

### Countywide Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Initiative & ActiveFairfax Transportation Plan Updates Board Matter

Board Transportation Committee June 30, 2020

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Second Lieutenant Jason Long, FCPD
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# Pedestrian & Bicycle Safety Initiatives & ActiveFairfax Transportation Plan (AFTP)

#### AFTP GOAL:

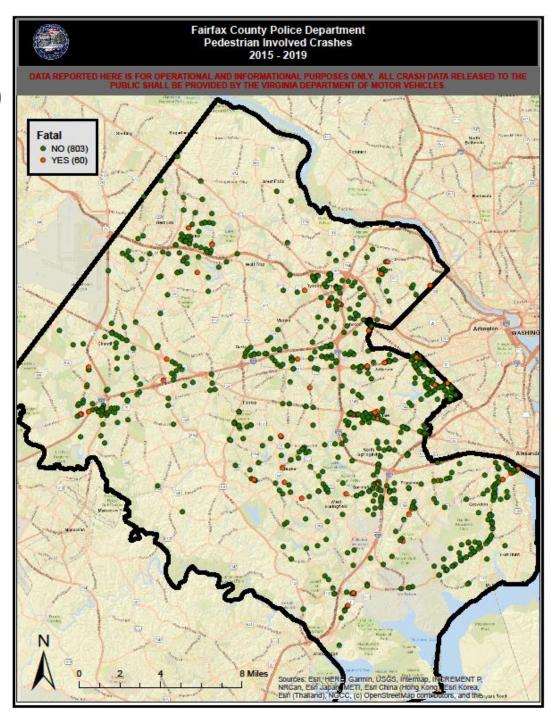
Provide guidance on pedestrian/bicycle access & safety

#### • 2015-2019 Map:

- 60 Fatalities, 863 crashes
- Average 12 fatalities/172 crashes per year
- 2020: 11 fatalities

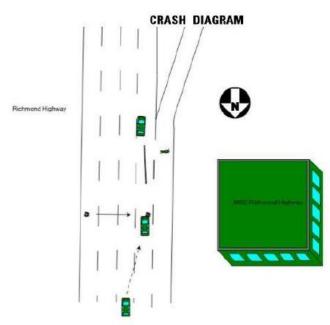
#### Highest Pedestrian Crash Areas:

- Annandale, Seven Corners, Bailey's Crossroads
- Route 1 Corridor
- Springfield, Franconia
- Tysons, Merrifield, Blake Lane
- Centreville, Fair Oaks
- Reston



### Pedestrian & Bicycle Safety Initiatives & ActiveFairfax Transportation Plan (AFTP)

- Why is this happening?
  - High speeds; wide roads
  - Major roads that separate commercial & residential uses
  - Long distances between crosswalks
  - Pedestrians: Not crossing at crosswalks
  - Drivers: Speeding, not yielding right-of-way
  - Lack of adequate lighting at certain locations





# ActiveFairfax Transportation Plan (AFTP) Consultant: Alta Planning & Design Phase 1 Timeline

#### ActiveFairfax Transportation Plan Schedule



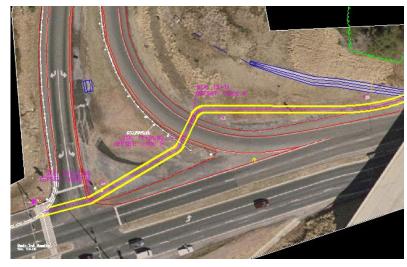
# ActiveFairfax Transportation Plan (AFTP) Communications Strategy

- Community Engagement + Awareness Plan
  - Gather input on challenges, needs and opportunities
  - Public meetings, focus groups, pop-up events
  - Walk audits & bike tours
  - Educate and raise aware on active transportation
  - Communicate and evaluate using One Fairfax Racial and Social Equity Lens
  - Communicate with different languages



# ActiveFairfax Transportation Plan (AFTP) Funding and Project Delivery

- Funding for ped, bike and bus stops = \$536 million over 23-year period (2002-2025)
   Excludes ped/bike facilities incorporated into large road projects
- 10% to 15% of all County-allocated transportation funding
- Completed 222 ped/bike projects over past 13-year period (2007 to 2020)
  - 22.6 miles of sidewalks/trails
  - 700 ADA curb ramps
  - 60 signalized crosswalks
- Improved project delivery:
  - Federal = 5.5 years
  - Pre 2014 Local = 4.2 years
  - Post 2014 Local = 2.3 years





### Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Initiatives Funding & Project Delivery

- Upgraded all pedestrian signals to countdown signals (first in Virginia).
- A leader of Virginia in striping bike lanes with VDOT repaving cooperation.
   Added 80 bike-lane miles to 63 roads in the last two years. Low cost.



### Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Initiatives New Technologies for Safety

• Rectangular Rapid Flash Beacons: 17 installations. Passive thermal pedestrian and bicycle detection.



• Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon Signal (formerly HAWK): Approved as new traffic signal type. Backlick Road location: First in VDOT System.



### Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Initiatives / AFTP Policy Challenges to Increasing Safety

- Current Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA) methodologies prioritize automobiles over peds/cyclists
   Most common TIA methodology is Level of Service (LOS)
- TIA/LOS methodologies can result in additional lanes for automobiles and make on-street parking more difficult to implement
- Speed-limit policies prioritize automobile throughput, not placemaking
- Distance between intersections and crosswalks prioritizes automobile throughput
- 11'-12' lane widths are typical VDOT standards
- Crosswalks not always permitted on all 4 sides of signalized intersections due to vehicle priorities
- Lack of a comprehensive VDOT or County street lighting policy or program
- Virginia Law has been recently improved: "Stop for Pedestrians" Law will increase ped safety



### Questions/Discussion