

Military Road Safety Projects

Community Meeting / Project Update

June 10 2021, 7:00pm-8:00pm

Attendee Questions and Comments

Project webpage: <https://projects.arlingtonva.us/projects/military-road-safety-improvements/>

Community questions and comments are listed below in order of submission, and attributed to the user name entered at login to the meeting. *Staff responses provided via the text window are present in italics.*

All other staff responses were provided in the live Q&A session. To view a recording of the meeting, please click [here](#)

Participant Username	Content
Joe Gavin (Unverified)	How will a roundabout maintain through-put efficiency during rush hours? The present efficiency depends critically on the right of way given to the commuting route of upper Military and Nelly Custis. a Roundabout will take away this right of way?
Joe Gavin (Unverified)	How will the roundabout improve safety of pedestrian and bike traffic? WE have now a bike lane, heavy speeding fines on Upper Military and Lorcom, splitter islands and a crossing guard for school hours.
Joe Gavin (Unverified)	How will a roundabout lower the number of crashes and injuries that have not happened? The intersection has performed at Vision Zero for thirty years.
Joe Gavin (Unverified)	Does the roundabout meet VDOT recommendations for suitability and process? Do we have heavy left turn traffic and similar traffic on each leg? Do we have crashes involving left turns? Don't we have a lot of nearby driveways and streets? What alternatives were considered?
Joe Gavin (Unverified)	How will the Roundabout reduce risks from the blind approach up Nelly Custis Hill?
Joe Gavin (Unverified)	How will a roundabout maintain through-put efficiency during rush hours? The present efficiency depends critically on the right of way given to the commuting route of upper Military and Nelly Custis. a Roundabout will take away this right of way?
Joe Gavin (Unverified)	Is this the Arlington Way? Can we have a bottom-up process to address the all the concerns raised in the 2017 poll.? This has been a top down initiative from the County.
Joe Gavin (Unverified)	Does the roundabout meet VDOT recommendations for suitability and process? Do we have heavy left turn traffic and similar traffic on each leg? Do we have crashes involving left turns? Don't we have a lot of nearby driveways and streets? What alternatives were considered?
Anonymous (Unverified)	How is a roundabout safer for pedestrians, when drivers are focused on traffic negotiating the roundabout?
Joe Gavin (Unverified)	Your 2018 summary showed 52 votes for the Roundabout, which was only 42.98percent of total reponses. This is not a majority as stated on the website currently. There was no keep as is option, that was all right in.

Nathan Graham (nsgraham@arlingtonva.us)	Mr Gavin, the slide showed a "no change" option that showed 30 votes, the 2nd highest total of the options shown.
Anonymous (Unverified)	You mention a history of accidents. I have checked with the police department, and they assured me there have been no accidents in the past five years. If you have contrary information, please share.
mcnamara (Unverified)	Vision Zero map data shows no problems between 2010 and now. It appears work already done is working.
Susan Hixson (Unverified)	I thought that experts had decreed that the intersection does not have a wide enough diameter for a roundabout to be safe.
John D. (Unverified)	The pilot program seems to be a prudent alternative to a permanent solution. A roundabout undisputedly will slow traffic. I understand folks who don't live near that intersection would like to continue to blow through the intersection at speeds well above posted on the way to/from work. For those of us who live near the intersection or for those who have children crossing these streets (which they now do in much greater volume due to Dorothy Hamm) need a better solution than none at all. (Btw, a stop light likely will just as likely increase speeds as drivers try to "beat the light.")
mcnamara (Unverified)	if all cross walks went thru the center circle there are only 3 points. Dealing with traffic each with traffic in only one way.
Spadaro (Unverified)	You have decided on a roundabout as the solution, based upon some sort of a survey meeting with 121 people which is a small fraction of the residents in the affected areas. I am in the Old Glebe neighborhood and no one in my civic association (or other civic associations) participated in your "survey".
Dave Danze (Unverified)	How about a pedestrian crossing at the apex of the hill on Military with day-glo signs planted on both sides of it? I see folks crossing there often and almost getting clobbered.
Richard Samp (Unverified)	The County apparently conducted a study on the effects of the roundabout within the past two years. Is it publicly available? Where can one view the study.
Nathan Graham (nsgraham@arlingtonva.us)	It's available on the project page, under "information about roundabouts" - https://projects.arlingtonva.us/projects/military-road-safety-improvements
What is the collision/crash experience at this intersection (Unverified)	Will the crosswalks be modern wide raised crosswalks
Anonymous (Unverified)	We are 20-year residents 0.5 miles from the intersection and we like the idea of piloting the roundabout. We've seen a lot of close calls that don't get captured in your accident data. Safety improvements are needed.
Bill Richardson (Unverified)	Can we see how the \$200 fines and greater enforcement might reduce the speeding without requiring big changes?
Spadaro (Unverified)	I have not seen - nor have you presented - any traffic accident history (vehicle or pedestrian). We have asked the Arl County Police about the history of accidents at this location in our civic association meetings and they responded that they do not have records of any accidents. You need to present the accident and safety history at this intersection. I do not believe you have demonstrated that there is a problem that needs solving other than your personal opinions. Show us the data. Otherwise this looks like a solution searching for a problem.
Anonymous (Unverified)	does it make sense to push bicyclist/commuters onto sidewalks with pedestrians?
Spadaro (Unverified)	In the absence of data to demonstrate there is a problem, I will

mcnamara (Unverified)	I like the temporary idea. Sidewalks are for pedestrians not bicyclists. Has the DES discussed the specific impacts with each homeowner directly effected by this? You have not mentioned lights at crosswalks will there be any?
Spadaro (Unverified)	commend to my civic association (and to adjacent civi associations) that they inform the County Board that we do not support thos expenditure of county funds.
Anonymous (Unverified)	In several areas of Arlington, notably Lyon Village, ARLCO has installed roundabouts with stop signs for 2 of the 4 directions, which essentially defeats the purpose of the roundabout, and runs contrary to how roundabouts work in other areas. Will there be stop signs at this new roundabout?
Anonymous (Unverified)	There IS a crossing guard at this intersection for intermediate schools--he's there for Dorothy Hamm, then moves to Military and 26th for Taylor Elem. Clarifying - the Taylor guard is at 26th and Military and the DHMS guard is at Military and Nelly Custis
John F (Unverified)	Is there any data that shows safety measures taken, round about or traffic light will lead to less or reduced non residential commuter / cut thru traffic?
Spadaro (Unverified)	You have NOT demonstrated a need at this intersection, so stop moving forward based on your subjective assumptions. The statement that you "see the need" does not justify this expenditure of county funds.
Spadaro (Unverified)	You have decided on a roundabout as the solution, based upon some sort of a survey meeting with 121 people which is a small fraction of the residents in the affected areas. I am in the Old Glebe neighborhood and no one in my civic association (or other civic associations) participated in your "survey".
Spadaro (Unverified)	You need facts ! You have no data to compare to even if you do a pilot project to determine there is improvement.
Dave Danze (Unverified)	How about a pedestrian crossing at the apex of the hill on Military with day-glo signs planted on both sides of it? I see folks crossing there often and almost getting clobbered.
Spadaro (Unverified)	121 responses to your survey do NOT represnt even a small fraction of the members of the affected seven civic associations, let alone the broader population not in a civic association.
Bill Richardson (Unverified)	What is the process and timing for civic association input into this new pilot proposal?
Susan Hixson (Unverified)	The earlier survey of residents did NOT endorse the roundabout. Part of the concern was the information provided (that I refer to above and that is being ignored) that experts said the diameter of the intersection is too small for a roundabout. Cars will be forced to turn too "tightly" for what is considered safe driving.
Jason Widstrom (jwidstrom@arlingtonva.us)	<i>As Dan mentioned, if you have a specific concern about a location outside the scope of this project, or would like to provide feedback once a pilot is in place, you can send an email to DES-TEO@arlingtonva.us</i>
Dave Danze (Unverified)	The apex which almost intersects 25th St on Military. Folks often don't want to walk an extra block to cross to 25th St
Nathan Graham (nsgraham@arlingtonva.us)	<i>Understood! Dan's recommendation for emailing the C3 channel at DES-TEO@arlingtonva.us is still the appropriate place for this as well.</i>
Anonymous (Unverified)	I echo the prior comment. Our civic association was not made a part of a survey. We were made aware of the plan when the idea was first proposed and then at the

	end when a solution was created, but our association was not asked for our thoughts and ideas.
Anonymous (Unverified)	What is the cost for the pilot project?
Anonymous (Unverified)	does it make sense to push bicyclists onto a sidewalk with pedestrians to navigate an intersection? That's been an issue in Rosslyn with alarming results
What is the collision/crash experience at this intersection (Unverified)	Will the crosswalks be modern wide raised crosswalks
Bill Richardson (Unverified)	Can we see how the \$200 fines and greater enforcement might reduce the speeding without requiring big changes?
Mark and Mary (Unverified)	Thank you Arlington County for this important conversation. As 25-year residents who live one block from this intersection and who walk, ride bikes, commute, and use the ART bus, we believe that a safer solution is needed due to excessive speed; drivers who fail to yield to pedestrians; and increased traffic volume. We appreciate your work to try to make things better for those of us who call this immediate area home.
mnamara (Unverified)	i was told the real design was 90 ft across and based on cars driving at 25 mph. Is that still accurate? Is this pilot a good representation of that?
Anonymous (Unverified)	Our civic association spoke with the police and not a single speeding ticket has been given.
Anonymous (Unverified)	thanks for making this a live presentation!