

# AFSS November 2025 Zoom Meeting

## Meeting summary

### Quick recap

The meeting began with introductions and updates on pedestrian and bicycle incidents, followed by discussions on the organization's financial status and upcoming fundraising initiatives.

Transportation projects and safety concerns were addressed, with a focus on bus stop safety, upcoming infrastructure improvements, and the need for community input on various designs. The group reviewed recent legislation and safety initiatives, including speed safety cameras and car-free zones, and concluded with plans for a holiday party and outreach to local officials.

### Next steps

- [Silas: Send email to Mike with timeline update on Mount Vernon and Glebe intersection project](#)
- [Silas: Send notice to Mike when Braddock Road Traffic and Parking Board meeting is scheduled for January](#)
- [Mike: Send police ped / bike crash report details to Elena and the group once received from Sergeant Dan Reeve](#)
- [Nicole: Email Jefferson Houston to schedule presentation date in late December](#)
- [Mike: Put West End Transit Center pop-up information in the chat](#)
- [Mike: Arrange for grandsons to help with elevator access at holiday party on December 16th](#)
- [Mike: Handle water and wine for December 16th holiday party](#)
- [Mike: Invite city council, police chief, Tarrick McGurie & Sgt. Dan Reeves, Silas, Hillary, Kristen, Chris Zeiman, and ACPS superintendent to December 16th holiday party](#)
- [Committee volunteers needed: Help with setup and food planning for December 16th holiday party](#)

## Summary

### Distracted Driving Safety Concerns

Mike shared his recent experience conducting a distracted driving presentation at ACHS, where he observed several students crossing the street unsafely after the classes. He then described his own commute home on the bus, where he witnessed more unsafe pedestrian behavior near the school.

The meeting began with introductions. The group discussed upcoming agenda items, though the transcript ends before they could begin.

### **Pedestrian and Bicycle Incident Review**

The meeting focused on pedestrian and bicycle incidents reported between October 15 and November 10, with Nicole sharing APD's details of eight incidents, including a hit-and-run involving a scooter rider and several pedestrians being struck in crosswalks. Elena inquired about a specific incident involving a pedestrian on Commonwealth & Mount Vernon. Mike noted that Sergeant Dan Reeve, the police's liaison, was unavailable to provide a detailed report on recent scooter crashes, including a possible hit-and-run, and promised to share the report once received.

Brian provided a brief treasurer's update, noting a bank balance of approximately \$16, 231, with some funds transferred from the Alexandria account to the NOVA account.

### **Financial Status and Fundraising Plans**

Mike explained that while they have received DMV grants totaling \$52,000, they have not yet touched the new \$52,000 grant due to paperwork delays and highlighted that AFSS' main expenses are related to distributing safety equipment at schools and farmers markets. The DMV grant does not fund any type of "Swag" which includes blinkers that cost AFSS ~\$10,000 a year. We give the blinkers out as part of our educational session with the middle school and high school students. The group discussed upcoming fundraising events, including Giving Tuesday this Dec 2nd, with a goal of raising an additional \$5,000-\$6,000 through private donations.

### **Bus Stop Safety and Accessibility**

Silas, a transportation planner with the city, manages the bus stop program and supports Complete Streets and transit capital projects. He explained that bus stop safety is a priority, and they focus on positioning stops to minimize pedestrian conflicts. Silas mentioned an upcoming project in Old Town to rebalance bus stops for safety and accessibility. Mike expressed concerns about the bus stop design near the high school and learned that approved changes to move the westbound stop west of the intersection will be implemented in the spring. Silas also noted that surveys have been sent out to gather input on improving various bus stop locations.

### **Transportation Safety and Community Planning**

Silas discussed several upcoming transportation projects, including a citywide no-turn-on-red policy standardization and the Seminary West planning study. He mentioned challenges in reaching underserved communities for safety surveys, particularly in the Beauregard and Arlandria sections of town. Silas also highlighted efforts to increase safety awareness around bus stops and shared

details about a new transit center at the Landmark Mall site, which is currently hosting a pop-up event for community input on its design.

### **Alexandria Transportation Projects Update**

The meeting discussed several transportation projects in Alexandria, including West Street improvements, West Braddock Corridor study, Beauregard Trail feasibility, and Holland Lane construction. Silas presented updates on these projects, highlighting outreach plans and design considerations. Melissa raised questions about the Madison and Montgomery Streets project, particularly regarding two-way conversion and safety for cyclists and families. Silas explained that multiple design options would be presented to the community for feedback, including potential dedicated facilities and space reallocation, in the near future. The group agreed to provide input on these projects, especially the Braddock Road improvements, where concerns about parking and safety were noted.

### **Mount Vernon Intersection Safety Updates**

The meeting focused on updates regarding the Mount Vernon and Glebe intersection projects, where design procurement is in progress and a figure-eight intersection design is being considered to address pedestrian safety concerns following two fatalities and several injuries. Silas agreed to provide an email update on the project timeline and committed to sending notices about the upcoming Traffic and Parking Board meeting in January, which will discuss potential parking changes and bike lane additions. The conversation ended with introductions, including Katia's interest in joining the organization due to her background in human resources and event planning, and her connection to the affected streets.

Post meeting note:

#### **Mt Vernon/Glebe project:**

- Kicked off design – Fall 2025
- Anticipated design completion – Spring 2027
- Anticipated Construction Phase begin – Summer 2027

#### **Safe Streets Advocacy and Education**

The meeting began with introductions from various members, including Melissa McMahon, Nicole Radshaw, Jean Small, and others, highlighting their roles and connections to Families for Safe Streets. Nicole discussed her involvement in pedestrian education and her role in the organization, while Jean shared her experience as a scientist and a crash survivor. The group acknowledged the efforts of Nicole and others in promoting safety and community engagement. The discussion then shifted to the Safe Routes to School initiative, with Nicole providing insights into its progress and challenges.

### **School Outreach and Remembrance Event**

Nicole provided an update on school presentations, noting they have reached 1,300-1,400 middle school students across four Alexandria schools, with plans to visit Jefferson Houston in December and Hammond in December 1-2, followed by George Washington Middle School in January. Brian shared his observations from the World Day of Remembrance event at Gateway Park in Arlington, where he witnessed a powerful display of 24 body silhouettes chalk outlines representing NOVA's traffic fatalities and heard moving speeches from a crash survivor and local officials including the Alexandria Police Chief and Senator Adam Ebbin.

### **Speed and Safety Legislation Updates**

The meeting discussed two recently passed pieces of legislation: the Intelligence Speed Assistance Bill, which allows judges to install technology limiting drivers to 5 miles over the speed limit for up to two years, and the Vulnerable Road User bill, which increases penalties for drivers who kill pedestrians in crosswalks from a \$250 fine to up to \$2,500 and potential jail time. The discussion also covered the need for broader implementation of speed safety cameras in high-crash areas and stop sign cameras, which have been effective in DC.

### **Transportation Safety and Holiday Plans**

The group discussed several transportation safety initiatives, including speed safety cameras and car-free zones, with Mike reporting that Alexandria's King Street car-free zones have been successful. They reviewed preparations for the upcoming General Assembly session, where they plan to push for speed safety cameras despite previous defeats, with Mike explaining they need to address privacy concerns caused by the license plate reader data breach this past summer.. The conversation ended with plans for a December holiday party at their office on December 16th from 5-7pm, which will include light appetizers and beverages, and Mike announced he would be inviting city council members, police chief, and other partners to the event.