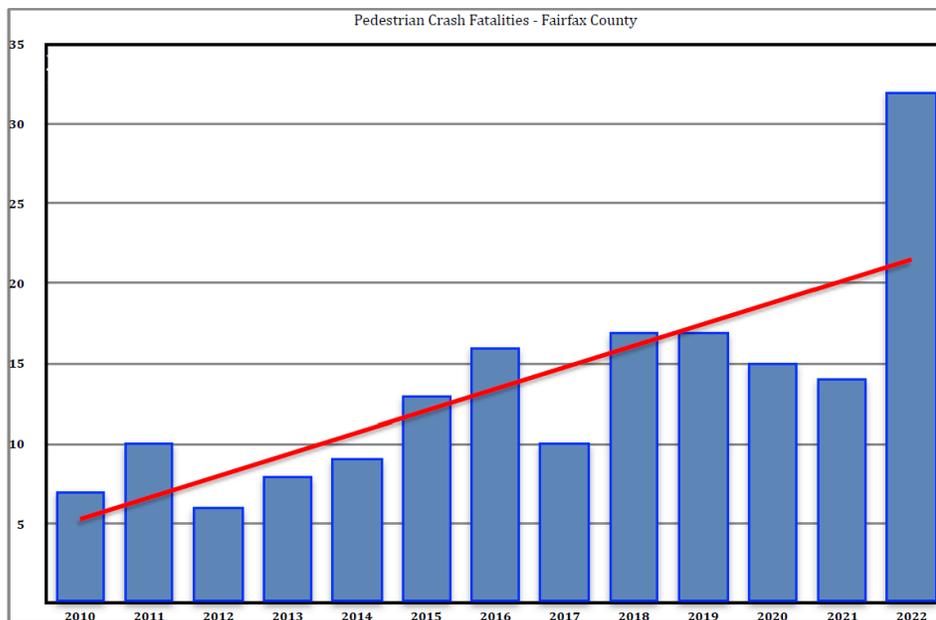


Chart Source: Virginia's Traffic Records Electronic Data Systems (TREDS).

The 2022 TREDS data is considered preliminary. Some crash information may not be finalized yet by law enforcement.

- The report discusses the fact that VDOT has the ultimate authority on Fairfax roads. Authority only works if there is also corresponding accountability of what happens on the roads. To date VDOT's accountability seems to be missing.
- We need to tailor the messaging on the report to specific policymakers and create a specific "asks" so follow up can be measured objectively. The asks for County policymakers is different than the asks of State policymakers
- The report should be distributed to:
  - all Ffx FSS members,
  - the local County and State policymakers
  - DOT officials at the County and State level
  - Media

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- 2023 outreach plans Phil said our plan will include more robust social media posting and increase in email frequency with cross referencing social media post in selected emails.
  - Andrea McGimsey suggest outreach done through community projects such as the Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions (FACS) that's in Fairfax, Alexandria as well as Loudoun County.
  - Also, back to school nights in the fall via connecting with the PTA organizations plus,
  - Homeowners associations (HOA) and/or local community organizations such as Bailey's Crossroads / Culmore, Richmond Hwy South, etc.
- The District Supervisor elections will be held later this year. Applications for all District Supervisor candidates has an April 6 deadline, so post the April filing date Ffx FSS could develop a questionnaire regarding street safety issues and perhaps hold a public forum to have a Q&A session with the candidates.
  - it was suggested that Ffx FSS members make appointments w/ District Supervisor offices
  - Walkinshaw on GA legislation
  - FACS has advocates for every FC District so this is another reason why Ffx FSS should partner with the FACS
- RTAP – Residential Traffic Administration Program - Jamie Bluth  
FC's RTAP works directly with communities to decrease the impacts of traffic and enhance safety in area neighborhoods. The RTAP program uses tools traffic calming techniques (e.g., speed bumps), cut-through mitigation, \$200 Fine for Speeding signs and other measures. However, Jamie reports that after 3 years of trying to get changes from VDOT at Fairway Drive in Fairfax, the challenge is to get consent from a property owner who doesn't live at the corner under question but apparently refuses to sign off on a necessary release. Jamie and her neighbors believe this situation in unfair. District Supr. Alcorn's office is trying to address the rules around RTAP but so far, nothing changes.

### Upcoming Events:

- **Next Fairfax FSS meeting** – Monday, March 6, 2023