

Vision Zero Annual Safety Feedback Summary

June 2022

By the numbers...

- **942** feedback form responses
- **125** lawn signs distributed
- **15,000** postcards mailed
- **5** pop-up events in equity-focused areas with 400+ in-person interactions
- **4** focus groups
- **2** library kiosks with mail-in feedback forms

Who we heard from on the feedback form...

- **93%** of respondents live in Arlington County
- **37%** of respondents work in Arlington County
- **85%** of respondents typically walk
- **80%** of respondents typically use a personal vehicle
- **51%** of respondents typically use transit
- **41%** of respondents typically use a bicycle



ARLINGTON
VIRGINIA



Vision Zero in Arlington County

Vision Zero is an internationally recognized strategy to eliminate all traffic fatalities and severe injuries, while increasing safe, healthy, and equitable mobility for all. In May 2021, the Arlington County Board adopted a five-year [Vision Zero Action Plan](#) to work toward our goal of **zero serious injuries or fatalities on Arlington's transportation system by 2030**.



Role of the Annual Safety Feedback Engagement

The Vision Zero team quantitatively measures progress toward Vision Zero by analyzing crash data and trends. **The Vision Zero Action Plan also called for an Annual Safety Feedback Engagement: a way to qualitatively assess progress** towards our Vision Zero safety goals by engaging with the community to learn about individuals' experiences and safety needs.

This document summarizes Arlington County's first Vision Zero Annual Safety Feedback Engagement that occurred from February through May 2022.

Engagement Activities

Community engagement for the Annual Safety Feedback Engagement consisted of **three simultaneous efforts**:

1. From February 28 through March 28, 2022, the County accepted **written comments** via the online or paper **feedback form**.
2. In March 2022, the Vision Zero Team hosted **5 pop-up events** around the County to obtain in-person feedback. The pop-up locations, times, and duration were deliberately chosen to reach a diverse audience near high-crash corridors, particularly from underrepresented

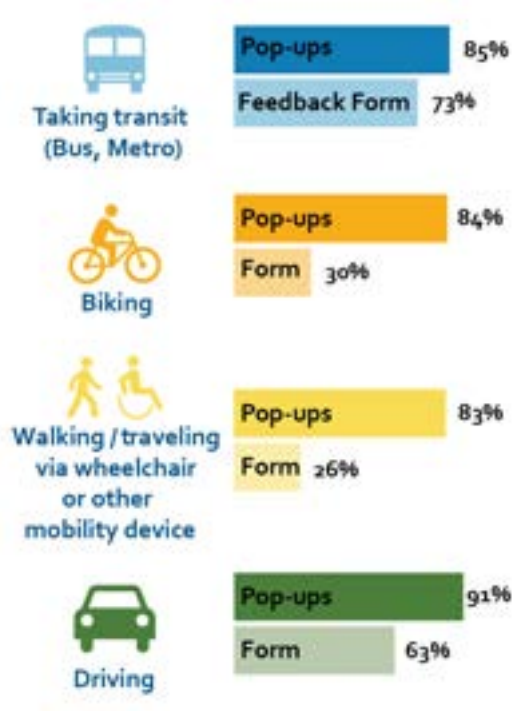
demographic groups. We collected community input both verbally and on interactive posters.

3. In April and May 2022, the Vision Zero team **convened four focus group meetings** to learn about transportation safety issues faced by disproportionately affected community members. These groups included three focus topics: older adults (typically 65+), people living with disabilities, and Black and African Americans. These focus groups allowed for candid discussion and input on transportation safety issues.

How safe do you feel while traveling in Arlington?

Input received from the online feedback form and in-person pop-ups revealed important information about people's perception of safety while traveling in Arlington. In general, **most people feel safe** while traveling in Arlington, particularly **while driving and taking the bus/Metro**, but **less so when walking or biking**. Pop-up participants indicated that they generally feel safer while traveling on all modes as compared to those who responded to the feedback form.

PERCEPTION OF SAFETY BY TRAVEL MODE:

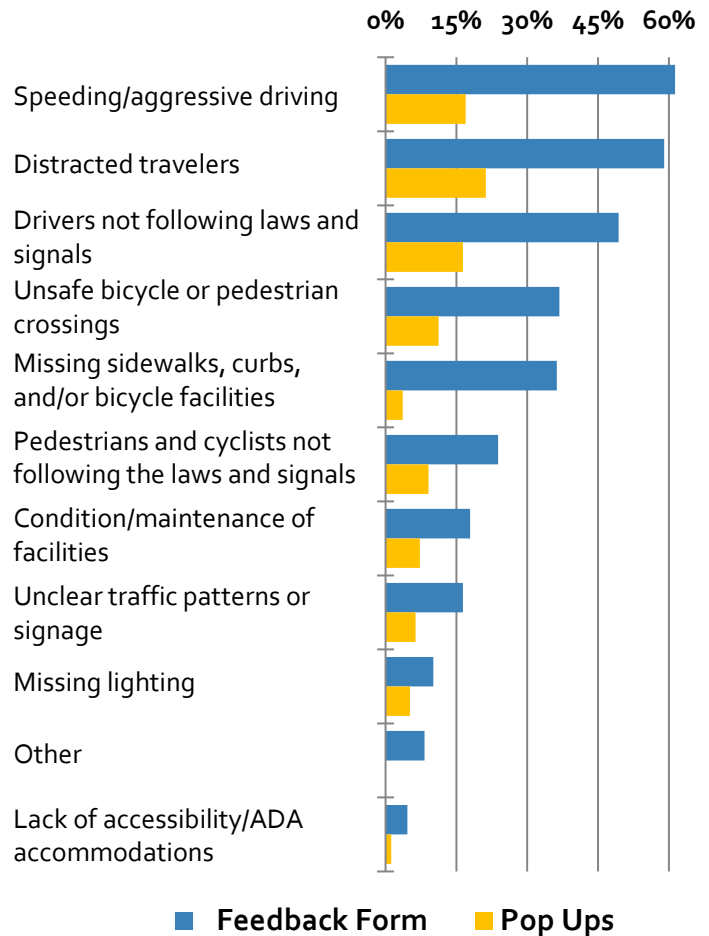


What are your top concerns while traveling in Arlington?

The top three concerns for travelers in Arlington are:

1. **Speeding & aggressive driving**
2. **Distracted travelers**
3. **Drivers not following laws and signals**

WHAT ARE THE TOP THREE REASONS YOU MAY FEEL UNSAFE TRAVELING IN ARLINGTON?



What do you think Arlington County can do to make travel safer?

We asked for insight into what else the County can do to make travelling safer. The responses were wide-ranging, but many people noted the following:

- Increase enforcement and awareness of traffic safety laws.
- Improve safety and visibility for all modes at high traffic intersections, crosswalks, and other multimodal intersections.
- Make it easy for community members to report a safety issue.

What safety advice would you give individuals when traveling in Arlington?

We received over 730 pieces of advice, which broadly fell into six categories:

- Slow down
- Pay attention
- Stay alert
- Watch for others
- Stay off your phone
- Follow the laws

What we learned from the focus groups

The four **focus groups** – Focused on Older Adults, People with Disabilities, and people who identify as Black or African American (2 groups) – meaningfully revealed, on a personal level, the successes and shortcomings of transportation in Arlington County. The participants **emphasized the challenges of navigating Arlington County’s transportation systems**. The challenges frequently shared included the timing of pedestrian crossing signals; sidewalk conditions and width; public amenities such as benches, lighting, and bathrooms; lack of sidewalks; and challenges related to the “last mile” between a person’s final destination and transit. The distribution of infrastructure in the County, and issues regarding congestion and cut-through traffic in diverse communities, including lower-income and minority communities, were also discussed. Overall, **these conversations were instrumental in providing context** for the need for Vision Zero in the local community.



How the Vision Zero Team is using this feedback

Here is how we’re incorporating the feedback received during the online, pop-up, and focus group engagement into the Vision Zero Year 2 agenda:

- Continue prioritizing projects that elevate safety for people walking and biking
- Decrease vehicle speeds by reducing speed limits and adding roadway features to help slow traffic
- Focus on safe crossing infrastructure, including signal timing and accessibility needs at roadway crossings
- Prioritize maintenance for sidewalks and roadways to ensure safe and accessible pathways for all modes of travel
- Increase communication and education about safe driving practices, like minimizing distractions and promoting the rules of the road
- Continue advancing new options for automated enforcement that focus on safe roadway crossing infrastructure including signal timing and accessibility needs, stopping at red lights, yielding to school buses unloading children, and obeying speed limits
- Promote community engagement that increases awareness of safety projects and initiatives, as well as access to Request for Service tools so people can seamlessly report safety issues

Stay tuned for updates!

- We will publish the second mid-year report toward the end of this year to share progress on the items listed above.
- If you want to report a safety issue, please visit the [Request for Service](#) portal.
- Please visit the website below to sign up for email updates or to learn more about all Vision Zero activities!