

# BLAKE LANE SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

# Blake Lane Corridor - Past & Planned Safety Improvements

## Completed:

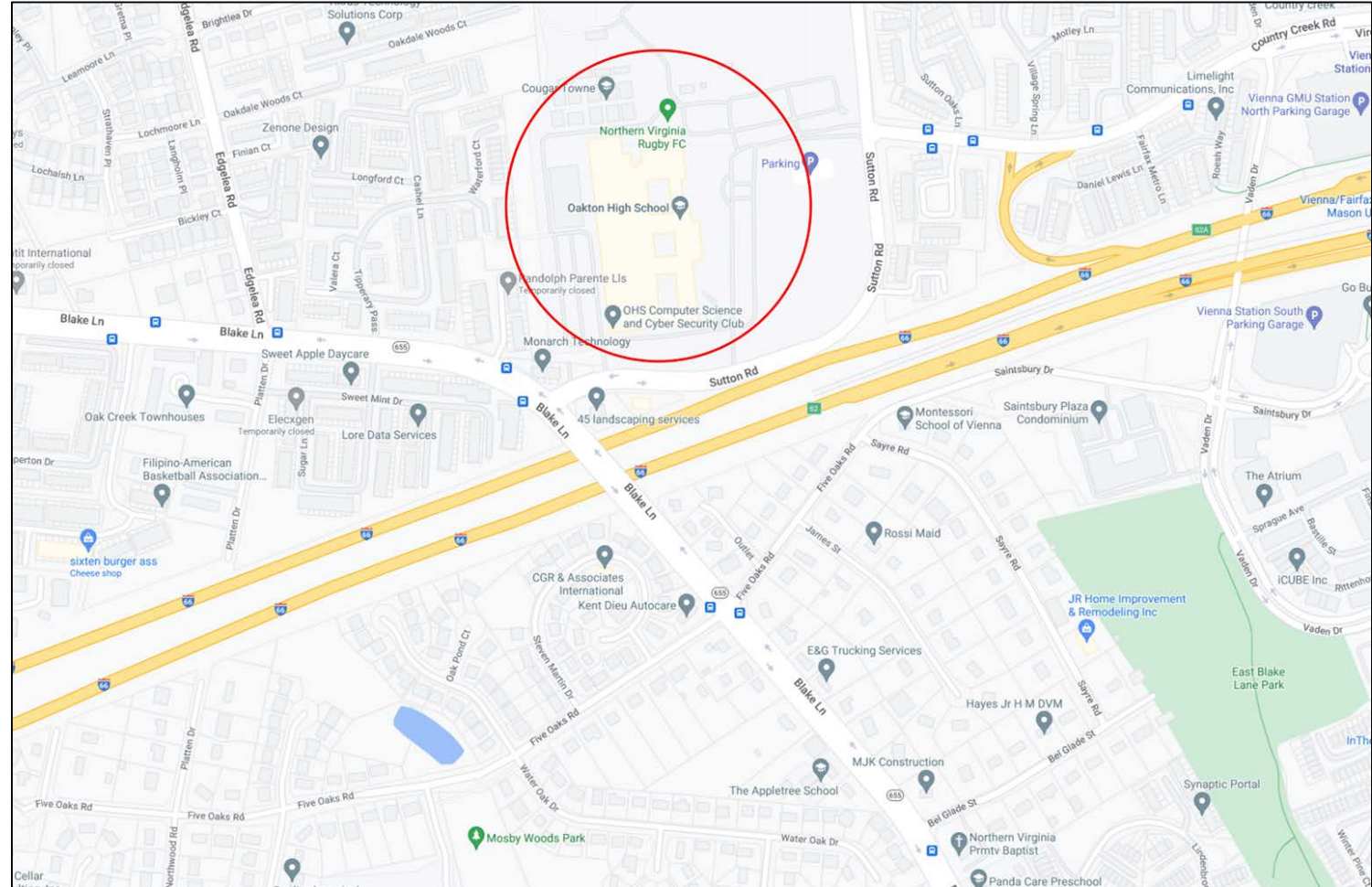
- Installed 30 Pedestrian Warning signs (highlight presence of pedestrians)
- Installed High Visibility Crosswalk across Blake Lane at Kingsbridge Drive
- Added Leading Pedestrian Interval at Blake Lane/ Sutton Road (delayed green for vehicles)
- Added High Visibility Backplates to traffic signal heads
- Evaluated Signal Warrant at Blake Lane/ Hibbard Street (not warranted)
- Installed “Additional \$200 Fine” for Speeding Signs (Rt 123 to Sutton Rd)
- Through Truck Restriction

## Upcoming / Planned:

- Additional High Visibility Crosswalks, refreshed Pavement Markings
- Cut back / Maintain Vegetation for Sight Distance
- Evaluated Signal at Blake Lane / Route 123 (traffic signal is justified)
  - Pending: Final Design, Cost Estimate. Next: Prioritize, Identify Funding

# Crash Data - 5 + year period

- Blake Lane / Five Oaks Road intersection average 5.4 crashes / 3 years (Statewide average for signals is 14 crashes / 3 years)
- Blake Lane is on the **Pedestrian Safety Action Plan (PSAP)** network for top 5% pedestrian safety risk in the state



# Road Safety Audit (RSA)

- **Goal:** Identify safety problems for non-motorized users
- **Preliminary assessment:** Identify existing conditions & data
- **Context:** schools, pedestrian demand, density, corridor
- **Meet** with representatives from VDOT, FCDOT, FCPD, FCPS, elected officials, community members
- **View corridor from perspective of various users:**
  - pedestrians, cyclists, drivers, transit users
- **Evaluate Signage and Markings:** message conveyed?
- **Evaluate Road Geometry:** What invites higher speeds— wide lanes, straight-aways, no signals, large horizontal curves
- **Crosswalks:** sight distances of drivers & pedestrians

## PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLIST ROAD SAFETY AUDIT (RSA) GUIDE AND PROMPT LIST



U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Highway Administration

SEPTEMBER 2020

# Evaluate Reducing Width of Travel Lane

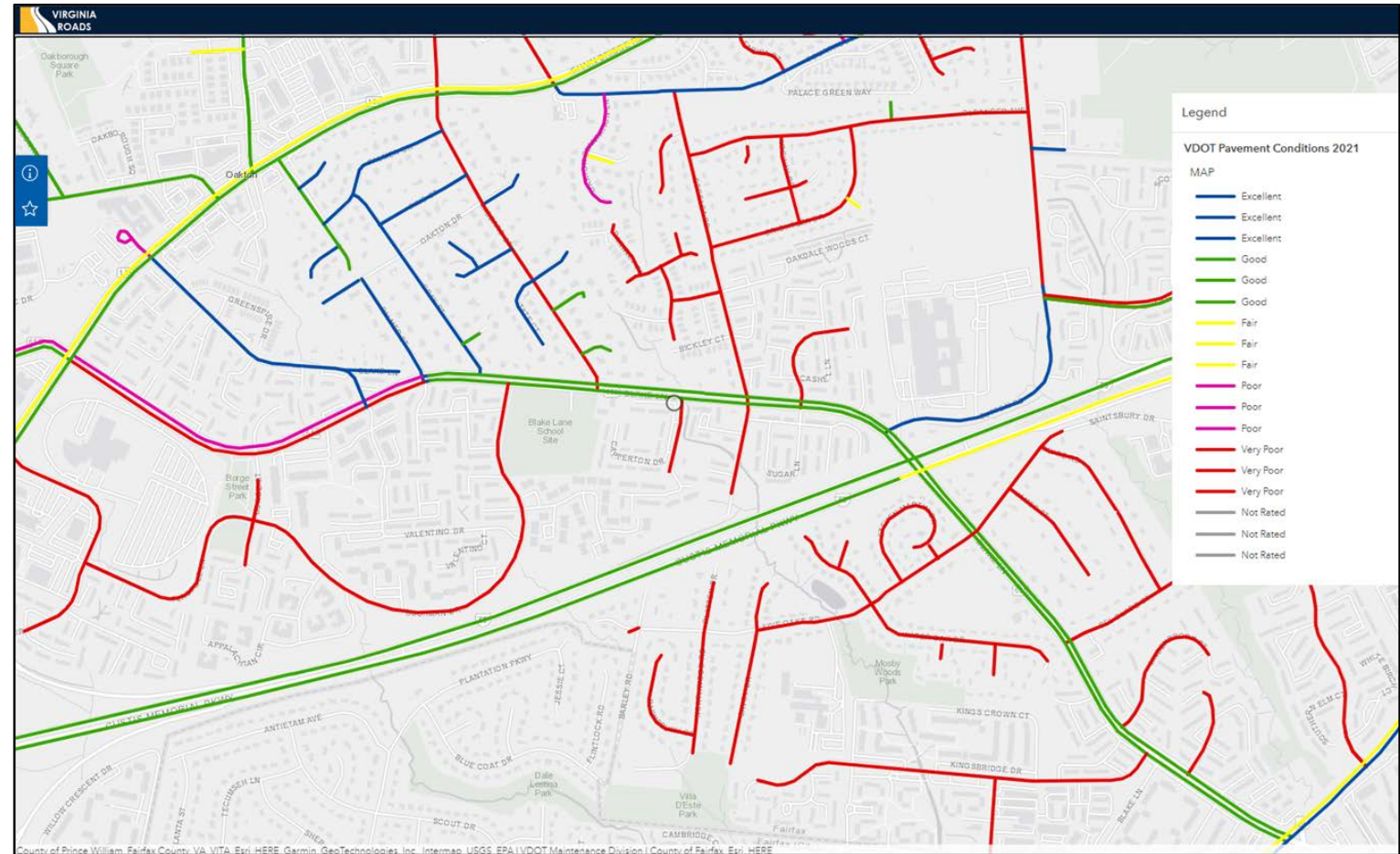
Purpose: help reduce travel speeds & shorten pedestrian crossing distance

## Blake Lane/ Jermantown Corridor, Rt 123 to Palmer St:

- Pavement Condition rated Poor/ Very Poor
- Planned for 2023 Repaving: restripe travel lanes to 11' wide

## Other segments:

- Will evaluate Options to revise Pavement Markings / Lane widths



2021 Pavement Condition map

# Speed Analysis for Blake Lane Corridor

- **Currently, the posted speed limit is 35 mph from Route 123 to Route 29**
- **VA code requires VDOT to conduct an engineering study in order to change speed limits**
- **Recent speed data collected on Blake Lane showed that the 85th percentile speed is 43.5 mph**
  - Data shows that the context of the roadway invites significantly higher speeds than the posted speed limit
  - Research shows that corridor crash rates are lowest when the 85th percentile speed is within 5 mph of the posted speed (NCHRP 966)
  - Research also shows that lower operational speeds reduce the risk of severe injury and fatal crashes for all users (FHWA)
  - Posted speed limit is one consideration when assessing speed management

# Multi-Agency Communications Team

- **Initiated by Board Matter**
  - Led by Office of Public Affairs, multiple Board offices involved
  - Contributing agencies include: Cable and Consumer Services, Department of Transportation, Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board, Fire and Rescue Department, Police Department, and Virginia Department of Transportation
- **Data-driven campaign being developed**
- **Every type of communications channel**
- **Common message, many voices**
- **Leveraging weight of multiple agencies and platforms**

# Questions?

## District Leadership

- **John Lynch, P.E.:** *District Engineer*, [john.lynch@vdot.virginia.gov](mailto:john.lynch@vdot.virginia.gov)

## Transportation and Land Use for Arlington and Fairfax Counties

- **Claudia Llana, P.E.:** *Director*, [claudia.llana@vdot.virginia.gov](mailto:claudia.llana@vdot.virginia.gov)
- **Steven Welch, P.E.:** *Assistant Director*, [steven.welch@vdot.virginia.gov](mailto:steven.welch@vdot.virginia.gov)

## Communications

- **Ellen Kamilakis, MPIO:** *Assistant District Administrator*, [ellen.kamilakis@vdot.virginia.gov](mailto:ellen.kamilakis@vdot.virginia.gov)

## Traffic Engineering

- **Gilbert Chlewicki, P.E.:** *District Traffic Engineer*, [gilbert.chlewicki@vdot.virginia.gov](mailto:gilbert.chlewicki@vdot.virginia.gov)
- **Nhan Vu, P.E.:** *Assistant District Traffic Engineer*, [nhan.vu@vdot.virginia.gov](mailto:nhan.vu@vdot.virginia.gov)

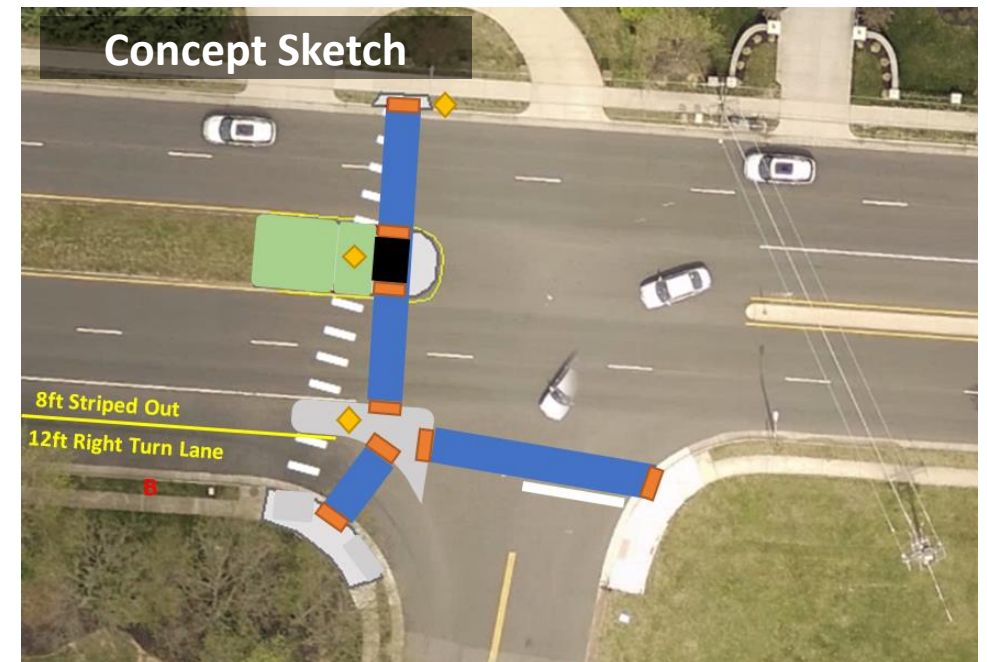
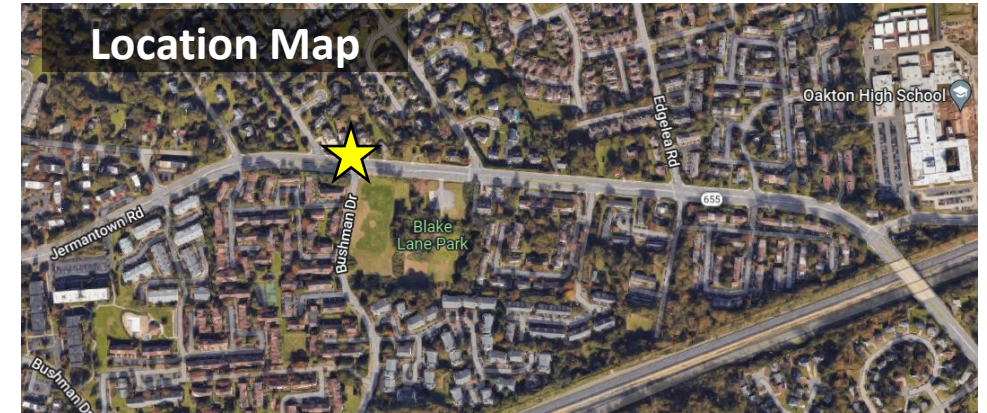




## Blake Lane at Bushman Drive Crosswalk Improvement Project

### Preliminary Scope:

- Eliminate crosswalk skew and shorten crossing distance across Blake Lane
- Extend existing raised median to add pedestrian refuge island.
- Add Rectangular Rapid-Flashing Beacon (RRFB), solar powered if possible
- Reduce right turn lane width and add right turn channelizing island
- Relocate stop bar on Bushman Drive to provide better visibility for turning vehicles



## Blake Lane at Bushman Drive Crosswalk Improvement Project

### Status:

- Finalizing scope and forwarding for implementation

### Funding:

- TBD Local Sources

### Schedule:

- TBD after forwarding for implementation

### Example RRFB with Refuge Island: Bluemont Way and Discovery Dr, Reston



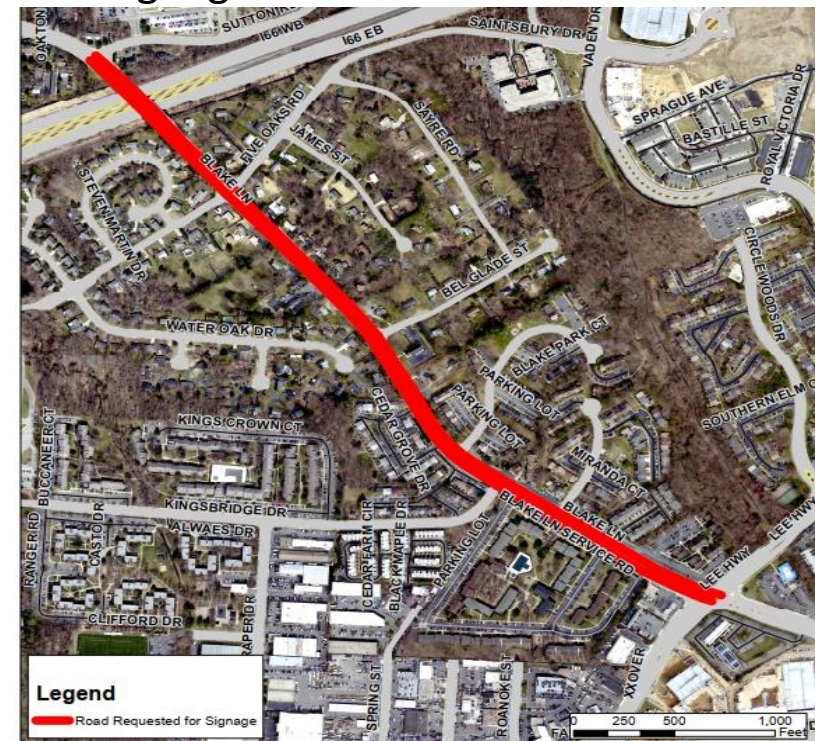
# Blake Lane \$200 Additional Fine for Speeding Sign Installation

## CURRENT:

- In August 2021 \$200 Additional Fine for Speeding signs were installed on Blake Lane, from Jermantown Road to Sutton Road.
- Speed study currently underway for Blake Lane, from Sutton Road to Route 29

## Next Steps:

- Review traffic data
- Board of Supervisors Resolution
- Memo to VDOT requesting installation of signage



# Blake Lane/Jermantown Road Through Truck Restriction

## CURRENT

Through Truck Restriction installed  
May of 1988 on Jermantown Road  
& Blake Lane, from Route 123 to  
Route 29

