

**Neighborhood Complete Streets Commission**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Monday, July 19, 2021 *Online Meeting***

- **Members Present:** Elisa Ortiz, Ed Hiliz, Dwight Hlustick, Francesca Guerrero, Bill Braswell, Margarita Brose, Elizabeth Gallagher, Steve Wardell, Alistair Watson, Kevin Sweeney, Giles Crimi (quorum reached)
- **Members Absent:** Richard Gibson
- **Non-Members Present:** David Cheek
- **Staff:** Michelle Stafford (DES), Chief David Povlitz (ACFD), Captain Gregg Karl (ACFD), Lieutenant Nate Hiner (ACFD), Sarah Crawford (DES), Allison Bullock (DES)
- **Meeting called to order:** 7:34 pm
- **General Public Comment:** David Cheek, President of the Clarendon Courthouse Civic Association, shared concerns of speed on 10<sup>th</sup> Street N and new travel patterns following the installation of a new stop sign located on N Barton Street.
- **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from the June 2021 meeting approved unanimously with one edit to attendance.
- **Chair's Report:**
  - In-Person Quorum*** – The Governor's Emergency Order will end August 31, requiring all Board-appointed bodies to meet in person, and achieve an in-person or physical quorum, though meetings can support remote/virtual attendance.
  - County Legislative Priorities*** – Suggestions for issues or items that the County should advocate be a priority in the upcoming state legislative agenda are welcome and will be shared with the County Board Office.
- **Guest Speaker: Chief David Povlitz and Captain Gregg Karl, ACFD**

Guests from the Arlington County Fire Department shared a presentation and lead a discussion on the fire code and how it applies to clear width for emergency vehicles (minimum 20') in relation to yield street standards in the Arlington County Master Transportation Plan (minimum 14').
- **Staff Update:**

The capital projects at 7<sup>th</sup> Rd S is partially constructed and 13<sup>th</sup> St S has received all but one permanent easement, with anticipated construction start this fall. The proposed capital project at 28<sup>th</sup> St S is in design.

Staff are working to prepare a list of approximately 30-35 traffic count studies when this type of work resumes after the start of school in the fall.

- **Adjourned:** 9:31 pm
- **Next NCSC Meeting:** September 20th @ 7:30pm

Submitted by Michelle Stafford (9/15/2021)

Attachments: 1

# Fire Code and Street Widths

## Overview



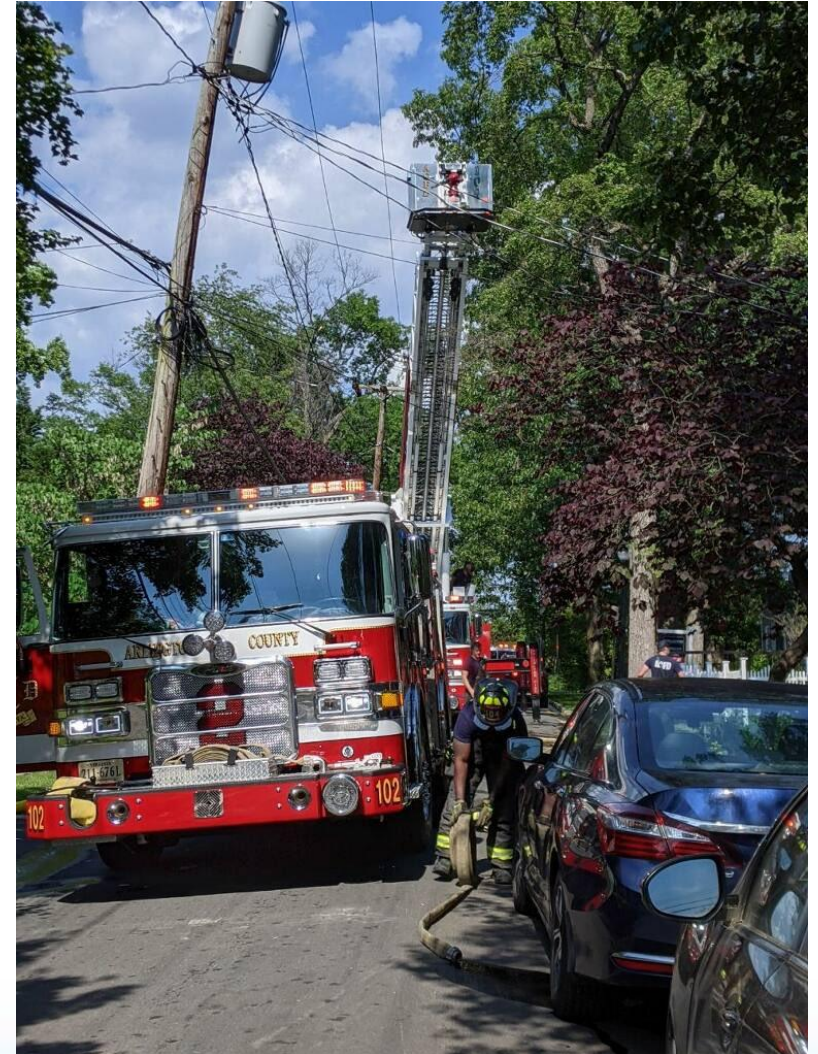
Arlington County Fire Department

July 19, 2021



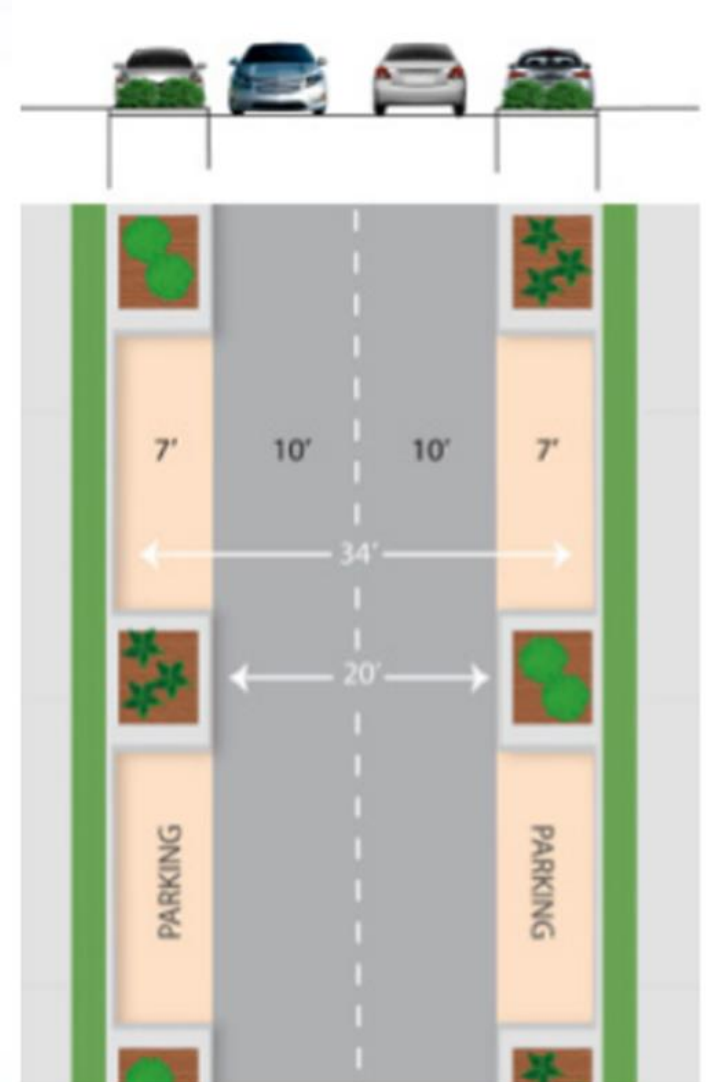
# Fire Code and Street Width Impacts

- State fire code provides emergency service accessibility and room to safely operate
- Modern community and street planning focuses on residential safety, livability, and mobility
- Agreement on occupant, pedestrian, cyclist, and fire responder safety
- Conflict with configuration and parking



# Fire Code Applications

- Enforcement of the State Fire Prevention Code (SFPC) is at the option of the local governments.
- The State Fire Marshal's Office has the authority to enforce the SFPC in those localities in which there is no local enforcement.
- Arlington adopted the SFPC (2015) during 2020 into the Arlington County Fire Prevention Code (ACFPC).
- County Chief Fire Marshal enforces all provisions of the ACFPC.



# ACFPC/SFPC Street Width Requirements

- § 503.1.2 - The fire code official is authorized to require more than one fire apparatus access road based on the potential for impairment of a single road by vehicle congestion, condition of terrain, climatic conditions or other factors that could limit access.
- § 503.4 - Fire apparatus access roads shall not be obstructed in any manner, including the parking of vehicles.
- § 503.2.1 - Fire apparatus access roads shall have an unobstructed width of not less than 20 feet (6096 mm), exclusive of shoulders, except for approved security gates in accordance with Section 503.6.
- § 503.2.2 - The fire code official shall have the authority to require or permit modifications to the required access widths where they are inadequate for fire or rescue operations or where necessary to meet the public safety objectives of the jurisdiction.

# Future Applications

- Department of Environmental Services and Fire Department are exploring all options to balance safety and community desires.
- Legislative and legal operations are under review.
- Focus on specific project needs while maintaining code compliance.
- Fire code officials will be available for review and assistance through all phases of project design.

