



County of Fairfax, Virginia



# Proposed Safe Streets for All Program

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Fairfax County Department of  
Transportation

November 8, 2021



## Language Logistics

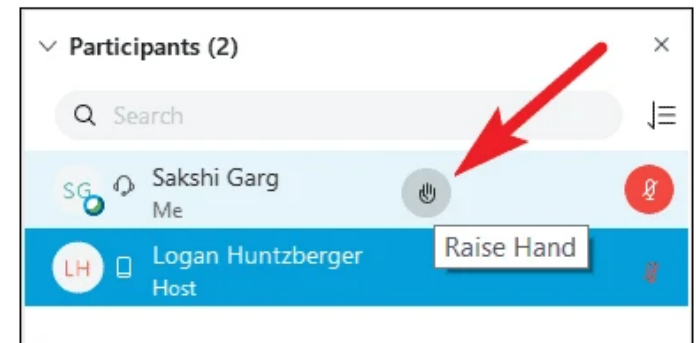
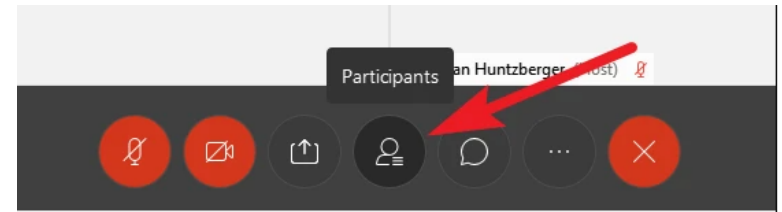
- To hear this presentation and ask questions in Spanish, please call: 443-228-6670
- Para escuchar esta presentación y hacer preguntas en español, por favor llame al: 443-228-6670





## 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.**

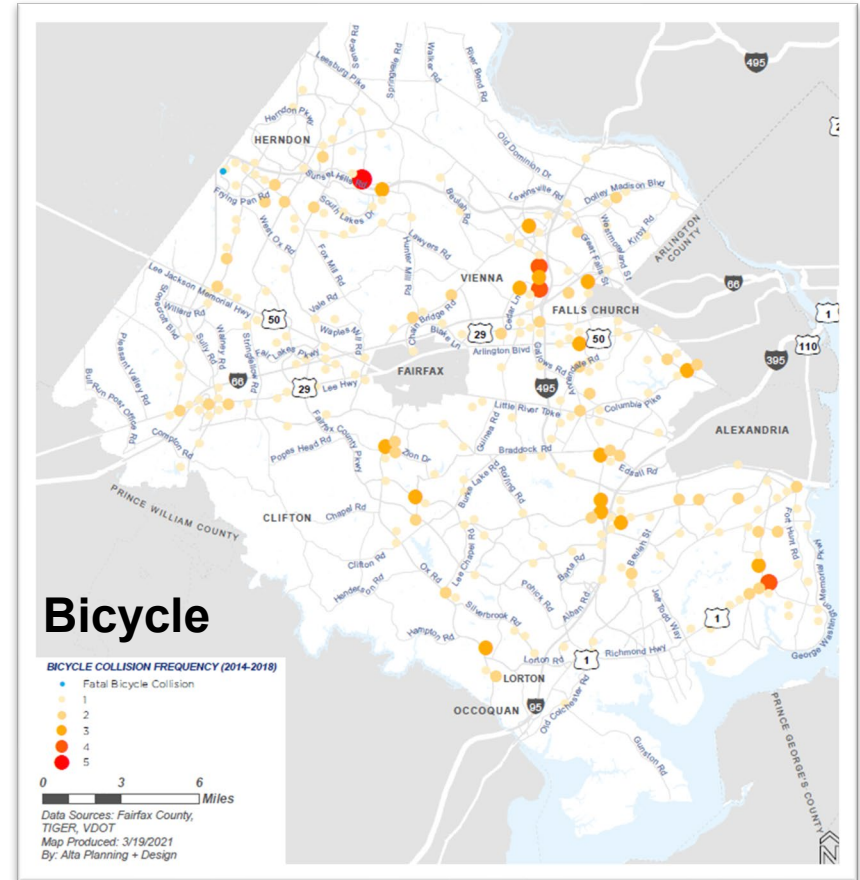
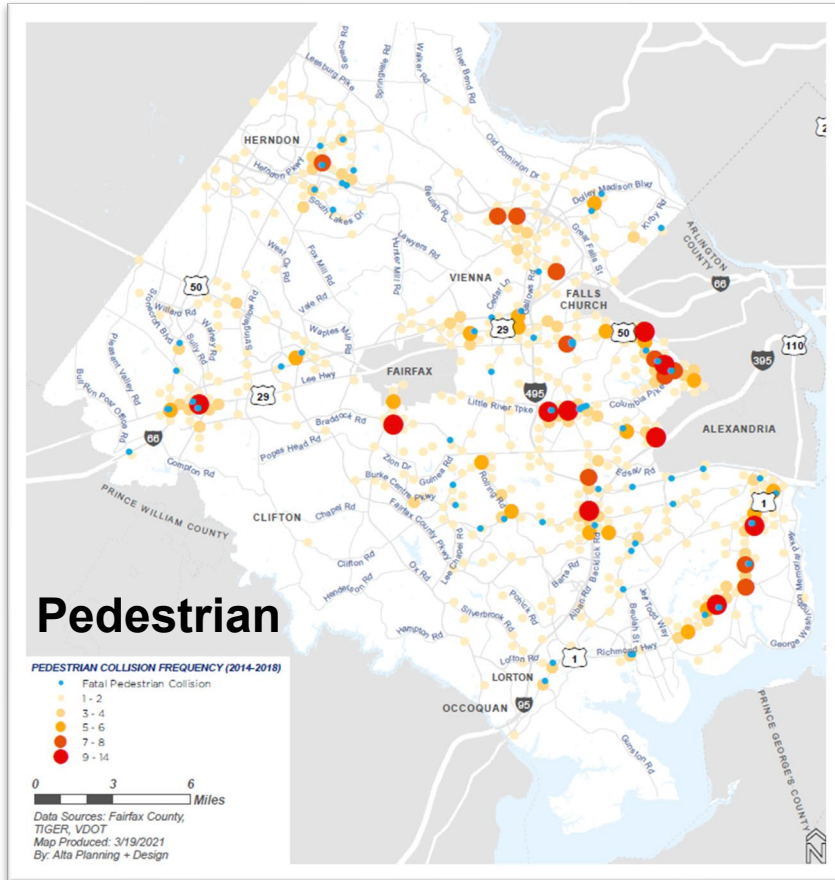
In January 2020, the **Board of Supervisors** passed a motion to make Fairfax County **safer for pedestrians and bicyclists** including “to establish and achieve measurable safety goals.”



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.

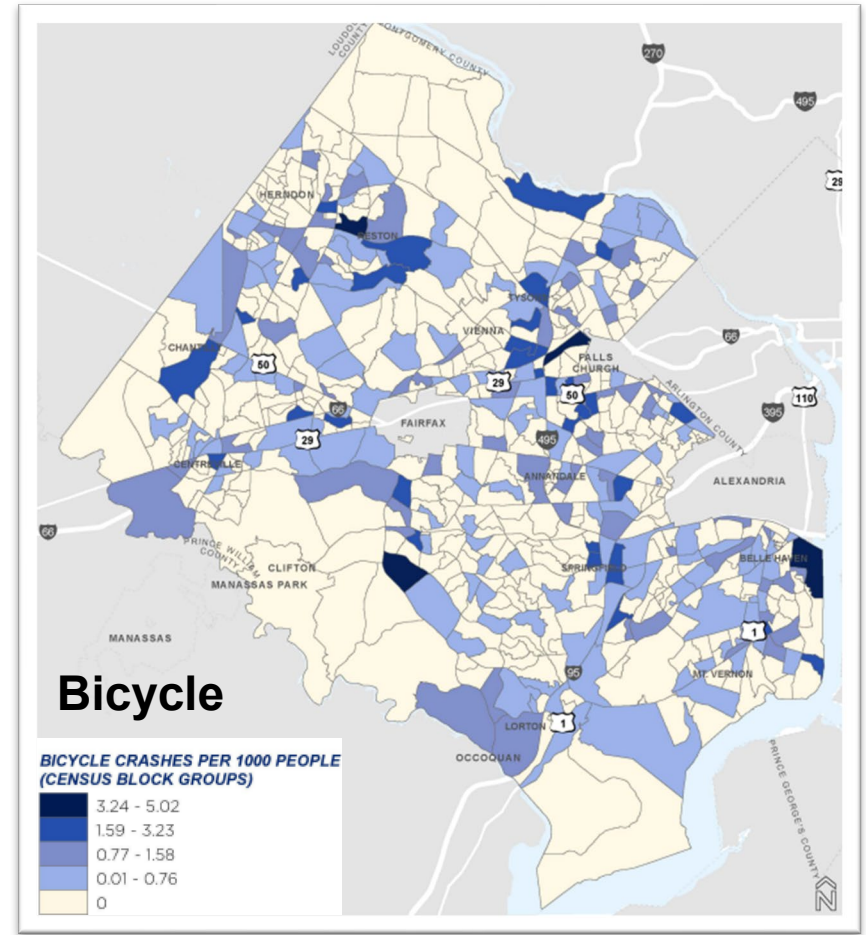
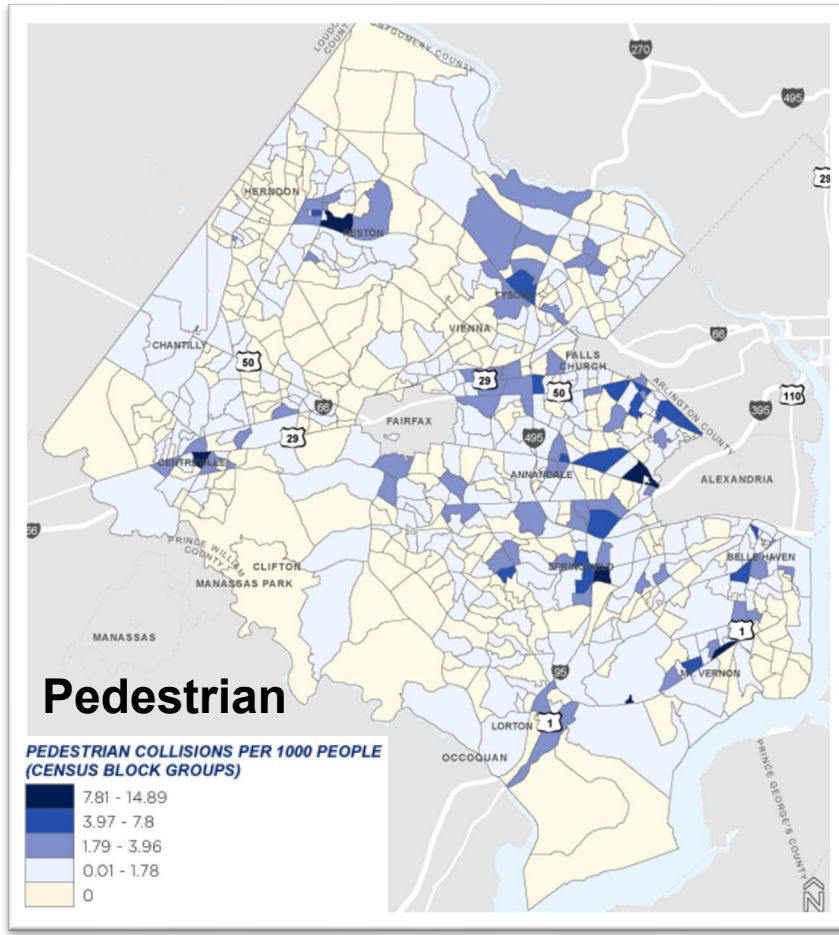


# Where do pedestrian and bicycle crashes happen? *By the numbers*





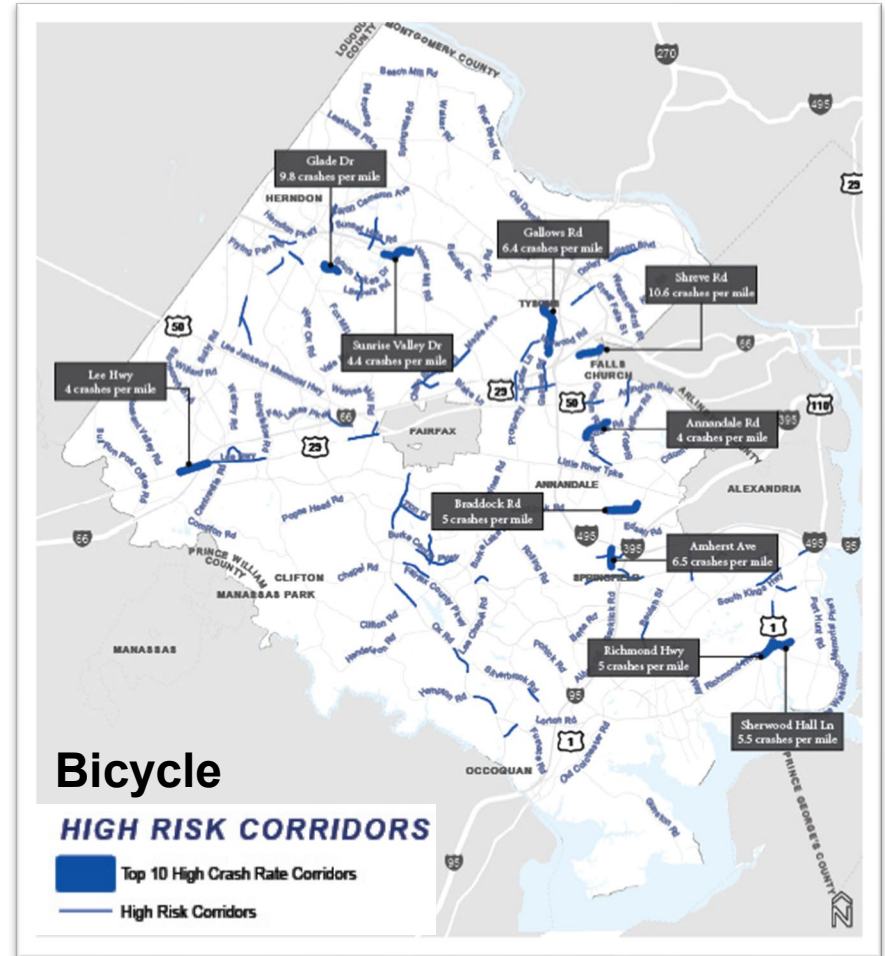
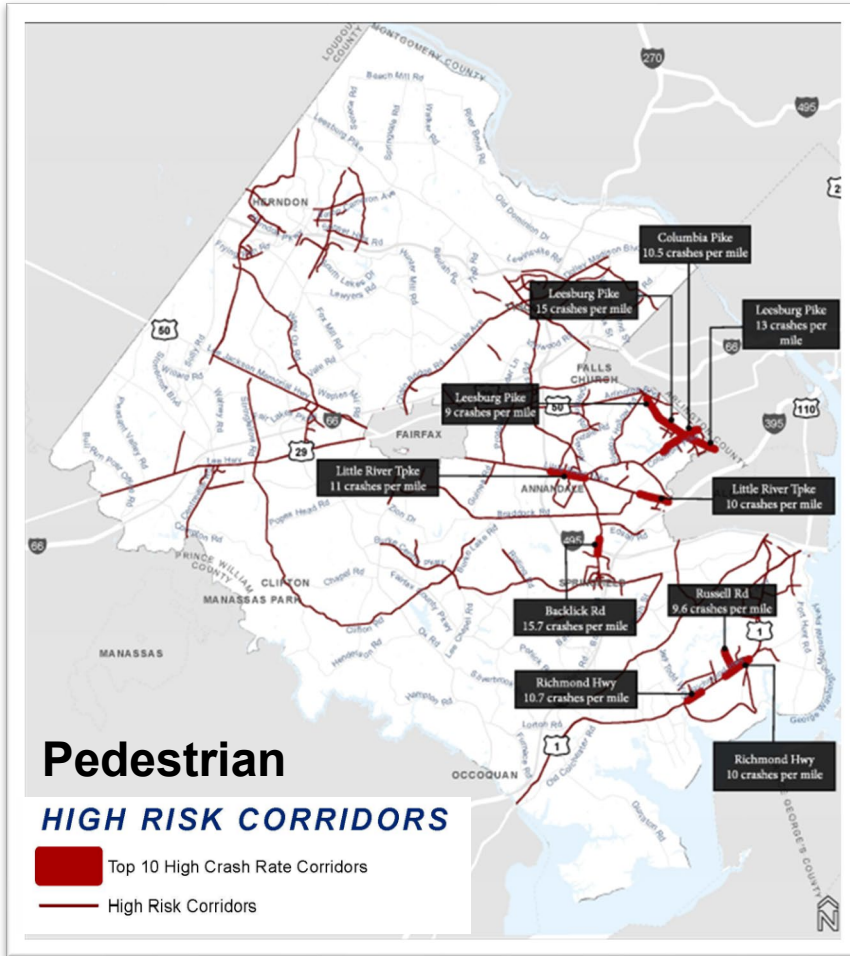
# Crash rate per 1,000 residents







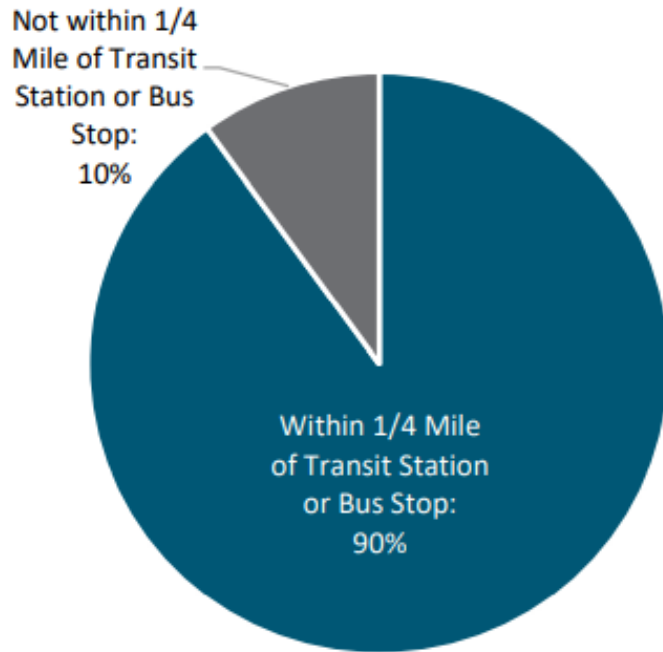
# Crash rate per roadway mile



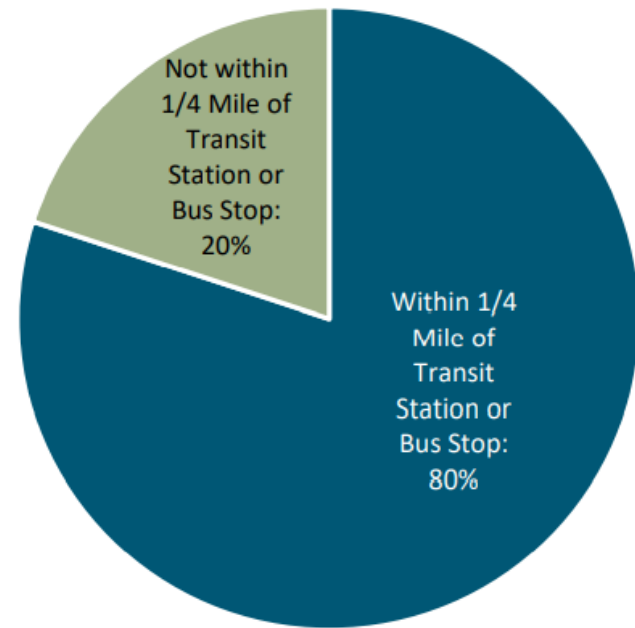




## *By proximity to transit*



Pedestrian Crashes



Bicycle Crashes



# Why does vehicle speed matter?

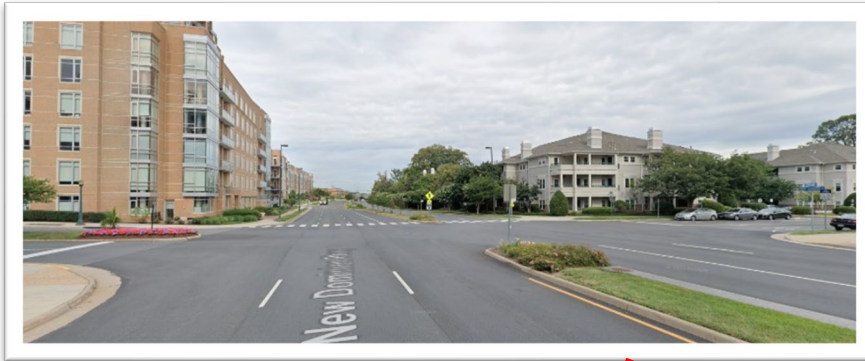
*Based on national data:*



[https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle\\_pedestrian/publications/multimodal\\_networks/fhwahep16055.pdf](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.**



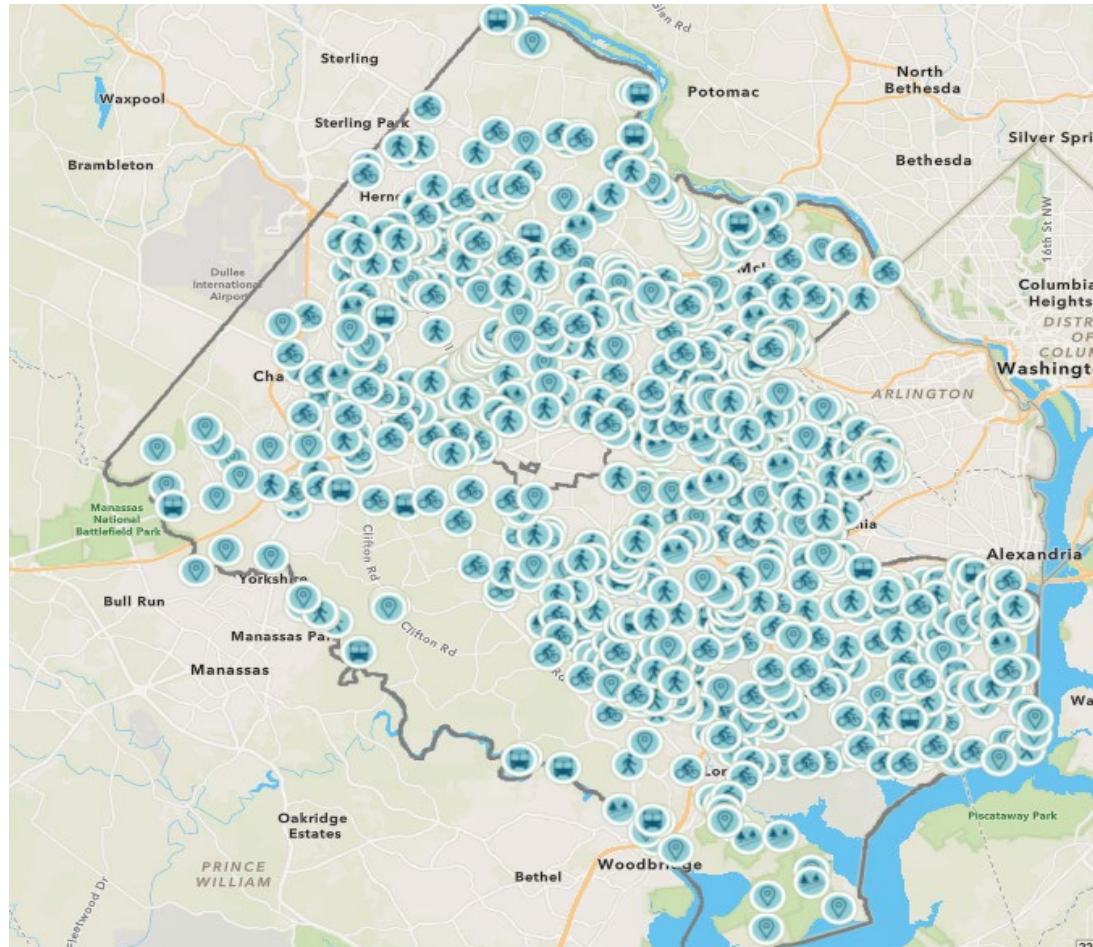
**When asked to describe their experience using active transportation in Fairfax county, 27% of public survey respondents (265 of 999) stated that the current active transportation network feels unsafe.**



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





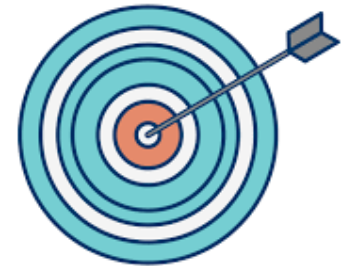
Based on **community feedback**, the ActiveFairfax Transportation Plan team developed strategies to **improve road safety for active transportation users**





# 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

- Second virtual community meeting November 18 at 6:30pm
  - Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/bike-walk/activefairfax](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/bike-walk/activefairfax) for more information
- Submit comments by December 10, 2021
  - Via email to [ActiveFairfax@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:ActiveFairfax@fairfaxcounty.gov)
  - By phone: 703-877-5600
- Program will be considered by Board of Supervisors in Spring 2022
- Additional resources needed for implementation

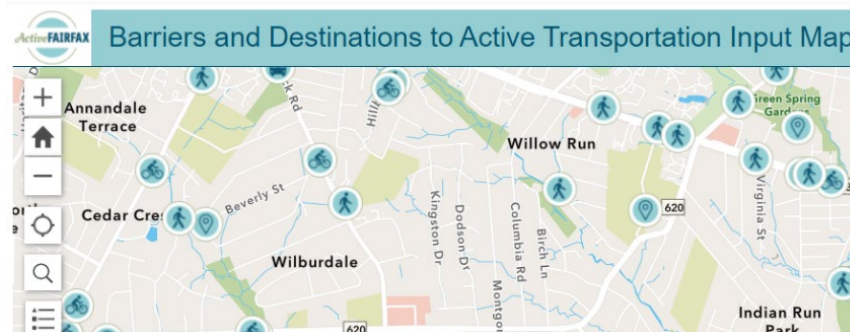






## Next Steps

- 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](mailto:ActiveFairfax@fairfaxcounty.gov)





Thank you!

Contact: [ActiveFairfax@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:ActiveFairfax@fairfaxcounty.gov)

Phone: 703-877-5600

Website: [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/bike-walk/activefairfax](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/bike-walk/activefairfax)