

BLAKE LANE PEDESTRIAN ROAD SAFETY AUDIT

Community Meeting

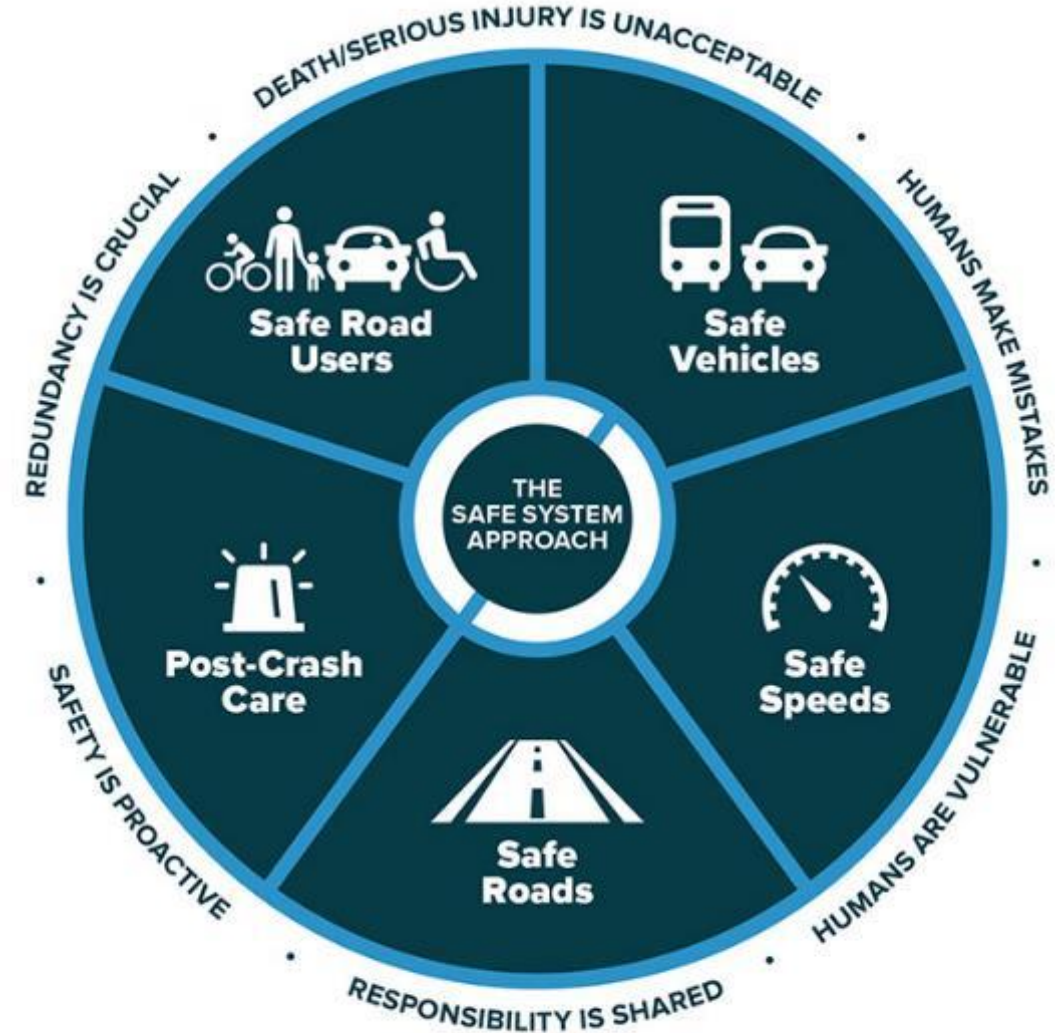
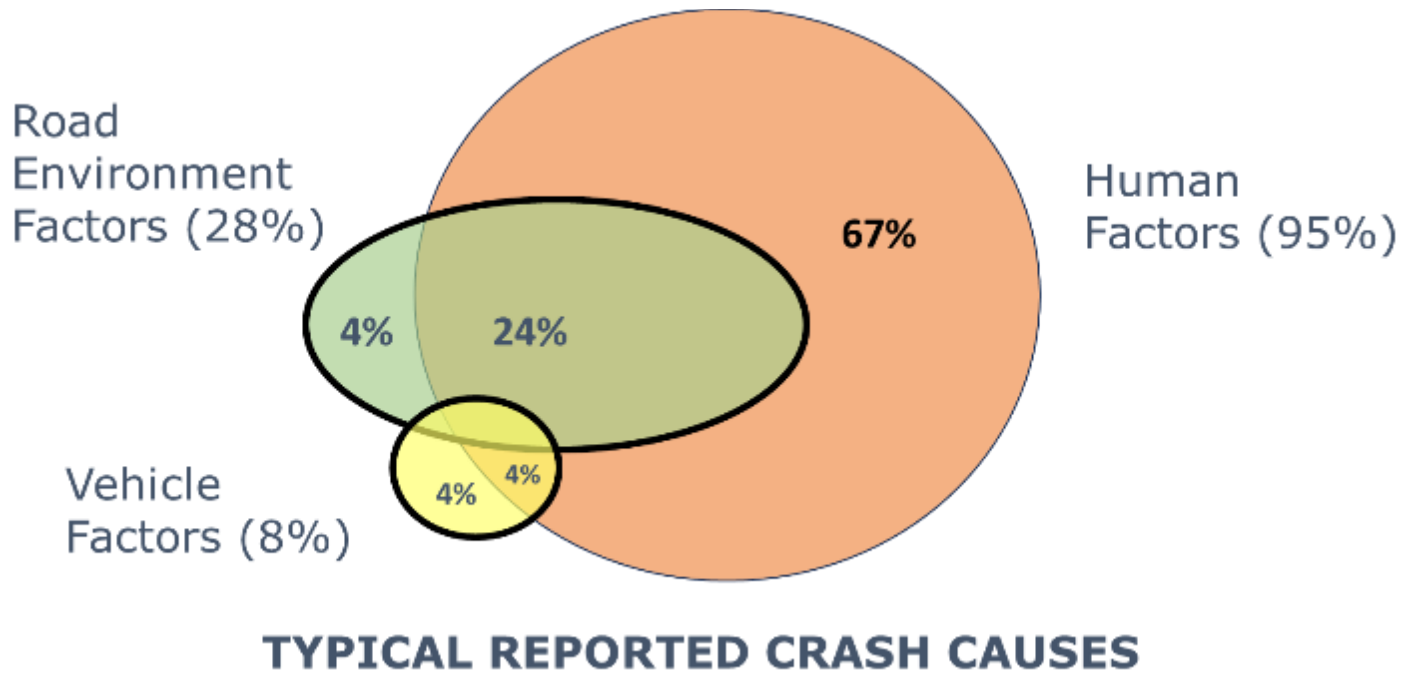


May 30, 2023

Agenda

- **Introductions**
- **VDOT Repaving Plan**
- **VDOT Overview of Pedestrian Road Safety Audit Findings**
- **FCPS School Zone Automated Traffic Enforcement**
- **Fairfax County Police Department Update**
- **Q&A and Discussion**
- **Closeout**

Roadway Safety and Human Factors



Source: FHWA.

Completed Corridor Improvements/Initiatives

- **January 2021:** Conducted a corridor speed study
- February 2021: Evaluated Flashing Yellow Arrow for all signalized intersections. Installed the signal treatment at Five Oaks/Blake Lane intersection for left turning vehicles.
- **May 2021:** Installed “\$200 Additional Fine for Speeding” signs between Jermantown Road and Sutton Road
- **November 2021:** Conducted a signal warrant study at the intersection of Blake Lane and Hibbard Street
- **June 2022:** Repainted/refreshed all the lane markings and upgraded standard crosswalks to high-visibility crosswalks at all signalized intersections along the corridor to improve visibility
- **July 2022:** Installed “Turning Vehicles Yield to Pedestrians” signs at the Sutton Rd intersection.
- **August 2022:** Installed “Watch for Children” and “\$200 Additional Fine for Speeding” signs along Blake Lane.
- **December 2022:** *Preliminary Field Walk.* Modified the pedestrian signal timing at Sutton Rd
- **April 2023:** *RSA field review*

Repaving Plan



Repaving Plan



Road Safety Audit (RSA) Study Area

- 2.1 miles of Blake Lane/ Jermantown Road
- Pedestrian-focused RSA held April 26 from 7:00 am to 11:30 am
- Additional observations conducted by focus team in afternoon and evening hours



Blake Lane RSA study corridor from Chain Bridge Road to Lee Highway

Corridor-Wide Observations

- Potentially limited accessibility at some curb ramps and segments of sidewalk
- Lack of visual cues of the presence of pedestrians for drivers approaching Blake Lane
- Higher vehicular speeds, particularly in the morning and afternoon peaks
- Large corner radii allowing for high turning vehicle speed
- Pedestrian and bicyclist connections with new and existing trail systems

Existing curb ramp along Jermantown Road at driveway of AT&T facility



Vegetation infringing on sidewalk, creating narrow width

Pedestrian Crossing Observations

- Multiple threat for uncontrolled pedestrian and bicyclist crossing locations
- Wide pedestrian crossings across and along Blake Lane
- Misalignment of some transit stops to marked pedestrian crosswalks



Pedestrians crossing Blake Lane at Borge Street

Sight Distance Observations

- Limited sight distance of approaching vehicles and non-motorized modes at several intersections and driveways
- Vehicles frequently pulling up into crosswalk



Drivers pulling into the crosswalk to turn left and right from Bushman Drive onto Blake Lane

Vegetation blocking visibility for drivers looking eastbound on Blake Lane at Gray Street



Nighttime Observations

- Difficult to see pedestrians in dark conditions



Pedestrian on east curb waiting to cross Blake Lane at Kingsbridge Drive

Segment Between Lindenbrook Street and Lee Highway Observations

- Sidewalk along frontage road is narrow and close to traffic
- Observed pedestrians crossing Blake Lane using the narrow median as a refuge

Pedestrian crossing Blake Lane near Mission Square Drive



Pedestrian waiting in median for walk signal across Blake Lane at Kingsbridge Drive



Pedestrian crossing Blake Lane south of Lindenbrook Street

Blake Lane and Kingsbridge Drive Observations

- Signal equipment is within pedestrian path on the sidewalk
- Signal visibility is reduced during certain times of day due to sun glare



Multimodal activity at the intersection of Blake Lane and Kingsbridge Drive



Sun position above the southeastbound Blake Lane signal at Kingsbridge Drive

Blake Lane and Sutton Road Observations

- Limited sight distance due to foliage and horizontal curve for southbound vehicles on Blake Lane
- Large number of pedestrians crossing Blake Lane conflicting with right turns from Sutton Road
- Major queuing due to Oakton High School drop-offs



Students crossing Blake Lane at Sutton Road

Queues generated by vehicles turning left into Oakton High School during morning arrival



Blake Lane and Edgelea Road / Platten Drive Observations

- Vehicles approaching from side streets have limited sight distance due to foliage and existing geometry
- Challenges with pedestrians crossing



Vehicle turning right from Edgelea Road onto Blake Lane looks for a gap in westbound traffic as a pedestrian waits to cross



Vehicle turning left from Platten Drive onto westbound Blake Lane conflicts with vehicle turning left from Blake Lane onto Edgelea Road

Bushman Drive Observations

- Sidewalk present only on one side - pedestrians walking in the bike lane
- Vehicles used bike lane space during morning peak hour as right turn lane



Curb ramp to transit stop on Bushman Drive without connecting facilities



Student walking in bike lane on Bushman Drive

Upcoming Improvements

- Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs) on Blake Lane at the Bushman Drive and Bel Glade Street (FCDOT)
- Sutton Road Intersection Enhancements

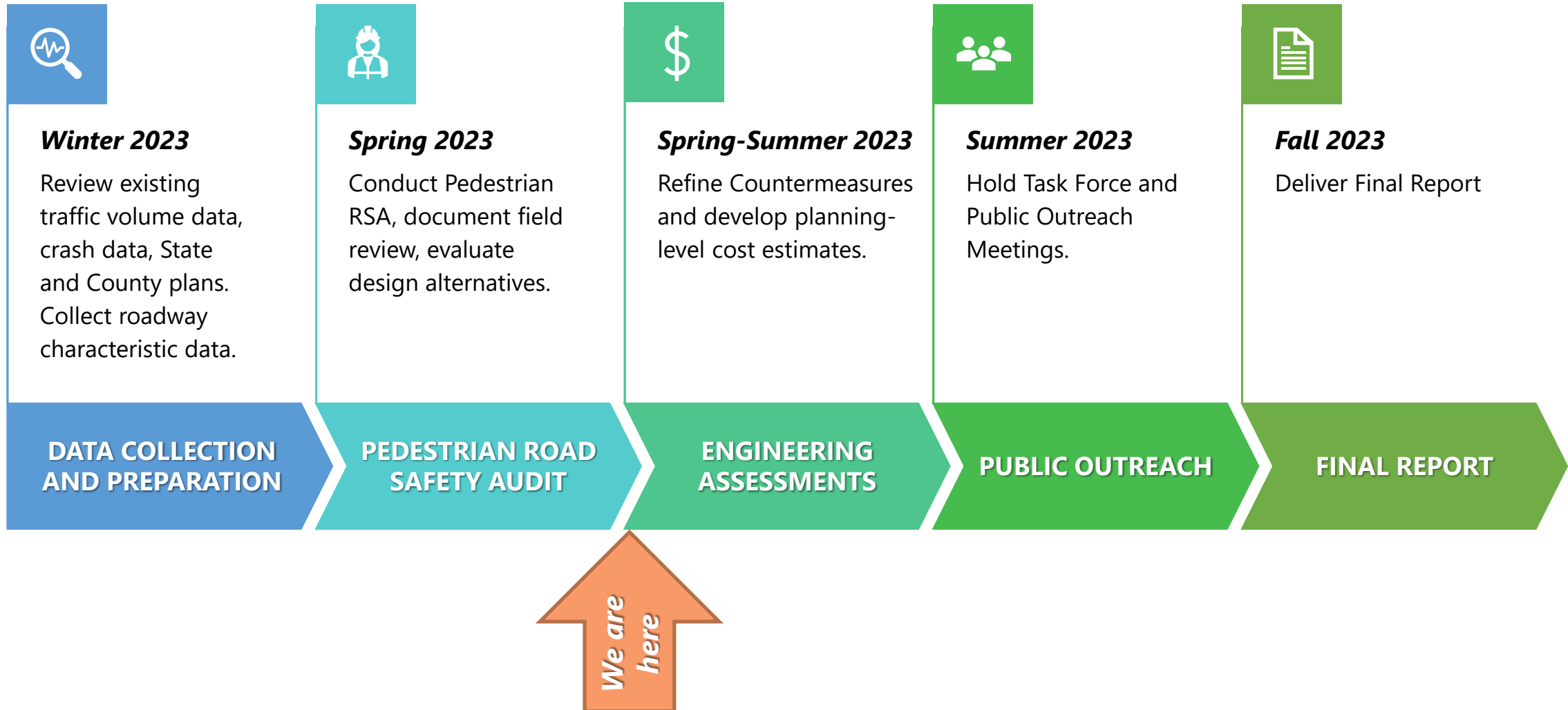


RRFB at Bluemont Way and Discovery Street in Reston, Virginia

Overall Approach

- **Improve context so that drivers are more aware of non-motorized modes**
- **Change driver expectation by providing visual reminders of non-motorized activity**
- **Enhance comfort and safety for all road users**
- **Reinforce consistent driving speeds**
- **Consider a range of treatments with different implementation timeframes**

Project Timeline Blake Lane RSA



Community can be part of the solution

- Talk to your student drivers
- Trim vegetation infringing on sidewalks and in right-of-way
- Yield to pedestrians and bicyclists

Bicyclist riding on Blake Lane - potentially due to vegetation blocking sidewalk



Driver (potentially a student) turning left onto Sutton Road during morning school arrival

