

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

15 March 2022: 6:30 pm to 8 pm

Location: Zoom

Meeting Minutes

Introductions – 15 people in attendance.

Treasurer's Report

- We started the month with a balance of \$12,563. After an expense of \$88 for Facebook advertising, the balance is now \$12,475.
- Alexandria's annual fundraising campaign, Spring2Action, is on April 27.
- In the near future, NoVA FSS will be spending about \$4,800 on a major website upgrade. This is subject to board approval.

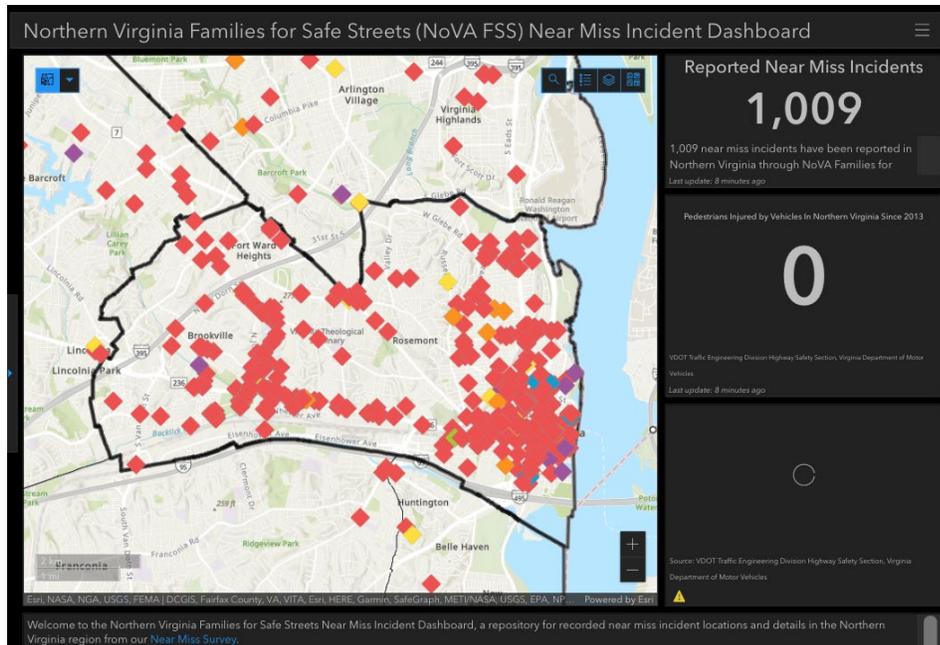
Guest Speakers

- APD – Lt. Delton Goodrum
 - Lt. Goodrum is still getting access to reports but should have full access soon so that he can update Mike with recent statistics.
- Safe Routes to School (SRTS) – Jane Davis
 - Recently, at Hammond Middle School, AFSS collaborated with SRTS and ACPS to address ~600, 6th grade students over the course of 2 days. Test piloted two formats: assembly-style and a more intimate classroom setting. By partnering with APD, a safety resource officer was involved in the presentation as well. It was a productive presentation, and we hope the children were able to connect the dots between their pedestrian education unit and their biking unit and safe streets awareness.
 - SRTS has some feelers out for potential future presentations at the City High School and Jefferson-Houston Middle School.
 - The SRTS team is working on reviewing walk audit items that were identified in 2017. Specifically, there are issues with safety in arrival and dismissal at schools. Working with APD on crossing guard assignments. There are other items that ACPS needs to work on. There are also schools that weren't included in the walk audit. The walk audit needs to be repeated. If a future walk audit is scheduled, AFSS may be able to assist.

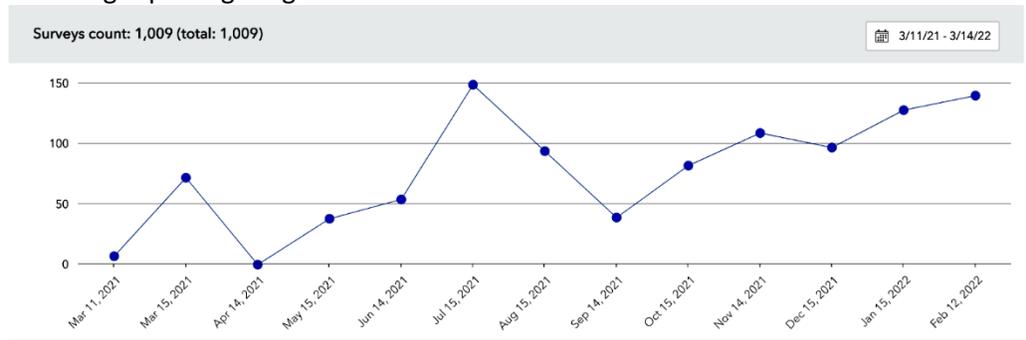
Old Business

- Update on TPB Grant
 - We received \$45,000 through a grant from the Transportation Planning Board (TPB) of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOG). This grant will help run analytics on the data generated from the survey and expand usability through translation and the creation of a mobile app.
 - The money would go directly to the consultants who will help us with the improvements to the survey.
 - Currently reviewing proposals from consulting firms and we hope the project work can begin end of April / early May.
- Near Miss Survey Updates
 - All Alexandria NM incidents to 14 Mar 2022:

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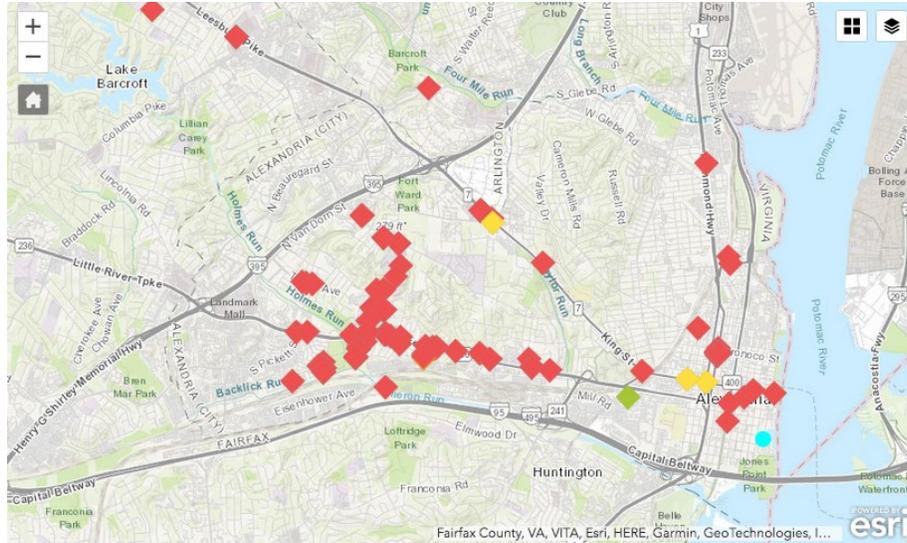


- Increasing reporting usage week over week

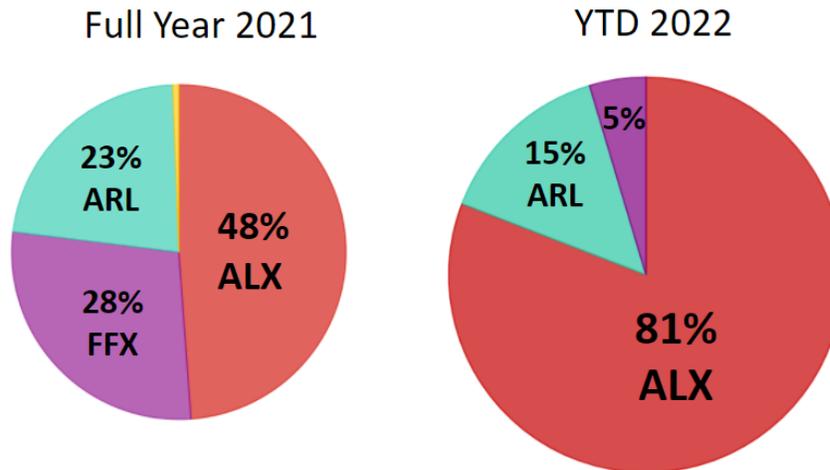


- Near Miss Reports YTD to Mar. 14, 2022
 - 303 incidents occurred in 2022 in NoVA
 - 245 Alexandria, 44 Arlington, 14 Fairfax
 - Prior Years
 - 516 incidents occurred in 2021 in NoVA
 - ALX 249 (48%), FFX 147 (29%), ARL 117 (23%)
 - 190 incidents occurred in prior years (2017-2020)

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- Incidents by Jurisdiction



- **NATURE OF INCIDENT:** Recent ALX trend in past 10.5 weeks shows (from January 1) – Based on 245 incident reports in Alexandria, 97 (40%) were failure to yield. Sidewalk Blocked was 65 (27%) and Crosswalk blocked 17 (7%). Speeding was third with 60 (24%)
- **LOCATION DETAILS = 46% were at a crosswalk,** and 29% at Sidewalk. Another 40% included either a traffic light (27%) or stop sign (13%). Left Turn was 8% (19) whereas Right Turn Near Misses were flagged 18% (45), which is consistent with prior reporting.
- Connecting with underserved community members
 - We have the NM survey translated into Spanish, but it is not accessible in Spanish online yet.
 - Often, there is a language barrier when we have in-person events, so we need to develop hand and flyers in multiple languages.

New Business

- High Risk Crash Locations
 - Mount Vernon and Glebe – a roundabout

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- We discussed the possibility of a modern roundabout at this location last month.
- AFSS can write a letter to City Council and the local press to share our recommendation about a modern roundabout. Dane will draft the advocacy letter.
- We can also respond to a survey about this intersection and recommend a roundabout: <https://www.alexandriava.gov/transportation-planning/mount-vernon-avenue-north-complete-streets>
 - Braddock Metro Station Area. Discussion of advocating for the return of a bike lane under the Metro bridge near the Metro. Perhaps a letter to TES.
- Alexandria City Council Advocacy
 - City Council unanimously approved an ordinance that will allow the City Manager to reduce speed limits in Alexandria to as low as 15 miles per hour.
 - Mike Doyle was quoted in an ALX Now article about the change: <https://www.alxnow.com/2022/03/15/alexandria-city-council-feels-the-need-for-speed-limit-reductions/>
 - This is an issue that AFSS has advocated for. Thanks to everyone who helped in advocacy.
- Improve bench of volunteers for:
 - ACPS educational programs
 - NM survey outreach campaigns
 - Social Media posting on FB/IG, NextDoor, WhatsApp, etc.
 - One idea suggested is to hire someone to produce content for social media. Someone recommended that we reach out to Alexandria Associates, a local marketing firm. Their founder is an advocate for street safety.
 - We need additional support for survey outreach.
- Transportation Commission
 - The Alexandria Transportation Commission meets monthly, usually the day after AFSS meetings. Next meeting is on March 16, 2022.
 - On the agenda is the City budget process which is happening now. Also on the agenda is a report on Vision Zero updates.
 - March 16 Docket: https://www.alexandriava.gov/sites/default/files/2022-03/March%2016%202022_Docket_0.pdf
- Gauging Interest in future In-Person meetings
 - Maybe we can consider an in-person or hybrid meeting in April or May.
 - For many attendees, meeting in-person on a weeknight is challenging with family obligations.
 - An alternative would be a social event to meet each other in-person. Perhaps a gathering for AFSS's anniversary.
- Duke Street in Motion
 - City Council approved the formation of a Duke Street in Motion Advisory Group to assist City staff in the development of transit improvements for the corridor. If you are interested in applying to the committee go to the Duke Street in Motion website.
 - <https://www.alexandriava.gov/DukeInMotion>

Upcoming Events

- AFSS Meeting – Next meeting on Tuesday, April 19, 2022