

Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Association Meeting

July 28, 2021

Q&A

1. In Fairfax County, how much crime is “home-grown” as opposed to being perpetrated by non- residents of the County?

Approximately 63% of arrestees in Fairfax County have been residents over the last three years.

2. How are we doing in the fight against criminal activities by gangs?

Figures for gang cases are on par with previous years. The gang unit is expected to have a similar number of arrests as last year.

Year	# Gang Cases	# Arrest by Gang Unit
2018	1,447	125
2019	1,353	221
2020	1,570	89
Through 06/30/21	778	42

To combat gang violence/crime our Gang Intelligence Unit focuses on the following strategies:

- We work with the school administration to identify at risk youth and get them help with Gang Intervention, Prevention and Education Programs (IPE)
- We speak with parents at schools about the warning signs of kids associating with gang members
- We speak with community organizations to educate them about gang activity
- We train police officers to identify the signs of gang activity in areas and then target those areas with enforcement operations
- We conduct proactive gang suppression efforts
- We share intelligence and assist with investigations with a gang nexus in Fairfax County and surrounding jurisdictions
- We target the Gang “*Leadership*” with long term investigations with the assistance of Federal law-enforcement partners
- We assist Virginia Probation and Parole with gang members coming out of prison to not get back into the “*gang life*”

3. We have a problem with speeding and reckless driving on the George Washington Parkway. How are you going to approach the National Park Police to work collaboratively to resolve the problem?

We only have criminal jurisdiction on GW Parkway.

4. How can law enforcement reduce speeding and reckless driving on Route 1?

Traffic citations on Route 1 are rebounding post-COVID, just as traffic throughout the county has increased as folks return to work.

Year	# Citations Issued
2018	6,044
2019	4,626
2020	1,644
YTD 2021	928

5. Are you concerned about the potential for an increase in pedestrian fatalities and injuries resulting from an increase in the number of lanes in the Route 1 widening plans?

Traffic safety is always a concern. Here are the number of fatal pedestrian crashes for the last several years:

Year	# Pedestrian Crash Fatalities
2018	1
2019	2
2020	4
YTD 2021	0

We had our VDOT liaison attend meetings with VDOT upon the design of this area . We expressed our concerns and VDOT did address them. They had input and surveys from different advocacy groups and shareholders in the community before making any final decisions.

VDOT ensures the safety of their designs and has the following on their website for this specific project:

The Build Alternative would benefit pedestrians and bicyclists by providing enhanced facilities to both sides of Richmond Highway as well as pedestrian

underpasses at the Dogue Creek and Little Hunting Creek bridges. These improvements would increase transportation safety by separating pedestrian and bicycle traffic from the roadway travel lanes. In addition, the Build Alternative would provide more connections to the limited pedestrian and bicycle networks and planned future facilities in the study area and within Fairfax County.

The Build Alternative should have long-term beneficial effects such as reduced travel time, increased travel reliability, a reduced rate of bicycle and pedestrian and motor vehicle crashes, an increase in bicycle and pedestrian network usage, and a shift in community transportation mode choice from motor vehicle to bicycle and pedestrian passage between communities, residents, neighborhoods, and businesses.

All pedestrian and bicycle accommodations will be ADA-compliant, turn lanes will be extended wherever possible to improve safety and capacity, and signals throughout the three-mile Route 1 corridor will also be optimized.

The website links below have mapping to show what is being implemented and may answer some other concerns from community members if you would like to pass it along.

[Richmond Highway Interactive Map - Projects | Virginia Department of Transportation \(virginiadot.org\)](https://www.virginiadot.org/projects/richmond-highway-interactive-map)

[Richmond Highway Corridor Improvements in Fairfax County - Projects | Virginia Department of Transportation \(virginiadot.org\)](https://www.virginiadot.org/projects/richmond-highway-corridor-improvements-in-fairfax-county)

6. Are things going well with law enforcement on Jeff Todd Way?

Fairfax County Police received authorization to enforce traffic violations on Jeff Todd Way in August 2020. Last year, we wrote 429 citations. Thus far in 2021, FCPD has written 101 citations, which implies that drivers know we are there and are slowing down.

Open for questions