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Alexandria Safe Streets News

September 2024



In this Edition

After an in person social event in July, and a month off in August, we're ready to get back to work. Please join us!

- September 17th Membership Meeting Details (Zoom)
- National Night Out
- Alexandria Road Improvements Updates
- AFSS volunteers at the West End Farmers market
- Save the dates for WDoR and a film screening
- Alexandria City Candidates responses to Street Safety questions



September AFSS Meeting Details

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2024, at 6:30 pm on Zoom. We hope you can join us!

Zoom Meeting Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88583453268?pwd=KsARJiG6W6ZAbkgVnGNz7nRW0debii.1>

Meeting ID: 885 8345 3268

Passcode: 172450

The Zoom logo is displayed on a blue square background. The word "zoom" is written in a white, lowercase, sans-serif font.

National Night Out

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Dr. Melanie Kay-Wyatt, Superintendent of Alexandria City Public Schools, stopped by the AFSS table with Brian Shankman and Kathy Cantwell of AFSS

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programs in communities nationwide. Alexandria held 48 events across the city, including one at Charles Houston Recreation Center in Old Town. The event includes hot dogs and hamburgers grilled by the local police, as well as popcorn, chips, and water. The event always brings many families and children who enjoyed playing on the bounce house inside the recreation center as well as dancing to the DJ's beats.

Alexandria Families for Safe Streets provided 3-way blinkers and information on the near miss crowdsourcing application available on the Novafss.org website, with many people showing interest and signing up to receive the newsletter.

Thank you Brian and Kathy for volunteering at our advocacy table during this important outreach event!



APD Officer Reeve and others stop by the AFSS table

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Alexandria Road Improvements Updates

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~~AFSS supported the following road improvements this year:~~

- Roundabout at Mt Vernon and Glebe
- Roundabout at Glebe/Montrose/Ashby
- Intersection improvements at Duke and Route 1
- Road improvements for King Street-Bradlee
- Bicycle lane improvements at Duke/Taylor/Wheeler
- Bicycle Improvements at South Pickett
- Bicycle Improvements at Holland
- Transportation Improvements / Study on Eisenhower Avenue
- Transportation improvements in the Alexandria West Plan

Several of these are still pending, or coming to the City Council at some point.

Pending proposals:

- Eisenhower Avenue (appealed to Council by local residents)
- South Pickett (appealed to Council by local residents)
- Bicycle lane improvements at Duke/Taylor/Wheeler (change to 1-way requires Council approval)

These projects may come to the City Council at the September 24 meeting or could be deferred to a later date.

- Alexandria West Small Area Plan (deferred for improvements by the Planning Commission - likely to come to City Council in October/ November timeframe)

Thank you to Dane Lauritzen, AFSS Board member, for monitoring and advocating for all of these road improvements at the Traffic & Parking Board meetings as well as at City Council meetings!

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AFSS volunteers at the West End Farmers market

AFSS members are starting our fall community outreach campaign at local Farmers Markets! We are advocating for pedestrian safety by handing out blinkers and Near Miss / Dangerous Locations QR code pocket sized cards to encourage residents to utilize the Near Miss survey to identify Dangerous Locations on the roads and pathways in our neighborhoods.

The Near Miss data is crowdsourced, analyzed and summarized for distribution to T&ES, APD, elected officials and the public at large. The below photo is of Bob Cox, an AFSS member and double leg amputee from a crash, handing out the Near Miss QR card and explaining how the Near Miss dashboard is used to support AFSS's safer streets advocacy efforts in Alexandria and Northern Virginia.

Thank you Bob for your advocacy and volunteering efforts!

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SAVE the Dates

We are still in the planning process, but please take note of the following dates. We would love to have you attend these events, so please put them on your calendar. Updates will be coming as soon as we've solidified our plans!

- Friday, November 8th - a free screening of [The Street Project documentary](#), perhaps followed by a social event at a nearby. Likely at the Vienna Community Center auditorium in the early evening. Details TBD!
- Sunday November 17th - The third Sunday of November is the international [World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims](#). We will be registering our event and sharing details soon, but it will likely be a 1-hour event focused on remembering all those we have lost in the last year with a call to action.

Voting is Important!

Electing people who care about making our streets safer is in everyone's interest. Read more about Alexandria's 2024 candidate responses below.

2024 Alexandria Candidates Responses to Street Safety questions

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