



County of Fairfax, Virginia



Proposed Safe Streets for All Program

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Fairfax County Department of
Transportation

November 18, 2021



Language Logistics

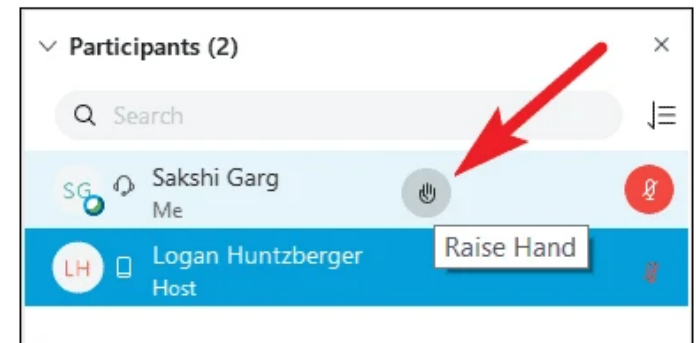
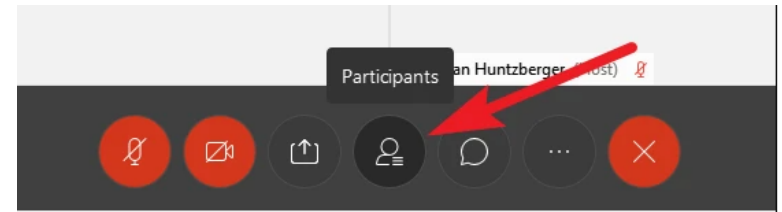
- To hear this presentation and ask questions in Spanish, please call: 443-228-6670
- Para escuchar esta presentación y hacer preguntas en español, por favor llame al: 443-228-6670





WebEx Meeting Logistics

- Participants are muted unless called upon
- There will be multiple polls and time for discussions
- Please type questions in the Q&A throughout the presentation or use the Raised Hand button if you would like to provide verbal comments
- If you are calling in and would like to speak, please press #3 to “raise your hand”
- The moderator will unmute you when it is your turn to ask a question





Thank you for joining us.
We recognize and value your time,
effort and commitment towards safer
roads in Fairfax County.



Agenda

- Welcome & Introductions
- ActiveFairfax Transportation Plan Project Overview
- Active Transportation Safety in Fairfax County
- Safe Streets for All Program Overview
- Polls & Discussion
- Next Steps





Active Transportation: Definition

Active transportation is **mostly non-motorized travel** including walking, biking, hiking, and riding a scooter or horse for transportation or recreational purposes.





In 2020, Fairfax County launched the ActiveFairfax Transportation Plan effort to update planning guidance for sidewalks, trails, bikeways and crosswalks.





ActiveFairfax Transportation Plan Priorities

1. Plan a **connected and comfortable network of sidewalks, bikeways and trails** that serve people of all ages and abilities
2. Help engineers design **safer crosswalks**
3. Recommend changes to laws that could help **make walking and biking safer** and more comfortable
4. Recommend programs and initiatives to **encourage people to walk and bike**
5. Recommend **what areas or streets should be improved first**



Between 2014 – 2020, an average of **183 people walking and 65 people biking were struck by a vehicle every year in Fairfax County.**

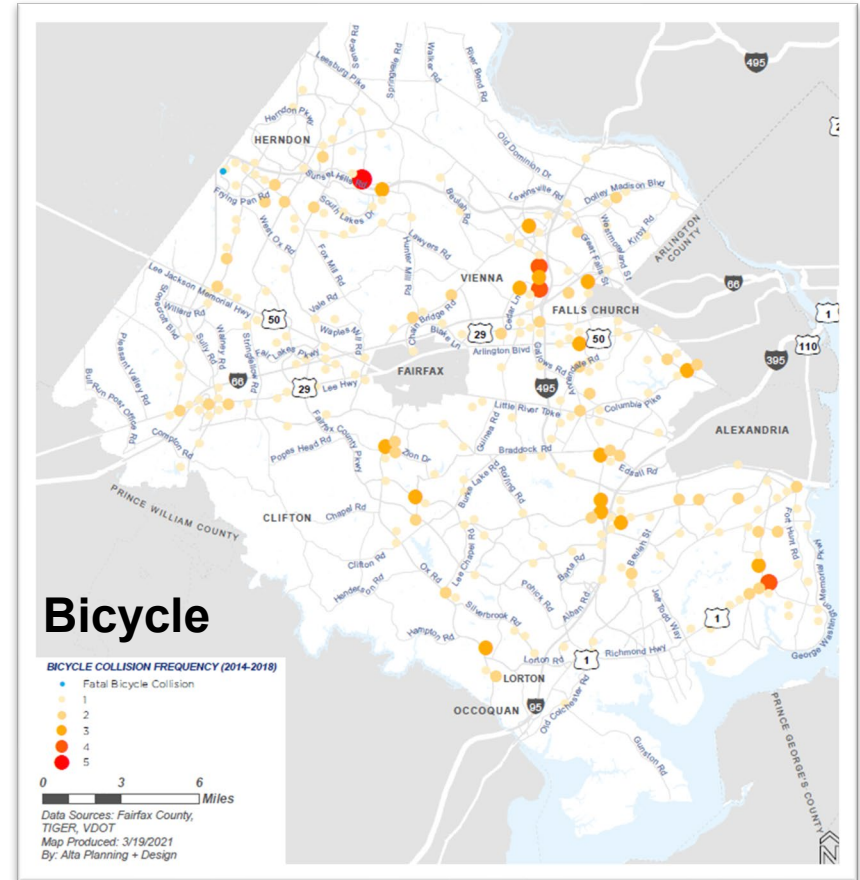
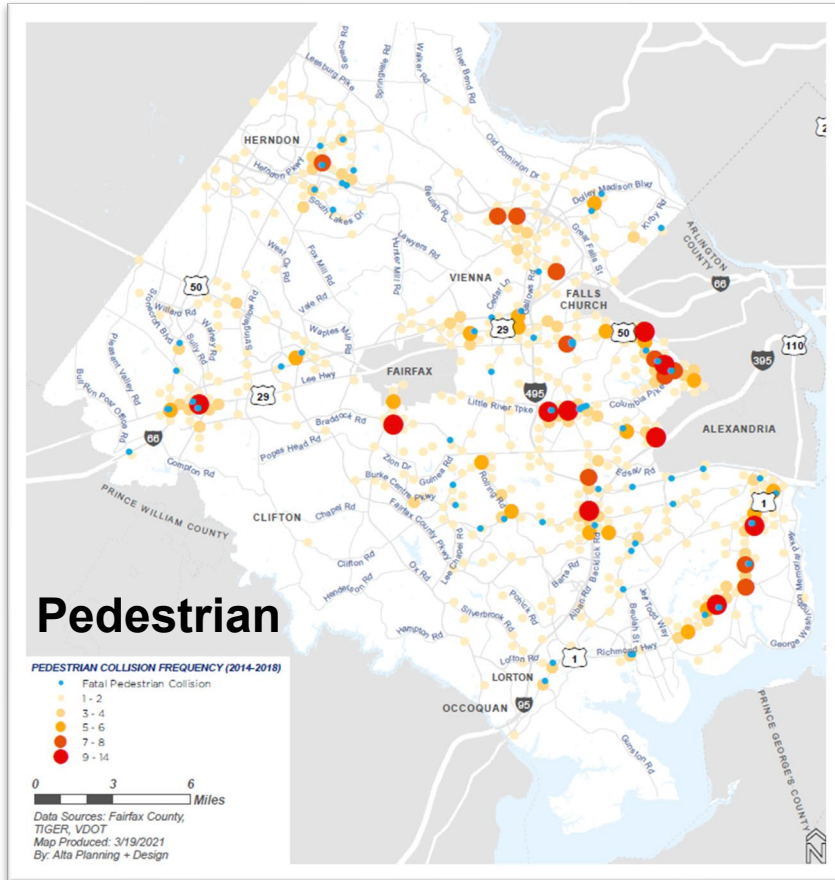
In January 2020, the **Board of Supervisors** passed a motion to make Fairfax County **safer for pedestrians and bicyclists** including “to establish and achieve measurable safety goals.”



As part of the **ActiveFairfax Transportation Plan** effort Fairfax County DOT developed draft recommendations for a countywide **Safe Streets for All Program**, which will become a stand-alone initiative once approved.

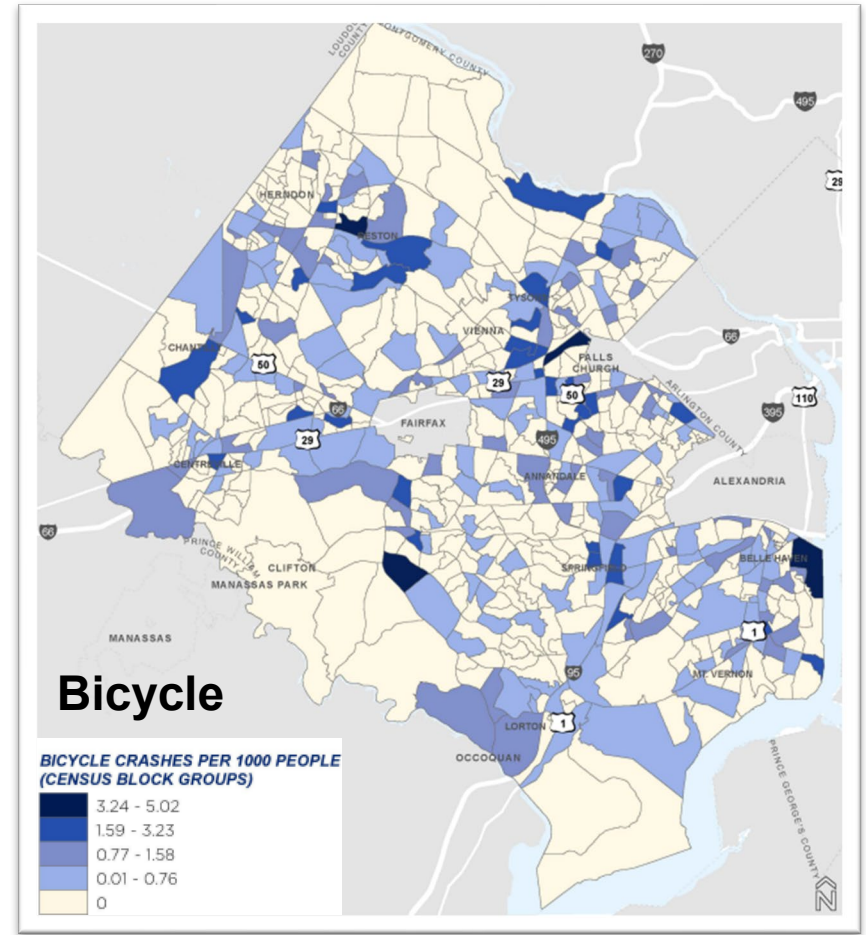
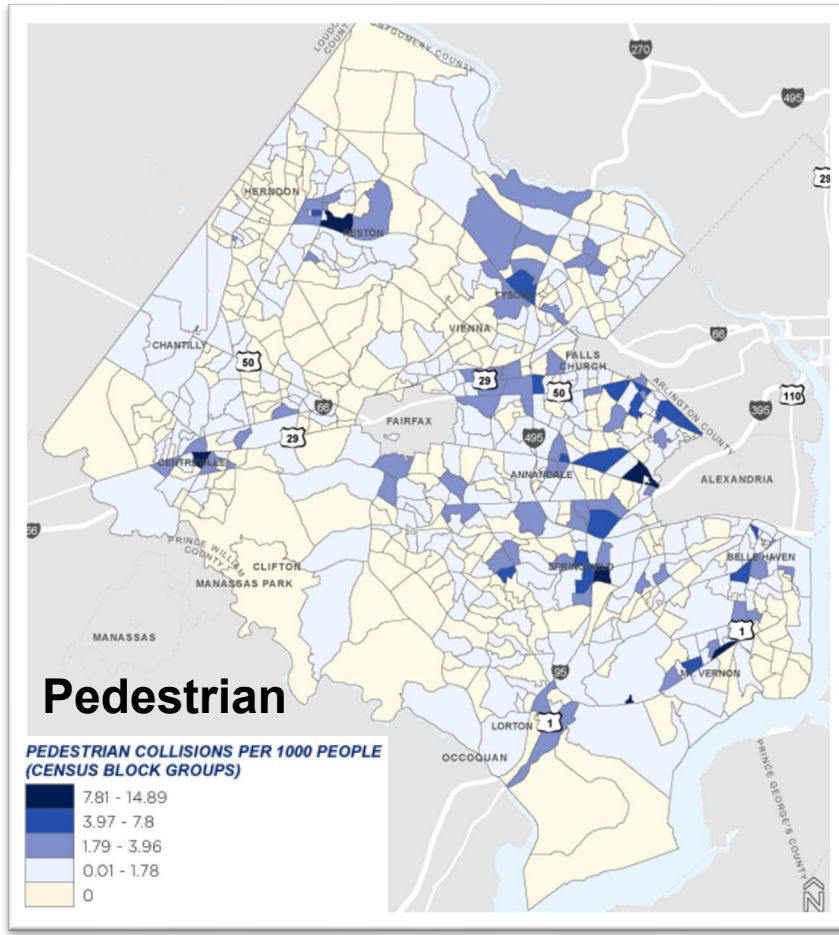


Where do pedestrian and bicycle crashes happen? *By the numbers*



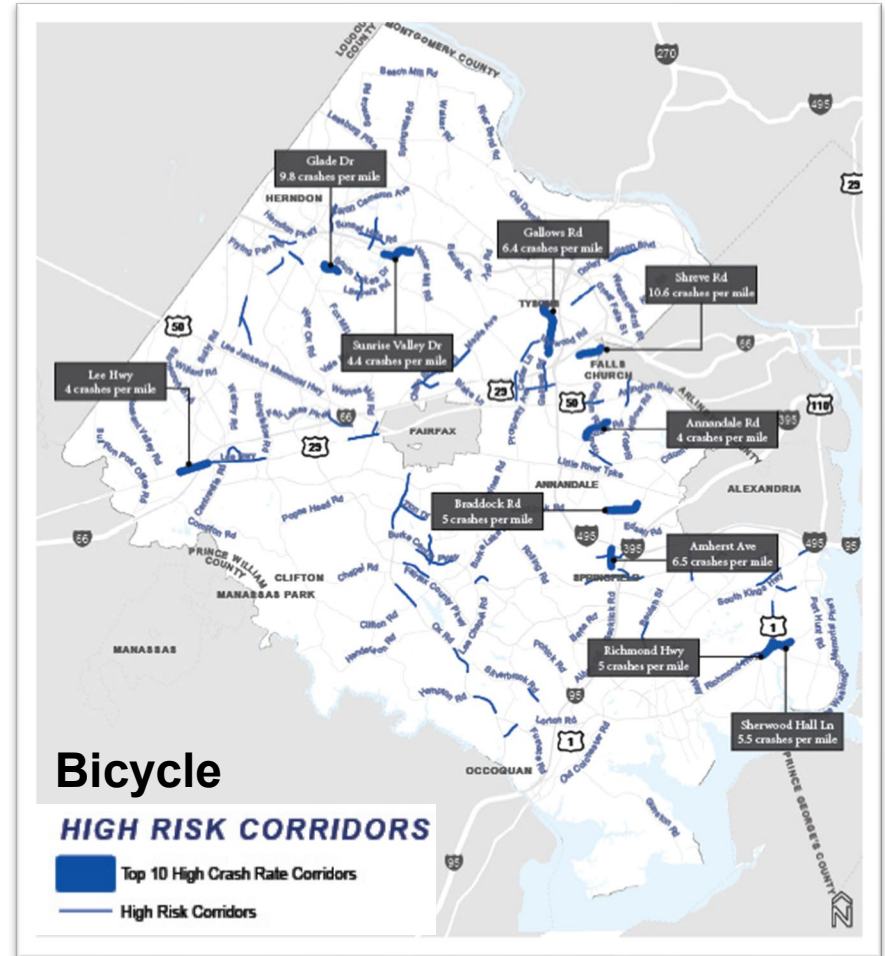
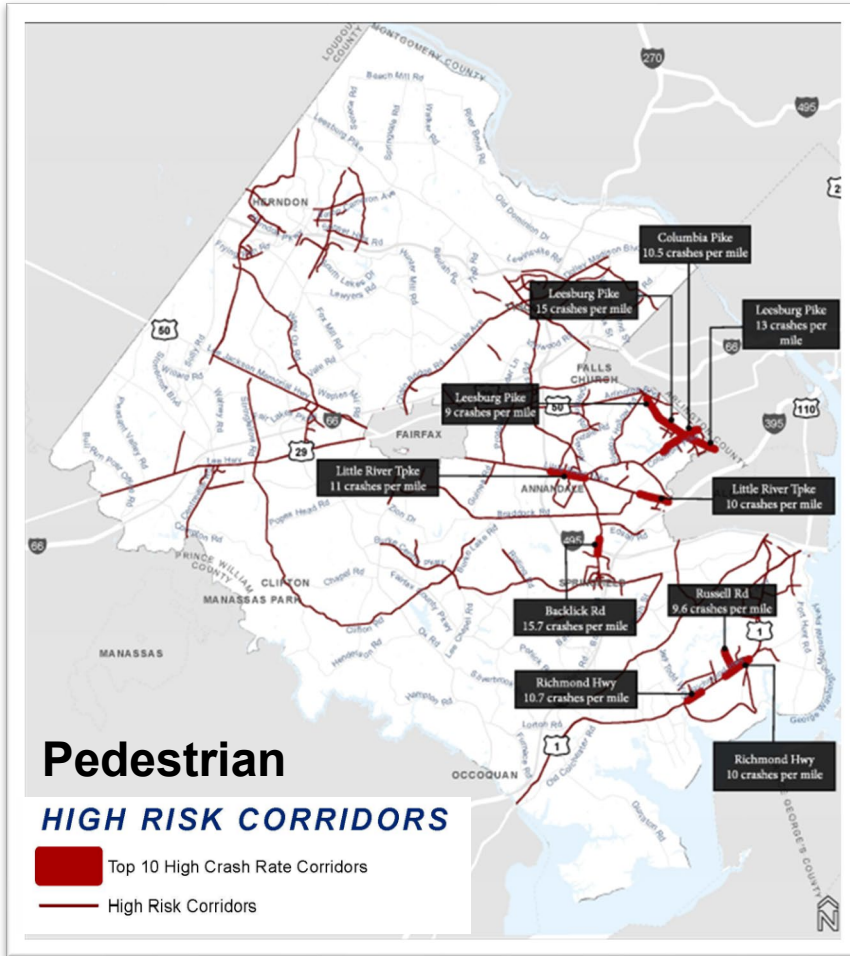


Crash rate per 1,000 residents



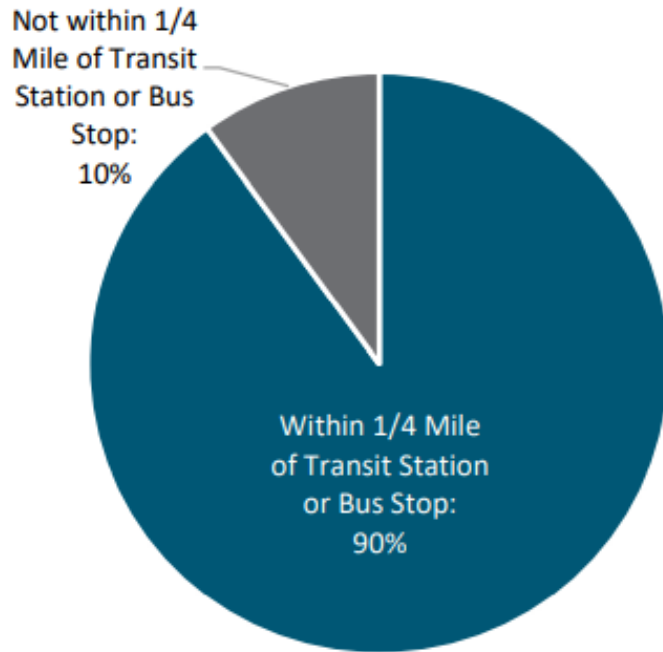


Crash rate per roadway mile

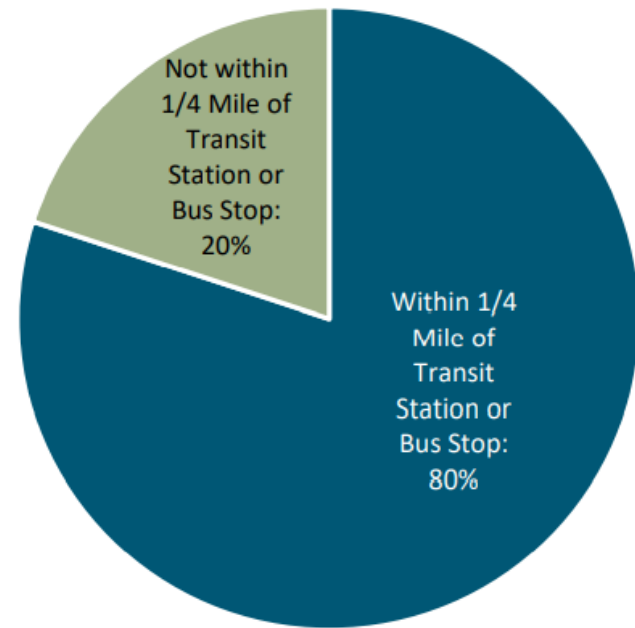




By proximity to transit



Pedestrian Crashes



Bicycle Crashes



Why does vehicle speed matter?

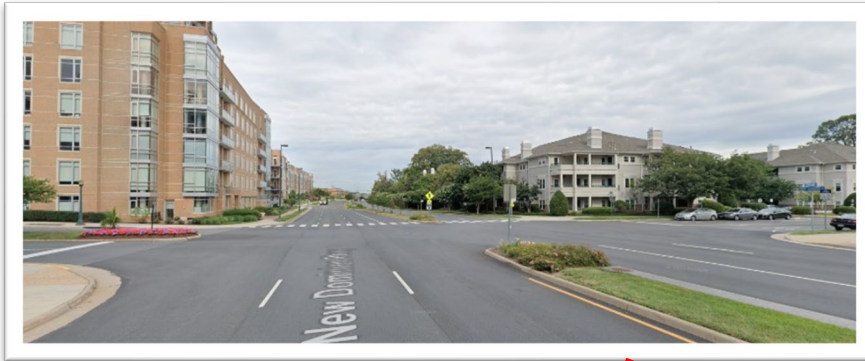
Based on national data:



https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle_pedestrian/publications/multimodal_networks/fhwahep16055.pdf



Why does street design matter?



Wider, higher speed roadway



Narrower, slower speed roadway



Pedestrian Crashes

- K. Fatal Injury
- A. Severe Injury
- B. Visible Injury
- C. Nonvisible Injury
- PDO. Property Damage Only

Reston Town Center, VDOT Pedestrian Safety Action Plan Map, 2014 - 2018 Crashes



Complete Streets are Safe Streets

What are
Complete Streets?

Space for PEDESTRIANS
Curb ramps, crosswalks, and curb extensions to make it easy for walking or rolling pedestrians to cross streets and access destinations

Space for BIKES
Designated connected routes and low-stress facilities that support people riding bikes, e-bikes and scooters

Space for CARS
Design cues to encourage slower speeds and driver awareness of vulnerable road users

Space for MASS TRANSIT
Bus shelters, transit-only lanes, and signal priority to create transit-friendly roadways

Space for SHARED MOBILITY
Designated curb-side space for shared bike and scooter parking that separates users from traffic, and keeps sidewalks clear and safe

Space for REFUGE
Street furniture, street trees for shade, pedestrian-scale lighting, and public green spaces that promote gathering and social interaction



What is the Safe Streets for All Approach?

- Pedestrian and bicycle deaths and injuries are preventable
- Roads are planned and designed to be efficient and safe for everyone
- Safety issues are addressed before crashes occur
- All road users share the responsibility to keep each other safe





In spring 2021, the ActiveFairfax
Transportation Plan team asked the
community about **active transportation
concerns and barriers.**



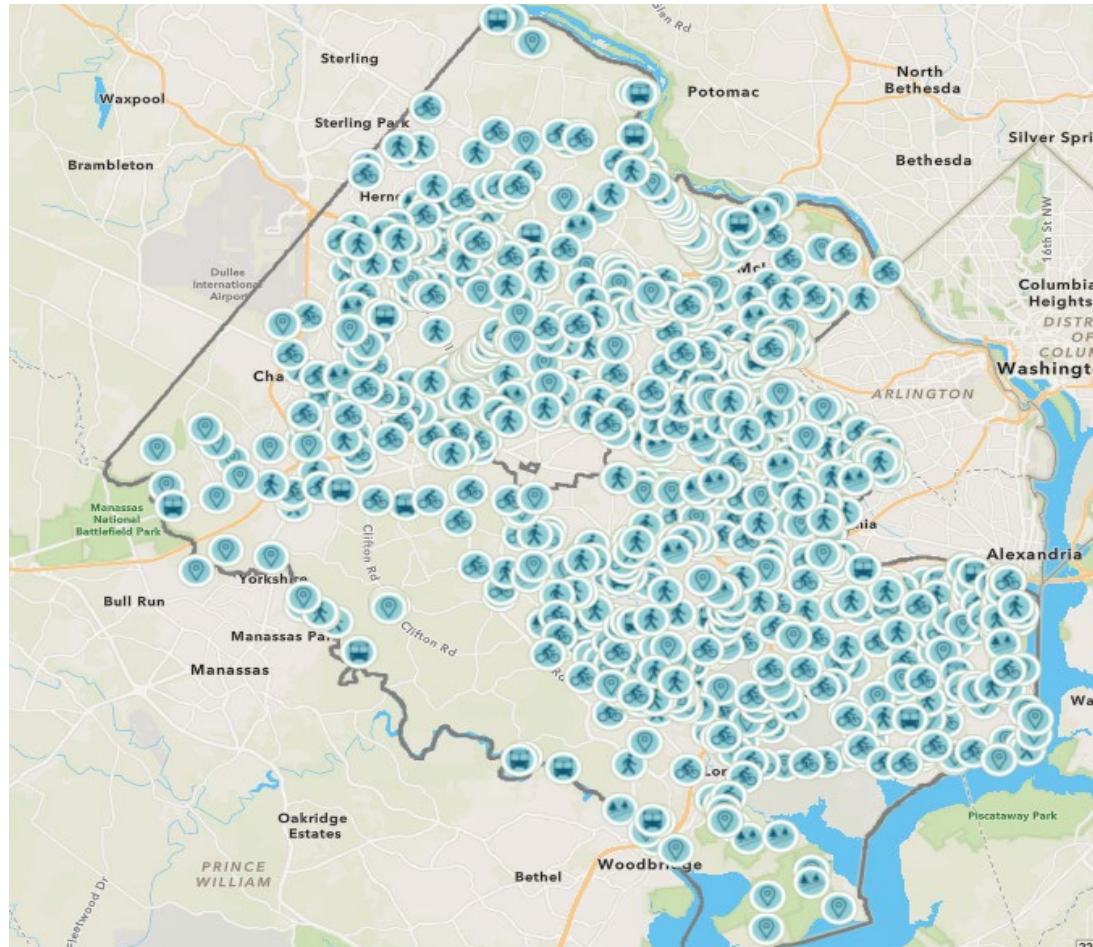
When asked to describe their experience using active transportation in Fairfax county, 27% of public survey respondents (265 of 999) stated that the current active transportation network feels unsafe.



Lighting Plazas Crossings
Sidewalks Transit Education
More E-mobility Share Options Traffic Calming
Parks **Connectivity** Places to Rest
Enforcement **Trails** Bike Parking
Bike Lanes Safety Trees
Wayfinding



Barriers to Active Transportation Interactive Map



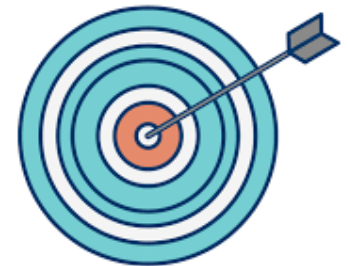


Based on **community feedback**, the ActiveFairfax Transportation Plan team developed strategies to **improve road safety for active transportation users**



Proposed Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Target Areas

1. Focus on high-risk and high-use locations
2. Safer street design - Roadway width, crosswalks, connected sidewalks and bikeways, street lighting
3. Lower vehicle speeds
4. Fewer trips by vehicle
5. Maintenance of sidewalks, bikeways and trails
6. Safety education for all road users
7. Enforcement





Proposed Program Framework

1. Policy & Planning
2. Street Design & Traffic Engineering
3. Equity & Social Justice
4. Funding & Implementation
5. Education & Traffic Safety Culture
6. Monitoring & Evaluation





Which of the recommendations by focus area are **most important** to you to **improve active transportation safety**?



Poll 1: Policy & Planning

Please select your top 2 priorities:

- A. Adopt Safe Streets for All and Complete Streets policies
- B. Policies/procedures to improve maintenance for active transportation
- C. Strengthen requirements for infrastructure implementation by development
- D. Policies supporting lower traffic speeds, particularly in residential neighborhoods and commercial areas



Poll 2: Street Design & Engineering

Please select your top 2 priorities:

- A. Safer intersections to reduce collision risk between people driving, walking and bicycling
- B. Prioritize the safety, comfort and convenience needs of active transportation users in road design
- C. Lower speeds through design, especially in urban areas, activity centers and residential neighborhoods
- D. Safer access to bus stops on both sides of the road
- E. Innovative technology to address traffic safety issues



Poll 3: Equity & Social Justice

Please select your top 2 priorities:

- A. Prioritize maintenance and capital improvements in high-need areas
- B. Collect race, ethnicity, and disability data of pedestrian and bicycle crash victims and analyze data for disparities
- C. Prioritize community engagement of groups disproportionately impacted by bicycle and pedestrian crashes
- D. Conduct community walk and bicycle audits to determine safety concerns and develop solutions



Poll 4: Funding & Implementation

Please select your top 2 priorities:

- A. Task force to oversee program
- B. More/dedicated safety funding for small spot improvements (e.g. new or better crosswalks, fill in sidewalk gaps)
- C. More maintenance funding for existing sidewalks, trails, crosswalks, safety equipment (e.g. street lighting), etc.
- D. Expedite building the active transportation network (sidewalks, trails, etc.)
- E. Funding for non-infrastructure programs such as road safety campaigns



Poll 5: Education & Traffic Safety Culture

Please select your top 2 priorities:

- A. Regular, targeted education campaigns about traffic safety
- B. Encourage private and public sector employers to provide road-safety education to employees
- C. Traffic-safety education curriculums for students and adults
- D. Web page that is an interactive “clearinghouse” for road safety information
- E. Speed feedback “Your Speed” signage at high-crash locations, along high-risk corridors, and in school zones



Poll 6: Monitoring & Evaluation

Please select your top 2 priorities:

- A. Identify road-safety performance measures and targets
- B. Identify the most common factors related to pedestrian, bicycle, and vehicle crashes and the most affected people
- C. A permanent interactive digital map on the County website to collect transportation safety concerns
- D. A formal bicycle and pedestrian count program
- E. Before and After studies of transportation safety improvements



Poll 7

Please select your top 3 priorities:

- A. Policy & Planning
- B. Street Design & Traffic Engineering
- C. Equity & Social Justice
- D. Funding & Implementation
- E. Education & Traffic Safety Culture
- F. Monitoring & Evaluation



Discussion

- What other strategies would you like to see in your community?
- Do you have any concerns about the proposed strategies?





Next Steps

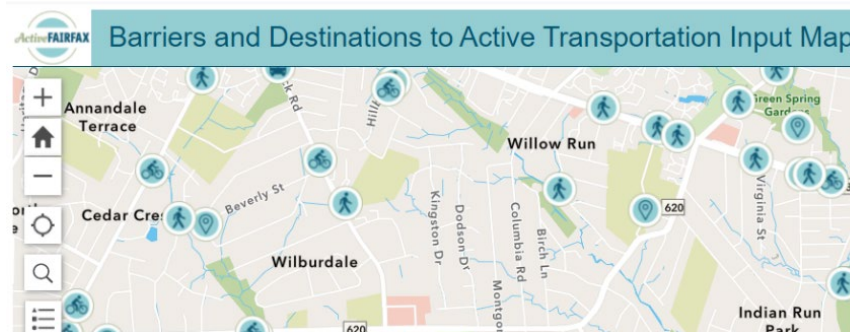
- Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/bike-walk/activefairfax for more information
- Submit comments by December 10, 2021
 - Via email to ActiveFairfax@fairfaxcounty.gov
 - By phone: 703-877-5600
- Program will be considered by Board of Supervisors in Spring 2022
- Additional resources needed for implementation





Next Steps

- Additional community engagement after program is established (community meetings, walk/bike audits)
- **In the meantime, notify the County of barriers to walking, biking, or accessing transit:**
 - Use the interactive map: <https://activefairfax.weebly.com/key-destinations--barriers8203.html>
 - Send an email to ActiveFairfax@fairfaxcounty.gov





Thank you!

Contact: ActiveFairfax@fairfaxcounty.gov

Phone: 703-877-5600

Website: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/bike-walk/activefairfax