

Hickory and Kennedy New Roundabout Dangerous Location Reports

September 2024 – November 2024



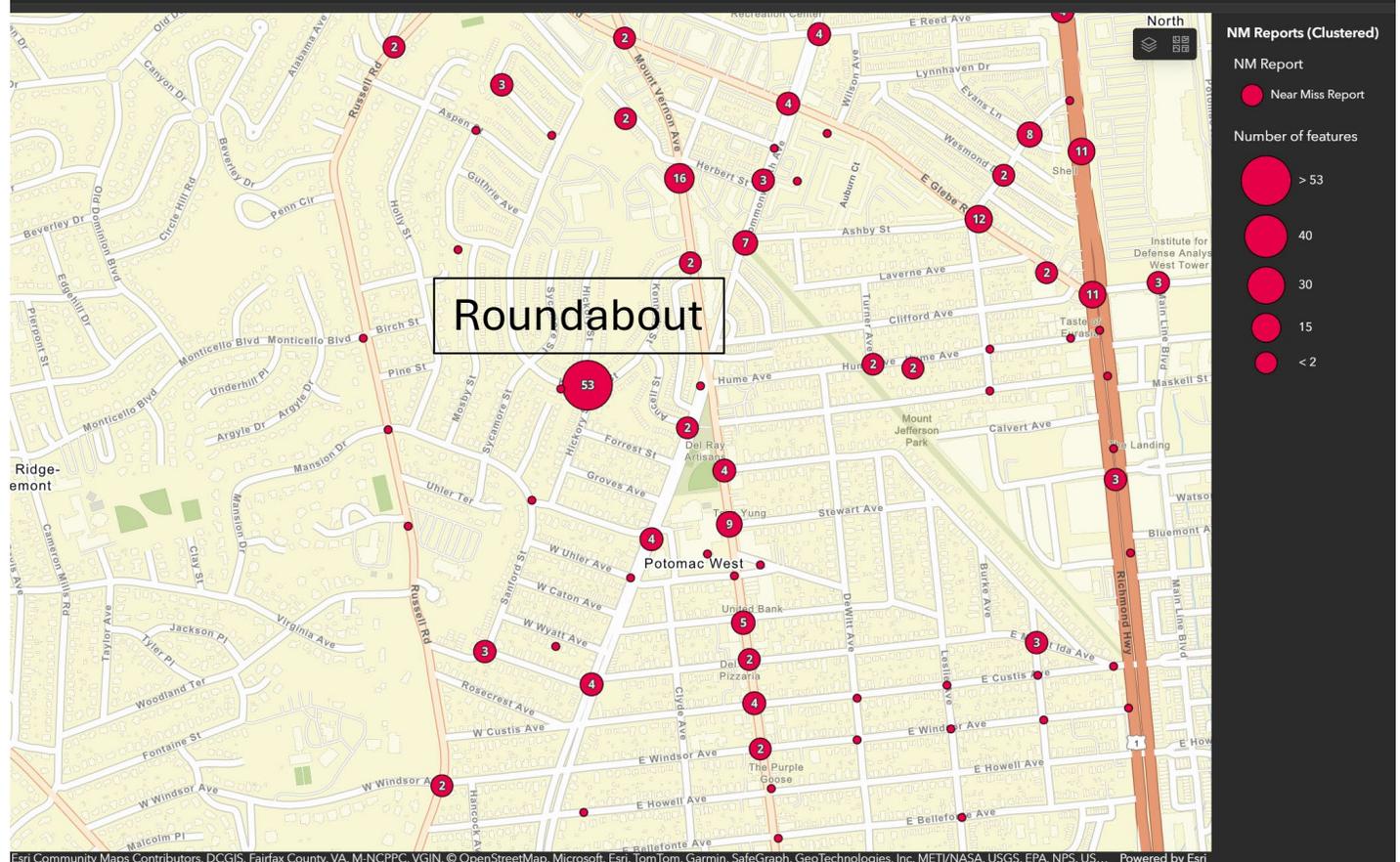
Hickory and Kennedy New Roundabout

- There were 131 total Near Miss (NM) reports for all of Alexandria between June 1 and Nov. 7, 2024, but no reports about this new roundabout prior to 9/19/2024.
 - Beginning 9/19/2024, over half of ALL Near Miss reports in Alexandria involved the new roundabout at Hickory and Kennedy in the Del Ray neighborhood.
 - Of 106 NM incidents reported for the City of Alexandria between 9/19/2024 to 11/7/2024,
 - 57 reports (54%) were related to the new roundabout at Hickory and Kennedy.
- Primary Unsafe Conditions were identified (note: not behavior but conditions) as:
 - Lack of Stop Signs or Safety Signals (56%)
 - Poor Visibility (38%)

Hickory and Kennedy Roundabout in Del Ray

Northern Virginia Near Miss and Dangerous Location Dashboard

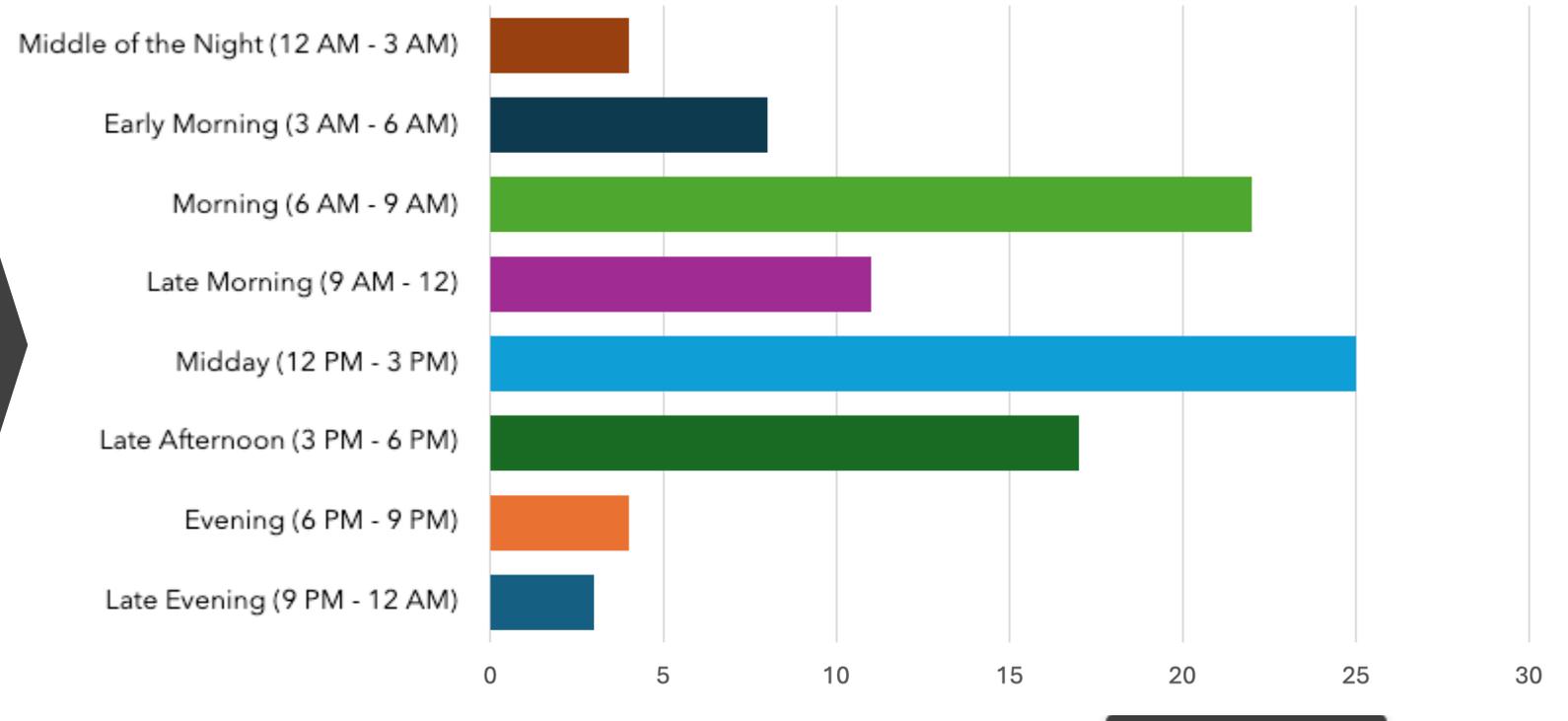
A real time visualization of crowdsourced Near Miss incidents and Dangerous Location reports



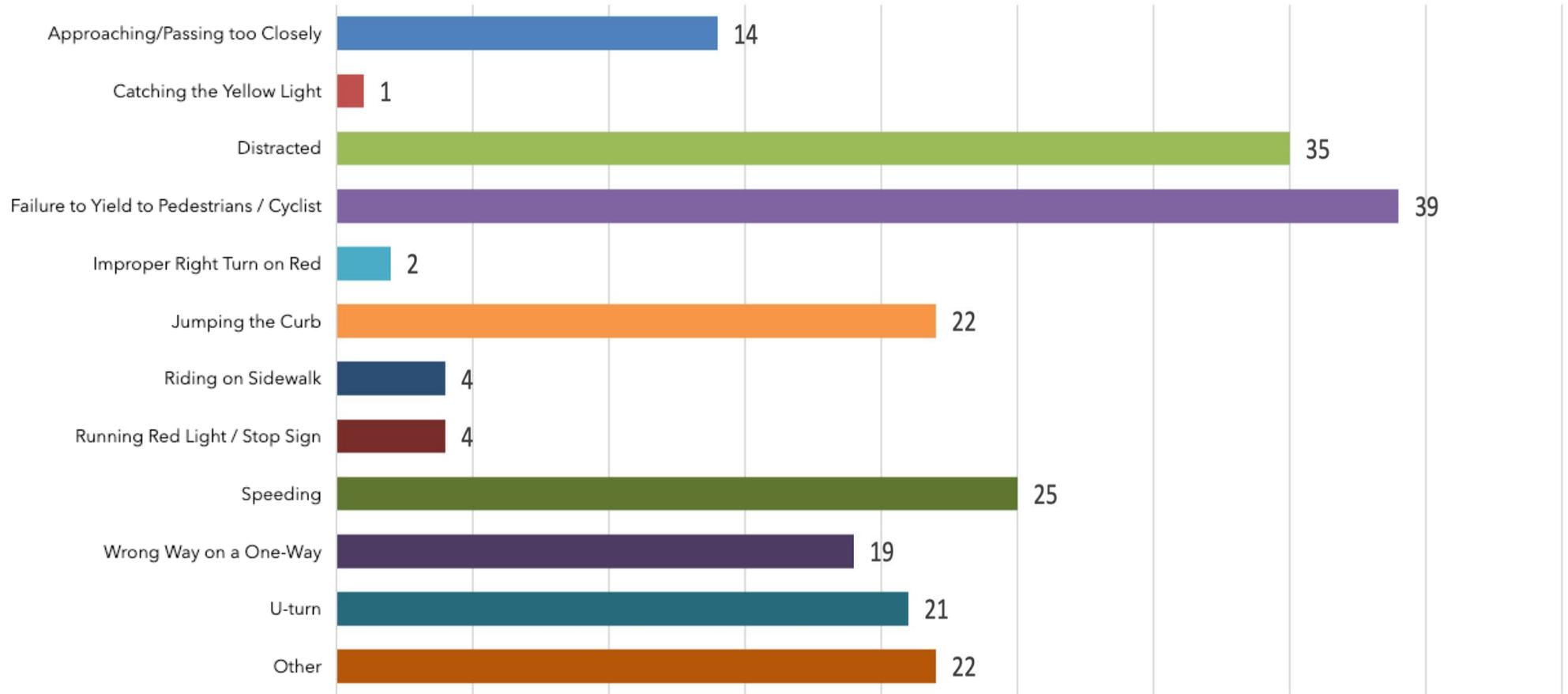
Hickory and Kennedy New Roundabout

Time of
Reported
Incident

Hickory and
Kennedy



Hickory and Kennedy Driver Behavior



Comments from the Near Miss Tool (1)

- Why aren't there stop signs here?
- Who put an experimental traffic circle on a blind curve?
- As a pedestrian it's hard to tell if drivers see you because they have to look at do many signs & markings & navigate the extra curbs, but as a driver I sympathize because I understand why it's so hard to see pedestrians in this new intersection. I hope it's removed soon, it's a disaster
- Each new element that has been added this year has decreased pedestrian visibility and INCREASED THE AMOUNT OF DISTRACTIONS FOR CHILDREN as we attempt to safely and quickly dodge cars and get across the intersection. There are also small curbs throughout the intersection that shred car tires in the tight turns and cause very painful injuries when you fall over them as a pedestrian.
- When I drive through the intersection it is now very hard to see pedestrians until they step out from behind the many new signs and obstructions that are features of the roundabout. And you never know when a delivery truck is going to go through the center of the intersection.
- The parent walking with me had to physically yank her child out of the path of a car whose driver clearly didn't see us or bother to yield
- The addition of the mini-roundabout and subtraction of stop signs has turned it into a free for all. As a disabled resident, I now add considerable time and energy use to most trips by traveling down Kennedy and crossing at Ancell Street, but today it seemed like it would be safer since there were numerous other adults plus children trying to safely cross the street.
- The new art is distracting to my kids & makes them a target for cars failing to yield. Like painting a bullseye on curious toddlers :-)

Comments from the Near Miss Tool (2)

- Most mornings I now walk 1/2 mile out of my way to go down Kennedy and cross at Ancell. I don't want my kids to be the ones who die in order for the city to take us seriously.
- Why aren't there stop signs? Will they be added in the next phase? This intersection revamp was a total surprise to us.
- The signs signaling that the intersection is ostensibly a circle are placed across the sidewalk at average adult eye level so that they pose a serious hazard to pedestrians. Our visually impaired neighbor is now terrified of this intersection, which needs fewer signs with fewer spelling errors and actual STOP signs.
- This intersection was dangerous and the city has somehow made it worse. I drive a small car and now have zero visibility to turn left out of Hickory. As a pedestrian, I now turn and walk down Kennedy if I can't get vehicles to yield when I step out, which is ridiculous. Drivers are distracted by the many visual elements in the intersection, which I sympathize with as I also drive through it several times a day.
- Hey can't see people in most spots and between the crazy misspelled signs and the arrows and the "art" and unpredictable traffic behavior they aren't even able to look out for us and drive.
- There are 12 lanes of traffic in this roundabout and traffic is speeding coming down hill and coming around a blind curve on the uphill and drivers can't see what's coming until they pull out and they aren't looking for pedestrians while they try not to get creamed by a speeding FedEx truck
- ... and more reports similar to the above.

