



**Lead:** Connie Pryor, resident of NAC 3  
**Recorder:** Jenifer Rodriguez, NAC 3 Coordinator  
**Location:** Monocacy Elementary School  
**Start Time:** 7:00 pm                                      **End Time:** 8:25pm  
**Attendance:** 20 residents in-person, 1 NAC coordinator, Cpl. Sean Geiser (Frederick Police Department), Allen Etzler (City of Frederick, Manager of Communications), Melanie Williams (Religious Coalition, Director of the Emergency Family Shelter), Nick Brown (Religious Coalition, Executive Director), David Edmonson (City of Frederick, Planning) MC Keegan-Ayer (Frederick County)

**WELCOME:**

- Review of NAC purpose and NAC 3 triumphs in past years, including gate at Ft. Detrick, various traffic concerns such as turning lanes, parking stop signs placement, prevention of businesses in residential area, inclusive swing at park, cell tower placement, collaboration with Emergency Family Shelter, local schools, and other organizations.

**POLICE REPORT:**

**Cpl. Geiser, Patrol Supervisor**  
(Dates of service 6/6/23 to 9/30/23)

Topic	Remarks
<b>Ongoing NAC Problem Solving Efforts</b>	
<b>Crime Trends / Major Incidents</b>	
1. Motor Vehicle Theft	1. 2020 Chevy Traverse stolen from Carriage Way. Owner left a key fob inside vehicle. Vehicle recovered in New Market.  Attempted theft of Suzuki motorcycle from Carriage way. Motorcycle was located within close proximity to residence, ignition was tampered with.  Items stolen from unlocked vehicle in Weis shopping center.
2. Theft from Motor Vehicle / Tampering with Motor Vehicle	• Male checking car door handles on TJ Drive – one vehicle confirmed tampered with, nothing stolen.
3. Destruction of Property	• ¾ tires slashed on vehicle parked on Heather Lane. No suspect information.
4. Bicycle Thefts	• Multiple bicycle thefts, unsecured bicycles in yard or on curtilage of residence.

<b>Statistics</b>	
Calls for service	1745
Traffic stops	140
Arrests	15
Patrol checks	305
Traffic collisions	30
Municipal infractions	0
<b>Strategic Messaging</b>	

Overall, this NAC was shielded from the crime increase that has been seen across the City of Frederick, especially concerning stolen vehicles.

Since the placement of the two speed cameras to Christopher’s Crossing in the North Crossing area, FPD hasn’t done as much patrolling but have been approving tickets. Most tickets are from vehicles going 37-38 miles per hour, just over the 12 mph threshold. There have been no resident complaints the last two months on this side of Highway 15.

Questions/Comments:

- A resident remarked that the new light at Opossumtown Pike and Christopher’s Crossing is the best-timed light in Frederick.
- A resident reminded that there were concerns at the last meeting of people blowing through stop signs in Amber Meadows. She said that it is still happening, and sometimes people go around vehicles stopped at the stop signs. Another resident asked what can be done proactively? Cpl. Geiser explained that their traffic team is receiving field training with new officers, but soon officers will be assigned and they will be sure to include that area. He explained that a speed camera will not be enough since it is not a speed issue, but that it will need officer patrol, likely himself and another officer. Speed boxes do track data, though, so when a box becomes available, one can be placed there for data.
- A resident asked if Amber Meadows is eligible for any speed humps. The answer is that the City is unwilling to place speed humps in almost any situation and prefer other means to control traffic. However, any data received by FPD will be sent to Traffic Engineering.
- A resident asked if there would be another speed box placed on Tuscarora Creek Blvd. The answer is not now as they only have so many to use.
- A resident expressed that vehicles turning onto Walter Martz from the Preserve at Tuscarora Creek are not stopping at the stop sign and is worried about traffic accidents. Cpl. Geiser said there have been concerns regarding Walter Martz, but not specifically out of the Preserve. He took note of situation.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- Jenifer Rodriguez followed up with one-sided parking proposal from Traffic Engineering for Cannon Bluff. After June’s NAC 3 meeting, Traffic Engineering was willing to convene with other key players and residents to discuss concerns. However, they received lots of resident concerns at the meeting, emails, and phone calls, they did not deem it necessary, and the proposal was withdrawn. Residents and HOA were notified via email.
- Minutes from June 5, 2023 were approved without changes.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Religious Coalition: Emergency Family Shelter** | [Emergency Family Shelter](#)  
**Nick Brown, Executive Director** | 301-631-2670 ext. 105 | [nbrown@rcehn.org](mailto:nbrown@rcehn.org)  
**Melanie Williams, Director of the Emergency Family Shelter** | 301-631-2670 ext. 116 | [mwilliams@rcehn.org](mailto:mwilliams@rcehn.org)

Nick Brown shared that the operations of the Emergency Family Shelter is going really great, exactly as intended. It was started in 2014 to fulfill an unmet need. It began as scattered shelters that were used a few weeks at a time, in churches and other buildings. That same year it was evident a permanent shelter was needed. The City showed them the current building, and though in disrepair had great bones and was structurally sound. It was designed with 10 suites, each with their own private bathrooms, which while originally deemed unnecessary ended up being beneficial during Covid.

The Shelter opened April 11, 2022 as fully operational. It can house up to 50 people. The house feels like a home. Every suite has closets, storage spaces, etc. It provides stability to the families staying there. The program is very safe and therapeutic. It can take in siblings, whole families including grandparents, adult siblings, etc. It has rose to meet challenging cases.

People often ask how they can help. First, allowing it to proceed by the community was appreciated. Additionally, there will be opportunities for volunteerism now that Covid is mostly behind us. A huge need for the shelter is affordable housing. Stays should be 90 days or less, but is sometimes extended due to lack of housing inventory. Any help in finding affordable housing is appreciated. Another need is contributions and partnerships as anything that provides a sense of normalcy such as sponsoring an outing to a football game, pumpkin patch, etc. If you have something you want to share with residents, ask.

Melanie shared about the operations of the shelter. Since opening its doors, it has helped 60 families, 177 people (69 adults and 108 children). It accommodates nine families at a time. One year later, over 85 percent of families are housed and doing well.

The intake process for families includes a phone call with a caseworker to discuss their situation (where they are staying, what happened, which schools children attend, etc.) A background check and safety screening is done for residents 18 years and older. They receive a phone call when there is an opening at the shelter. Everything is run through heat to avoid bedbugs entering the shelter. The families know expectations for both themselves and the shelter. Each suite has a window and provides an environment of peace for the families.

Families speak weekly to their caseworker. They are given resources and support with employment, housing search, therapy, substance treatment, etc. to meet their needs. The Emergency Family Shelter partners with Frederick County Public Schools (FCPS). They receive a caseworker from FCPS to help them engage with the schools they attend. Three safe adults at the school are provided to the student. They are enrolled in trauma therapy and bumped up on the list. Grants and partnerships with therapists get them seen quickly. There are Spanish-speaking therapists, but children speaking any language are helped.

Yoga classes are provided once a week for mom (or other caretaker) and volunteers watch the children so parents can relax and help them be more productive.

#### Questions:

- A resident asked about the families' food situation. It was explained that families get food benefits if not employed. There is pantry/freezer space. Often multiple families are cooking at one time. Once a week someone from the Shelter picks up food from the foodbank that has been set aside. There are freezers in the basement for meat and extras. There are three large pantries. There is food for families that are running low. The shelter receives donations of lots of gift cards to grocery stores that families can use. They are encouraged to use one of the foodbanks. There has not been a problem with food.

- A resident asked how they have succeeded in placing boundaries. The answer is that from the beginning families know their time limit. If needed they can apply for an extension if they are still looking for housing. Most families have motivation to move out. However, some families have been discharged because they weren't moving forward in their case plan. There is a waiting list of 18 families.
- A resident asked where kids go to school. The answer is that they maintain consistency for the children. FCPS provides transportation to their existing school, though some children prefer to transition to schools in the Shelter's boundaries. In this case, they can change right away. Monocacy Elementary has a Judy Center for families that is phenomenal. Schools contort to maintain stability for families.
- A resident asked where families usually find housing? Everyday the shelter is working on housing. Often landlords have a waitlist of 10-15. There are a lot of tricky pieces to getting affordable housing. Rental assistance is a big part of the Religious Coalition and case managers work hard to get housing for families.
- A resident asked if there is a wish list for the Family Shelter. The answer is volunteerism is coming soon, and the website has a list for both shelters. If you have an idea of something you'd like to volunteer or give, please let the Religious Coalition know.
- A resident asked if families at the shelters are employed. The answer is some but not all. It is especially difficult for parents with small children, since vouchers for childcare are available only after working for 30 days. All families are encouraged to find employment. All families come from different income basis.
- A resident asked if they maintain contact with families after they have left the Shelter. The answer is they maintain contact for one year. Often families reach out to them.

**City of Frederick, Planning – David Edmondson** | [dedmondson@cityoffrederickmd.gov](mailto:dedmondson@cityoffrederickmd.gov)

**Let's Move Frederick – Comprehensive Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan**

**Link:** [Click here](#)

The City is working to make Frederick a community where bicycling and walking is comfortable, useful, safe, affordable, and accessible to all residents and visitors. In City surveys, 65 to 75 percent of people want more sidewalks, bike trails and bike lanes. The Comprehensive and Strategic plan include plans to boost bicycling and walking in areas of land use, traffic management, health, safety, and environmental stewardship. A challenge in Frederick is better maintenance of sidewalks. The question is how to approach this—City maintenance with increased taxes, go after residents who do not maintain it, etc.).

Currently, the only way to be a full part of the City is to drive, and so the goal for Frederick is for one-third of trips not be driven. Currently only a quarter of trips is for work, while most are for shopping, visiting friends, going to parks, etc.

The plan is a slow approach, stretching over 20 to 30 years to learn from what is working or if they need to try something else. The full cost of the plan is \$125 million dollars, which is too expensive. They are looking for ways to bring the cost down, possibly through water projects, repaving projects, working with developers.

The [map](#) shared in the meeting is a draft or starting point based on traffic. However, since residents know their neighborhoods best, the City is seeking resident input. The map shows different types of lanes or paths: *Bicycle boulevards* are streets with low traffic where it is safe for kids to get on the road. The goal is to make it attractive for primary cycling areas. *Buffered bicycle lanes* are bicycle lanes with no physical barrier. *Protected bicycle lanes* are lanes with a clear barrier such as flex

posts, planters, or curb. *Shared-use paths* are extra wide areas of sidewalks or asphalt, either on or off street, possibly painted for bike lanes.

An example of a protected bicycle lane is Shookstown Rd/Baughman Ln. While it currently a very small section, the City knew that eventually the bikeway would be a good way to go from Rosemont Ave to W Patrick St in regards to other future projects. Doing it in advance saves taxpayer money.

#### Questions/Concerns:

- A resident was concerned about the shared use path in Cover Ridge and said it needs work.
- A resident asked what is being considered for NAC 3 areas in comparison to other areas in the City, especially downtown, which seems to always get the most attention? The answer is, where there is density, it will be fairly equal service. Downtown has challenges because there is not a lot of space for all modes of transportation. A large section of NAC 3 includes Clover Hill, which is County area. There is a large density in the southwest, north of 70 and south of Area B. It is the most contiguous new section in the City.
- A resident asked if they are working with County to continue paths from where City and County meet? The answer is yes. An example is at Christopher's Crossing from Walter Martz to Yellow Springs Rd., County has agreed to make a shared-use path on one side of the road.

**City of Frederick, Department of Communications – Allen Etzler, Manager of Communication |**  
(240) 549-4380 | [aetzler@cityoffrederickmd.gov](mailto:aetzler@cityoffrederickmd.gov)

The City of Frederick is preparing to discuss priorities for legislative and capital funding to bring to Maryland General Assembly Legislative Session. There is an online survey for residents to take, share their priorities with the City. In the survey, residents can select priorities such as traffic calming, bike/park connectivity, public safety regulation, projects such as regional parks or youth centers. If an item is not mentioned, there is a place to add it. The survey is short, about five minutes. The more feedback to the City the better. Currently only about 200 residents have responded. The survey is open until October 16, 2023.

[Take Survey Here!](#)

#### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

- We are looking for additional NAC 3 Coordinators. If you are interested, please reach out to a NAC 3 coordinator or Allen Atzler.

#### **SUGGESTIONS & COMMENTS / MISC:**

- If you have a suggestion of an agenda item or guest presenter from the City, County or local community or an issue that should be addressed let a NAC coordinator know.

#### **UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

- **Next NAC 3 meeting:** November 6, 2023 from 7-8:15PM at Monocacy Elementary School
- **City-wide Planning Division Community Outreach Meeting:** October 16, 2023, 6-8pm @ City Hall (101 N Court St, Frederick)  
Subscribe to planning agenda notification emails [here](#).  
For more information about each project, search the City's database [here](#).

#### **NAC CONTACT INFORMATION:**

**NAC 3 Email Address:** [CityofFrederickNAC3@gmail.com](mailto:CityofFrederickNAC3@gmail.com)

**Facebook:** [City of Frederick NAC3](#) Click "Join Group" to receive updates/feeds.

**Board Members:**

President: Dave Giles  
Members: Jenifer Rodriguez

**City Contacts:**

Chowan Brightful, Community Engagement Specialist | [cbrightful@cityoffrederickmd.gov](mailto:cbrightful@cityoffrederickmd.gov)  
Allen Etzler, Communications Manager | (240) 549-4380 | [aetzler@cityoffrederickmd.gov](mailto:aetzler@cityoffrederickmd.gov)  
Report issues in the City of Frederick [here](#) or download the iSpires app. ([Apple](#) | [Android](#))

**Police Contacts:**

Sgt. Tracey Wiles	<a href="mailto:TWiles@frederickmdpolice.org">TWiles@frederickmdpolice.org</a>	301-748-6273
Cpl. Ben Davies	<a href="mailto:BDavies@frederickmdpolice.org">BDavies@frederickmdpolice.org</a>	240-549-4539
Cpl. Sean Geiser	<a href="mailto:SGeiser@frderickmdpolice.org">SGeiser@frderickmdpolice.org</a>	240-549-4459

**FREDERICK POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**Emergency:** 911

**Non-Emergency:** 301-600-2100

**Anonymous Crime Tips**

301-600-TIPS (8477) – phone call

240-674-TIPS (8477) – text message

[fpdcrimetip@frederickmdpolice.org](mailto:fpdcrimetip@frederickmdpolice.org)

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