

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

19 April 2022: 6:30 pm to 8 pm

*Location: Zoom*

## **Meeting Minutes**

**Introductions** – 16 people in attendance.

### **Treasurer's Report**

- We have a current balance of \$12,419.39. Recently spent about \$56 on Facebook advertising in the last month.
- We have all of the documentation in place to formalize the establishment the Northern Virginia Families for Safe Streets organization. Alexandria FSS will be a chapter of the larger regional organization. We are in the process of setting up the bank account for the new organization. Alexandria, Arlington, and Fairfax will be three separate chapters under NoVA, each with separate finances.
- The Spring2Action campaign begins on April 27, 2022. This is AFSS' largest fundraising effort through the event coordinated by ACT for Alexandria. We intend to use funds to purchase 3-way blinkers to giveaway.

### **Guest Speakers**

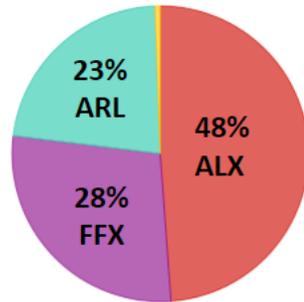
- APD – Lt. Delton Goodrum (absent)
- Safe Routes to School (SRTS) – Jane Davis
  - There was a serious pedestrian incident at Jefferson-Houston in which a 9-year-old was injured at dismissal. This has highlighted the importance of the work that SRTS is doing for pedestrian safety around schools.
  - Only half of the infrastructure improvements from the walk audit from a few years ago have been implemented. Now a few years later, the walk audit is outdated and not all schools in Alexandria have data.
  - Alexandria Council of PTAs (PTAC) went to city council and the mayor with a series of issues that they want the city to address to improve safety including speed cameras around schools, SRTS audit, T&ES staffing issues and the crossing guard shortage.
  - SRTS is advocating internally within ACPS leadership to bring more focus to these issues. Right now the SRTS team is feeling some resistance in working with T&ES.

### **Old Business**

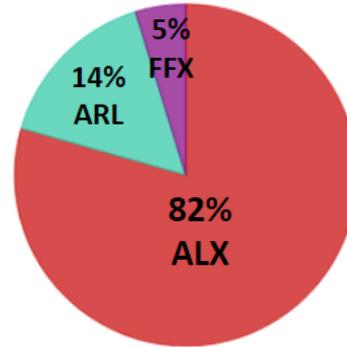
- Latest NM survey results
  - 1177 incidents have been entered in the NM tool as of 4/16/2022
    - 470 incidents occurred in 2022 in NoVA. Of the 470, 384 are Alexandria, 64 Arlington, 22 Fairfax
      - In 2021, there were 517 reported incidents (249 in Alexandria, 148 in Fairfax, and 117 in Arlington)
      - In all prior years (2013-2020), there were 186 reported incidents.

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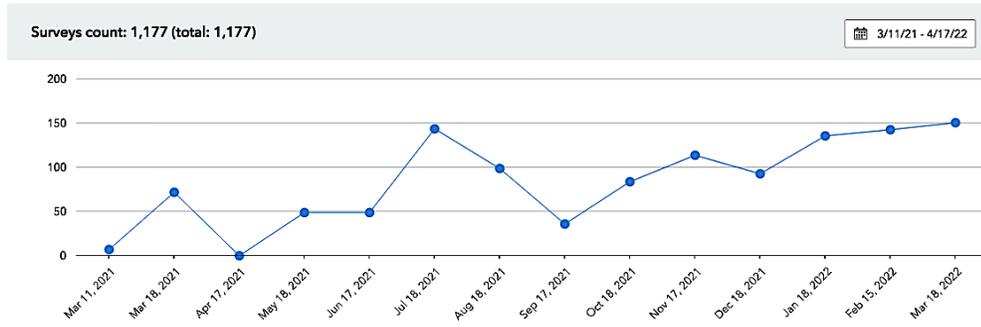
Full Year 2021



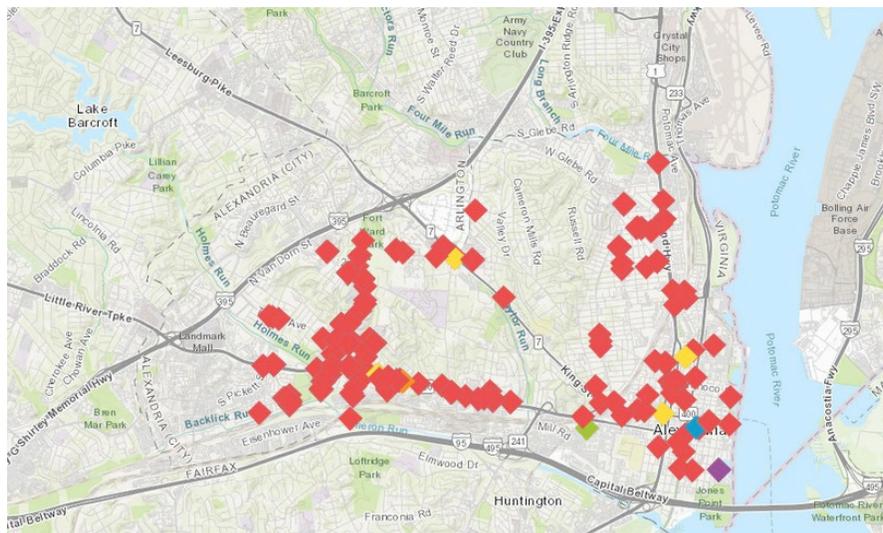
2022 YTD



- Average in 2021 was about 7-9 per month now is 133 per month for NOVA.
- Current rate for 2022 would yield ~1600 more entries in 2022
- Increasing reporting usage week over week



- Locations of reports in Alexandria YTD to April 16



- Most reports are due to failure to yield, speeding, and blocked sidewalks.
- Most reports are incidents that occurred between 8-11am.
- High Risk Crash Locations
  - Mount Vernon and Glebe

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- The Mount Vernon Avenue North Complete Streets Project is underway to provide safety improvements on Mount Vernon Avenue between West Glebe Road and Four Mile Run. Mount Vernon Avenue was identified as an area of concern based on community input and a history of fatal and injury crashes.
- The intersection of Mount Vernon and Glebe is a dangerous intersection with room for improvement. Last meeting we discussed the possibility of redesigning the intersection with a roundabout.
  - Dane drafted a letter to recommend a modern roundabout for this intersection. Modern roundabouts don't require stop signs or red lights and don't require cars to brake or idle. They are also friendlier to pedestrians and cyclists. It can be an effective way to keep traffic flowing and pedestrians safe.
  - Here is an example of a dog bone roundabout:



- We could use letter writers to draft letters to bring attention to other high crash locations. Let us know if you have ideas for locations or are interested in writing.
- TPB Grant – Near Miss project update
  - AFSS recently won a grant to expand and improve the Near Miss survey. Through this grant award, the TPB, with AFSS and APD's input, has hired a consultant to work on the project. The consultant's contract is in progress. We hope that the data analytics work will begin in May.

### **New Business**

- Spring2Action campaign
  - This year's Spring2Action fundraising campaign officially begins on April 27, 2022, with early giving starting on April 13. Our 2022 goal is \$7000 to purchase 3-way blinker lights that are pocket sized and portable. AFSS has distributed them to schools, homeless shelters, and community members. We would like to continue and expand our outreach to more schools in the community.
  - Spring2Action will be featured in the regional FSS newsletter and will be promoted on social media.
  - In 2020, our goal was \$1,000, and we raised \$2,456. In 2021, our goal was \$5,000 and we raised \$5,730.
- Upcoming ACPS Events

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

- Fun Run on Saturday, April 23 at Patrick Henry K-8 School, James K. Polk Elementary School, and Douglas MacArthur Elementary School at 8-9:30am
  - Representatives from AFSS will be attending to distribute flyers to students and their families. The organizers recommend AFSS also bring fruit snacks for the children. Jane volunteered to procure the fruit snacks.
- PTAC Spring Fling with Ferdinand T. Day Elementary School, John Adams Elementary School, and William Ramsay Elementary School at the John Adams playground on Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> from 2-4pm.
  - AFSS is looking for volunteers to help staff our table and hand out street safety material.
- Speed & Loud Noise: Combination speed/noise (decibel) cameras
  - AFSS has been advocating in support of increased use of speed cameras legislation in Richmond. Right now, speed cameras are restricted to school and construction zones. There is new technology that functions as both speed cameras and noise monitors. This may be technology we want to incorporate into our advocacy.
- Letter of support for Body-Worn Cameras on Alexandria Police
  - APD is pursuing a grant for body cameras and requested a letter of support from AFSS. Alexandria Families for Safe Streets wrote a letter Chief Don Hayes in support of body cameras to support street safety.
- FY23 Budget proposals that accelerate Safe Street improvements
  - There is a \$150,000 Complete Streets proposal "to add a Civil Engineer position in the CIP. See [Budget memo #08](#) for more information.
  - There is also a \$490,000 Speed Camera proposal to add 5 devices to school crossing zones. This proposal would be funded by \$500,000 in revenue from the implementation of the enforcement program. See [Budget memo #15](#) for more information.
  - Please send a short, personal note to City Council members via this [link](#) as soon as possible before Saturday, April 23, 2022
  - Please also sign-up to speak at Saturday's (04/23) Public Hearing (Docket Item #8). Here are links to the [Speaker Form](#), [Meeting Agenda](#), and [Zoom Registration](#)

### **Upcoming Events**

- ACPS Fun Run at Patrick Henry with Polk & MacArthur, April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 8am
- Spring2Action fundraiser – Wednesday, April 27
- Walk tour of Patrick Street with Councilmember Bagley on Friday, April 29 at 4pm. Meet at Buzz Bakeshop.
- **AFSS Meeting – Next meeting on Tuesday, May 17, 2022**
- In June or July we may schedule an in-person social event