



Elementary Boundary Planning Initiative

ACTC
March 7, 2018



Arlington Public Schools



Outline

- I. Overview – Why now?
- II. Phase 1: Walk Zone Reviews
 - A. Part 1: Task Group Work Sessions
 - B. Part 2: Community Input, Walking tours & Surveys
 - C. Part 3: Synthesizing Inputs
- III. Part 2: Evaluating School Locations
 - A. Evaluation considerations
- IV. Timeline



Background

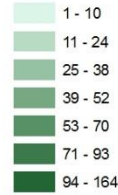
- Multiple elementary school openings and program moves:
 - **Sept. 2019:** Alice Fleet opens as neighborhood school
 - **Sept. 2019:** Elementary Montessori program moves from Drew to Henry site, and Drew opens as full neighborhood school
 - **Sept. 2021:** Reed opens as neighborhood school
- School Board directed staff to develop two proposals to create attendance zones for elementary schools planned through 2021:
 - Recommend strategic placement of option and neighborhood schools, and adjust boundaries to include new schools
 - Keep option schools at current sites and adjust boundaries to include the new schools



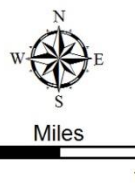
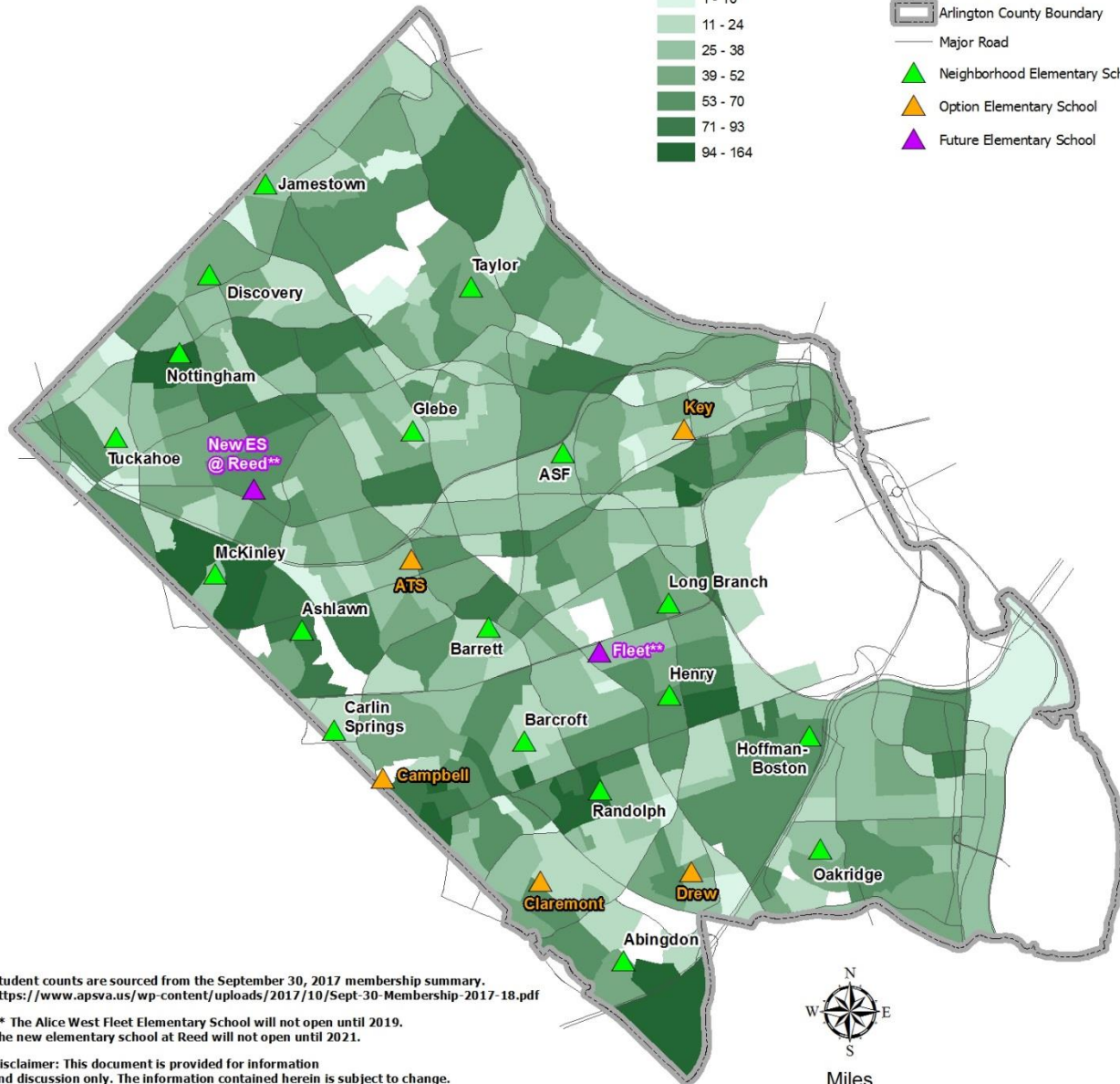
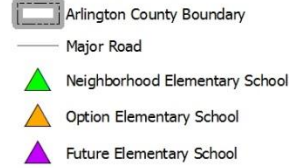
What Are we Trying to Solve?

- Limited land availability to locate schools in optimal locations
 - near student populations
 - not too close together
 - ease of transportation delivery
- Balance growing enrollment
 - 10-yr projections → 30,000+ students by 2022, and 32,000+ students by 2026
- Manage growth in transportation costs and address operational issues
- Ensure equitable access to option schools and maximize ability for walking

Total Resident Student Counts for Grades K - 5



Other Map Features



Student counts are sourced from the September 30, 2017 membership summary. <https://www.apsva.us/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/Sept-30-Membership-2017-18.pdf>

** The Alice West Fleet Elementary School will not open until 2019. The new elementary school at Reed will not open until 2021.

Disclaimer: This document is provided for information and discussion only. The information contained herein is subject to change.

Source: Arlington County GIS Mapping Center, 2018. Arlington County Public Schools, Facilities Planning, 2018.

S:\Facilities\Facilities Planning\GIS\Boundary_Adj\2018\ES\Stu17K5_PP.mxd

1/19/2018

K-5 Resident Students in County

- Current K-5 resident students by planning unit
- Current and future elementary schools

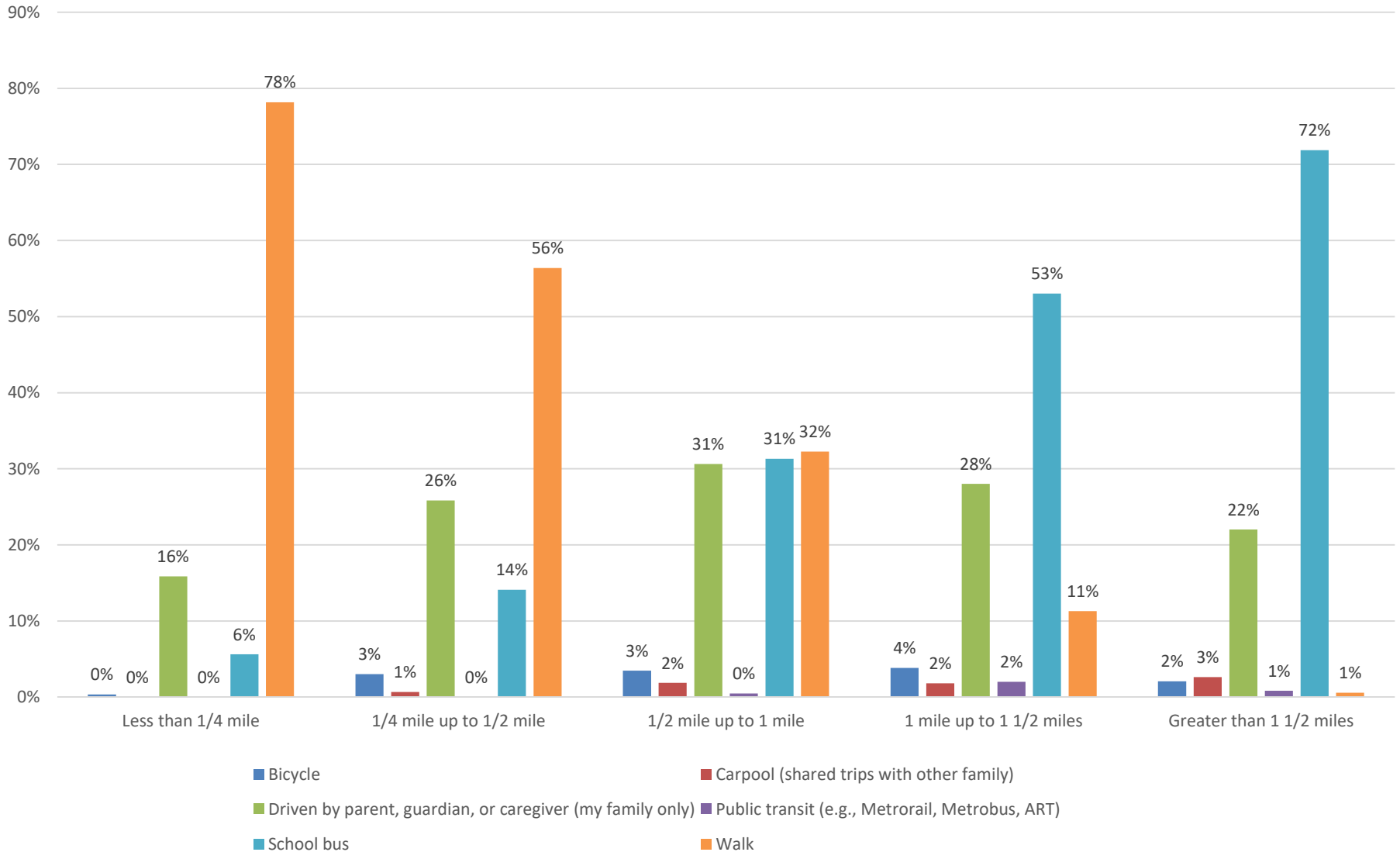


Transportation Cost & Operational Impacts

- Efficiency:
 - Are our buses used well in Planning Units adjacent to Walk Zones – esp. those within $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ mi
- Operational Issues:
 - Driver shortage
 - No place to park

Where Does Walking Occur?

2016 Travel Mode By Distance – Elementary (APSGo! 2016 Parent Survey Data)





Finding the Sweet Spot

...Trying to avoid the third condition in school areas

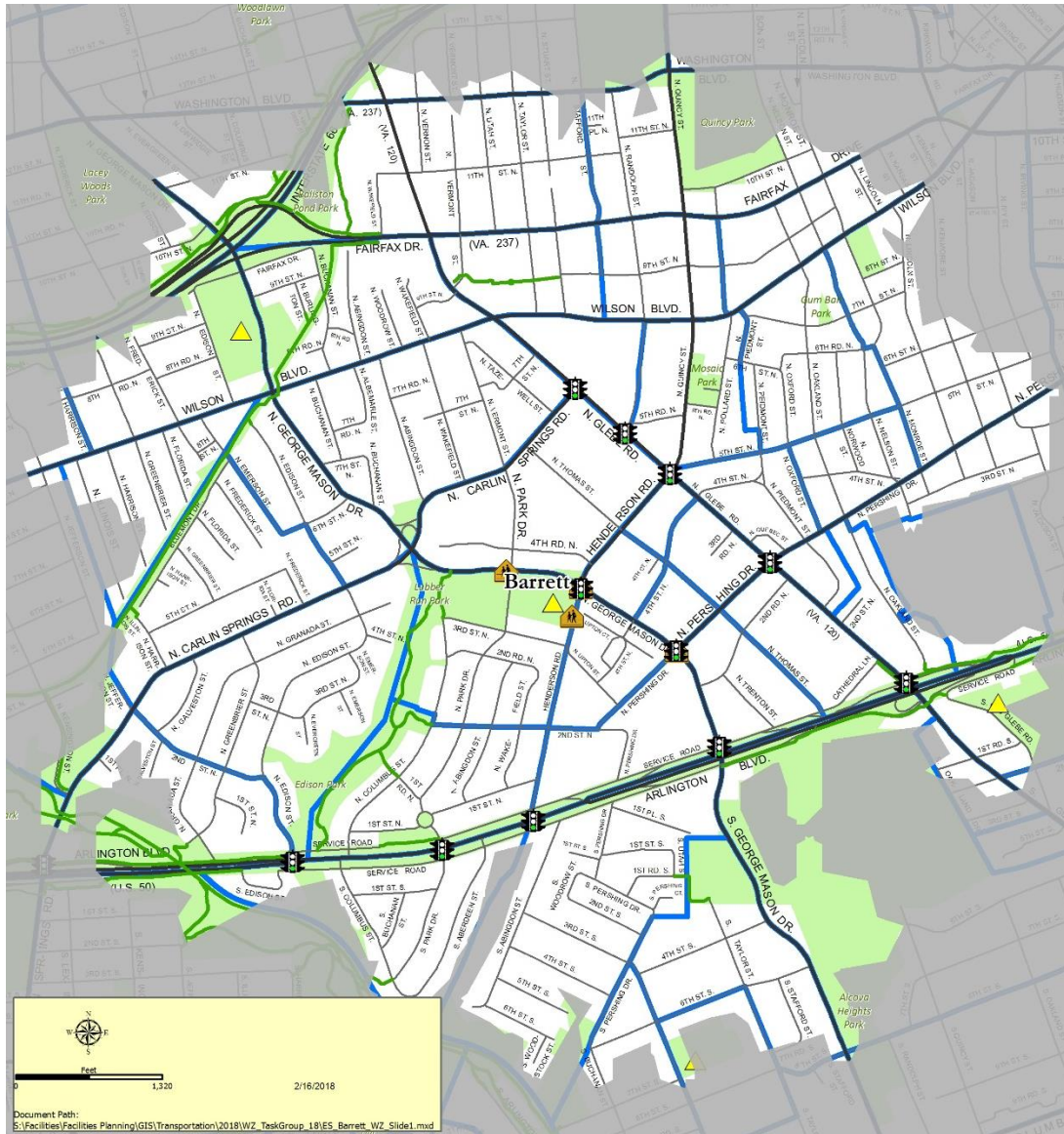


Walk Zones – Past, Present and Future

- From 1 mile to what we see today
- Considerations used to develop current set of walk zones
- JCTC's Walk Zone Working Group (WZWG) 'no cross designations' and infrastructure review




Barrett: 1 Mi Bus Eligibility Zone




Legend

Walk Zones

 One Mile Per Policy
APS PIP 50-5.1


Other Map Features


 ARL County Boundary

 Planning Units

 Elementary School

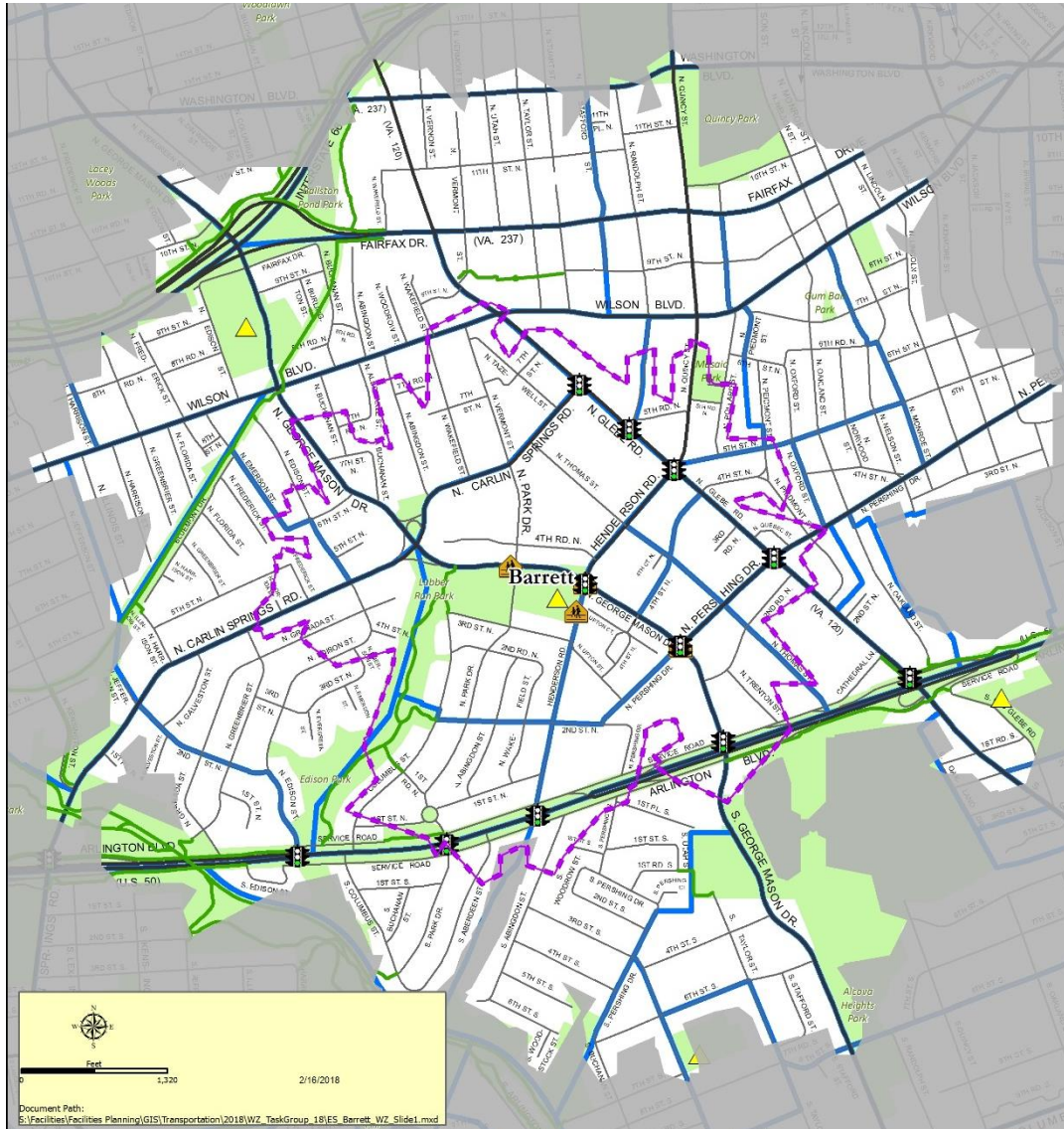
 Crossing Guard

 Signalized Crossing

 Off-Street Trail




Barrett: 1/2 Mi Walk Shed




Legend

Walk Zones

 One Mile Per Policy
APS PIP 50-5.1

 Half-Mile Walk Shed

Other Map Features

 ARL County Boundary

 Planning Units

 Elementary School

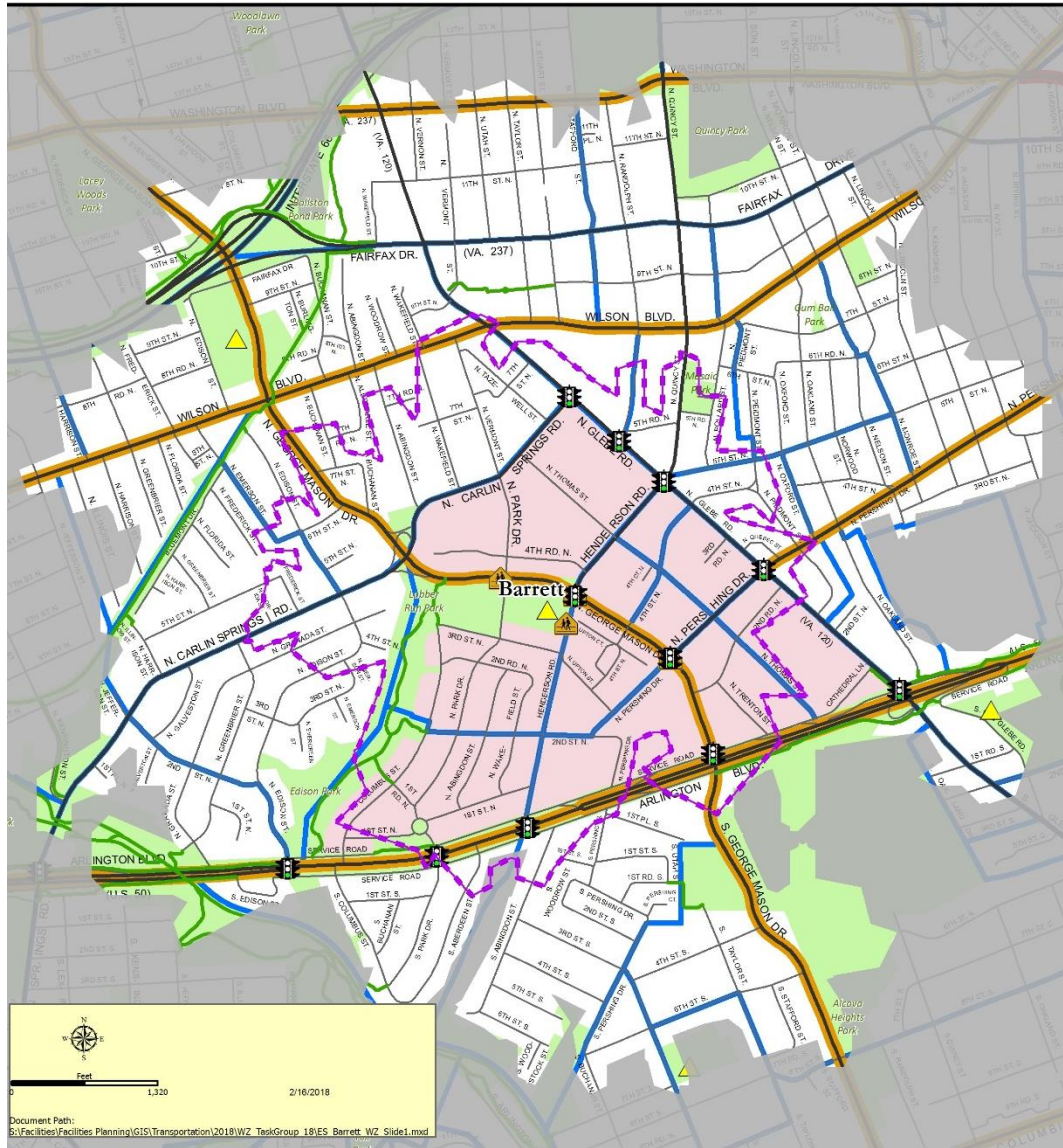
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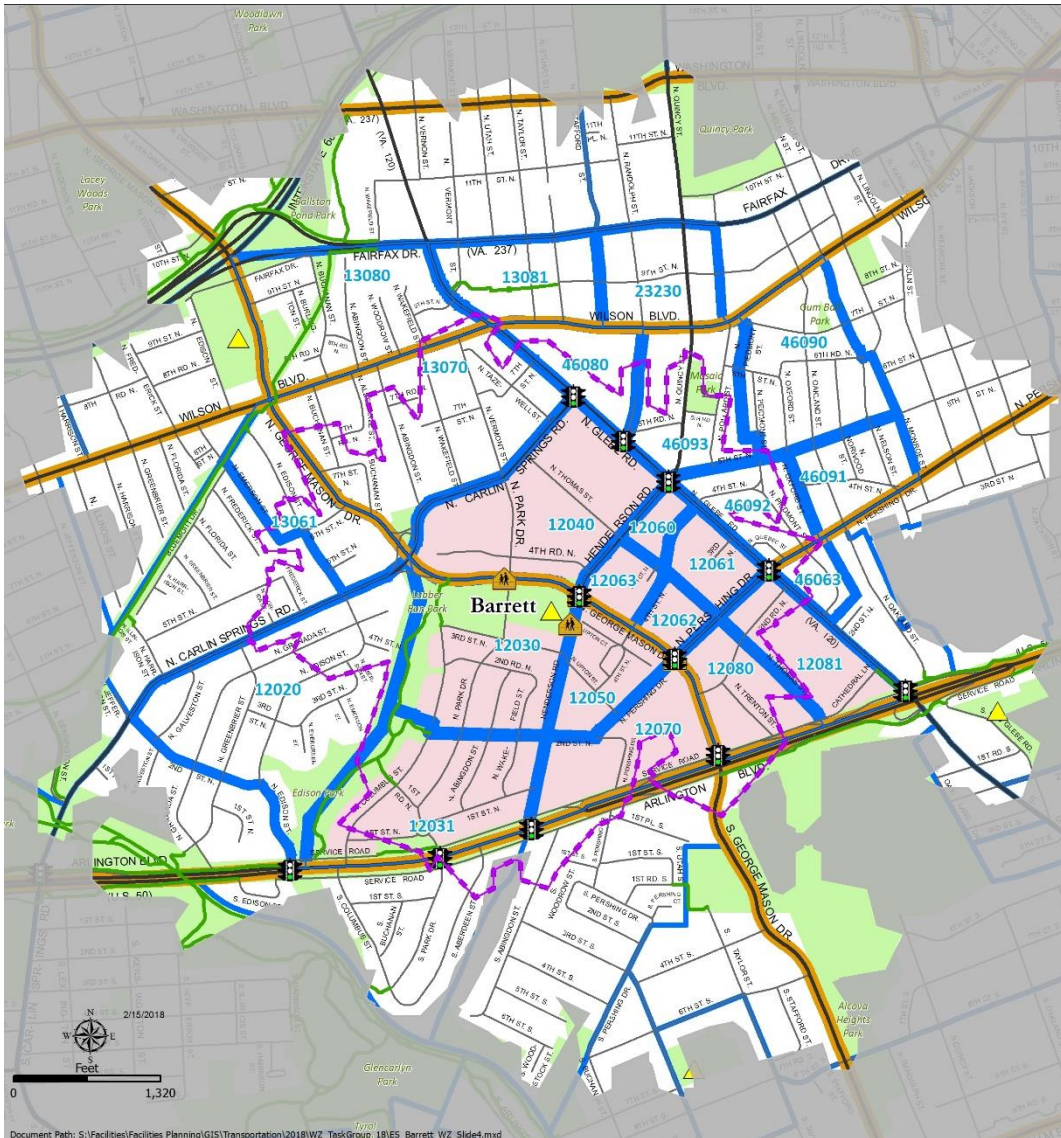


Barrett: Current Walk Zone & Barrier Roads





Barrett: Planning Units in 1 Mi



Legend

Walk Zones

- One Mile Per Policy
APS PIP 50-5.1
- Current Walk Zone
- Not Eligible for Bus Service, May 2013

Half-Mile Walk Shed

Street Crossing Designation

- Only Middle and High School Students may Cross*
- No Grade Levels may Cross*

Other Map Features

- ARL County Boundary
- Planning Units
- Elementary School
- Crossing Guard
- Signalized Crossing
- Off-Street Trail



Walk Zone Task Groups & Community Input

Composition: School and Civic Assoc reps

Charge: Review Walk zones; ground truth; **Identify walkability/safety needs** and possible areas of expansion

Process:

- Round 1 ‘Hands on meetings’ – **DONE**
- Community Walk-about and Surveys - ***Underway***
- Round 2 ‘What We heard meetings’ – **3/15 – 21**
- Staff evaluation of Inputs: ***2 buckets***
- Staff recommendations for walk zones (part 1)



School Task Group Responsibilities

- Inform community members about how they can participate in this process
- Gather community input about the school walk zone and identify possible areas of expansion
- Conduct neighborhood “walking tours” within one-mile policy zone
- Share community input with staff at Task Group Working Sessions



Online Survey Form

Survey Participation x

You have accessed this survey in TEST MODE. Your answers will not be recorded

Within planning unit 14060 which specific locations, intersections, or nearest address, would benefit from additional infrastructure to make it safer for elementary students to cross?

	Location (intersections or nearest address)	Please answer below
Location 1	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="--Select--"/> Add a pedestrian push-to-walk signal or audible signal Increase the amount of time for people to cross Decrease the amount of time people have to wait before crossing Add a traffic signal or HAWK signal Improve the crosswalk markings Install traffic calming measures Place crossing guard to reduce distance between safe crossings Connect sidewalk segments Widen sidewalks Repair broken sidewalk Install a buffer between sidewalk and street Add a stop sign Reduce the posted speed limit (note current speed limit) Add "School Zone" signage Add a crosswalk Narrow road to reduce crossing distance Install median or pedestrian refuge Remove parking or other crossing sight line obstructions Remove sidewalk obstructions (poles, signs, shrubs, etc.) Install sidewalk (note which side of street - N, S, E, W) Add no U-turn sign Increase traffic enforcement Add/improve lighting (to trails)
Location 2	<input type="text"/>	
Location 3	<input type="text"/>	
Location 4	<input type="text"/>	
Location 5	<input type="text"/>	
Location 6	<input type="text"/>	
Location 7	<input type="text"/>	
Location 8	<input type="text"/>	
Location 9	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="--Select--"/>
Location 10	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="--Select--"/>

You have accessed this survey in TEST MODE. Your answers will not be recorded



Accessing the Questionnaire

- Available online and in print
- Both formats are available in English and Spanish
- Opportunity to provide additional comments (online or in print)
- www.apsva.us/engage/engage-aps-online-feedback/
- www.apsva.us/elementary-school-boundary-change/walkzonereview/



Synthesizing Input

- Two 'buckets' for Planning Unit recommendations
 - 'Low-hanging fruit'
 - Require further study
- Safety & Infrastructure recommendations
 - Develop prioritization framework:
 - # of students impacted
 - Safety analysis
 - Feasibility
 - Cost
 - More...
 - Work with County DOT on implementation strategies



How APS Will Use This Community Input

Facilities and Operations

- Develop walk zones that will take effect as of Sept 2019
- Work with County to address any walkability concerns identified through the walk zone review process

Planning & Evaluation Staff

- Determine current and projected resident students in the elementary school walk zones
- Take into account with other considerations to identify recommended sites for neighborhood and option schools



Phase 2: Location Review

- **Proposed Considerations:**
 - What is the impact to teaching and learning?
 - What is the impact to the number of potential walkers?
 - What is the impact on transportation costs?
 - What is the potential for growth at each school site?
 - Does the school site have access to cross-county transportation routes?
 - If a planning unit is within the walk zone for two schools, then the planning unit will be considered in the next phase of the boundary process.
 - Time needed for any moves

Phase 2: Location Review

- Survey underway:
<https://survey.k12insight.com/survey.aspx?k=SsSRTVsYWQsPsPsP&lang=0&data=>
- Community requested to add to or weigh in on proposed considerations.
- Closes **Friday, March 9.**



Timeline

- **4/12** Draft recommendations for location moves and expanded walk zones posted
- **4/12-5/1** Community input on recommendations
- **5/17** School Board Informational Item on
- **6/21** School Board Action on proposed location moves
- **Fall 2018** – ES Boundary development & Walk zone refinement