

# SCHOOL-RELATED CRASH REVIEW

**Location:** Arlington Road at Edgemoor Lane

**Crash Date:** January 26, 2024

**Crash Time:** Approximately 7:33 AM

**Local Case No.:** 240004060

**Review Date:** December 17, 2024

## **Description of Incident**

On Friday, January 26, 2024, at approximately 7:33 AM, a pedestrian was traveling northbound along Arlington Road, crossing Edgemoor Lane in the crosswalk with a walk signal. A motorist traveling southbound along Arlington Road, with a green signal, turned left onto eastbound Edgemoor Lane and struck the pedestrian in the crosswalk. The crash report indicated that the motorist failed to yield right of way to the pedestrian. The pedestrian suffered minor injuries. Daytime weather conditions were cloudy, and the roadway surface was wet.

**Figure 2** illustrates the crash location and direction of pedestrian and vehicle travel.

## **Location and Site Description**

The subject location is the intersection of Arlington Road at Edgemoor Lane. Bethesda Elementary School (ES) is located at 7600 Arlington Road, one block north of the subject location. The subject location also falls within the walkshed for Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School (HS), which is located east of the site across MD 355 (Wisconsin Avenue). Bethesda ES has a current enrollment of 611 students in grades Pre-K through 5.

### **Bethesda Elementary School**

Most student arrivals are between 8:30 AM and 9:00 AM and dismissals occur between 3:25 PM and 3:45 PM. School office hours are from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM.

### **Arlington Road**

Arlington Road is classified as a downtown street, is approximately 40 feet wide, and is generally oriented in the north-south direction. Arlington Road is approximately 1.0-mile long between Little Falls Parkway to the south and Old Georgetown Road to the north. Arlington Road has buffered sidewalks on both sides of the street within the vicinity of Bethesda ES, between Old Georgetown Road and Bethesda Avenue.

In the southbound direction, Arlington Road has a school flasher/high-intensity beacon (HIB) displaying a posted speed limit of 25 MPH, just south of Old Georgetown Road. Also displayed for southbound traffic is a static, non-standard “School Days 25” speed limit sign north of Moorland Lane. The northbound direction includes a static 25 MPH speed limit sign, located north of Elm Street and south of Montgomery Lane. A school flasher/HIB with a posted speed limit of 25 MPH is installed between Edgemoor Lane and Montgomery Lane. On-street parking is not permitted between Old Georgetown Road and Bethesda Avenue. Refer to **Figure 1** in the attachments for additional details on the Arlington Road segment.

### **Arlington Road at Edgemoor Lane**

Arlington Road at Edgemoor Lane is a signalized four-leg intersection. Edgemoor Lane is classified as a downtown street and ADA-compliant pedestrian ramps are provided on all corners of the intersection. All

crossings include continental crosswalk markings. Arlington Road operates with permissive left-turns and the Edgemoor Lane approaches operate in “split” phasing (each direction proceeds on its own phase). Traffic signal heads are enhanced with reflective backplates. There are “No Turn on Red” and “Turning Vehicles Yield to Pedestrian” signs posted for all four approaches. The signal includes LPI for pedestrians for all approaches. There is depressed curb on all four corners of the intersection. There is LED street lighting on all four corners.

The Arlington Road corridor was evaluated to identify potential infrastructure, maintenance activities, and road user behaviors that contribute to increased safety risk at and in the vicinity of the school-related crash location. The Arlington Road corridor was reviewed at the subject intersection where the crash occurred. Please refer to **Figure 1** for additional information.

### **Crash History**

Crash data obtained from dataMontgomery indicates that twelve (12) incidents occurred along Arlington Road between May 2015 and September 2024. Ten (10) occurred in the vicinity of the Arlington Road/Edgemoor Lane, including the subject incident. Two (2) crashes occurred near of the subject intersection, along Arlington Road. The ten (10) crashes reported at the Arlington Road/Edgemoor Lane intersection included five (5) left-turn crashes, one (1) rear-end crash, three (3) angle collisions where the vehicle turning direction could not be determined, and one (1) pedestrian-related crash. Four (4) of the incidents occurred during wet pavement conditions, and one (1) occurred at night. The incidents are illustrated on **Figure 3**.

### **Field Observations and Findings**

Field observations were performed on Wednesday, August 21, 2024, at 11am. Weather conditions were clear, and the roadway surface was dry. Vehicular and pedestrian activity was observed due to this intersection’s location in a downtown urban setting. All pushbuttons were functioning, and pedestrians were observed activating the equipment.

### **Recommendations**

Based on the crash report, the motorist failed to yield right of way to the pedestrian in the crossing. The following measures were identified as a result of this review:

1. Consider installing centerline hardening to slow left-turning vehicles and increase visibility of pedestrians in the crosswalk.
2. Consider removing split phasing for side streets.
3. Consider replacing the 3’-9’ skips along Arlington Road south of Moorland Lane. They should be 10’-30’ skips.
4. Consider replacing the “school days 25” sign with a standard speed limit sign.

## Site Photographs



**Photo 1. Looking towards east crossing leg of intersection at Edgemoor Lane where crash took place.**



**Photo 2. Southbound Arlington Road signal displays.**





Figure 1 - Arlington Road Corridor Observations





Figure 2 - Crash Diagram



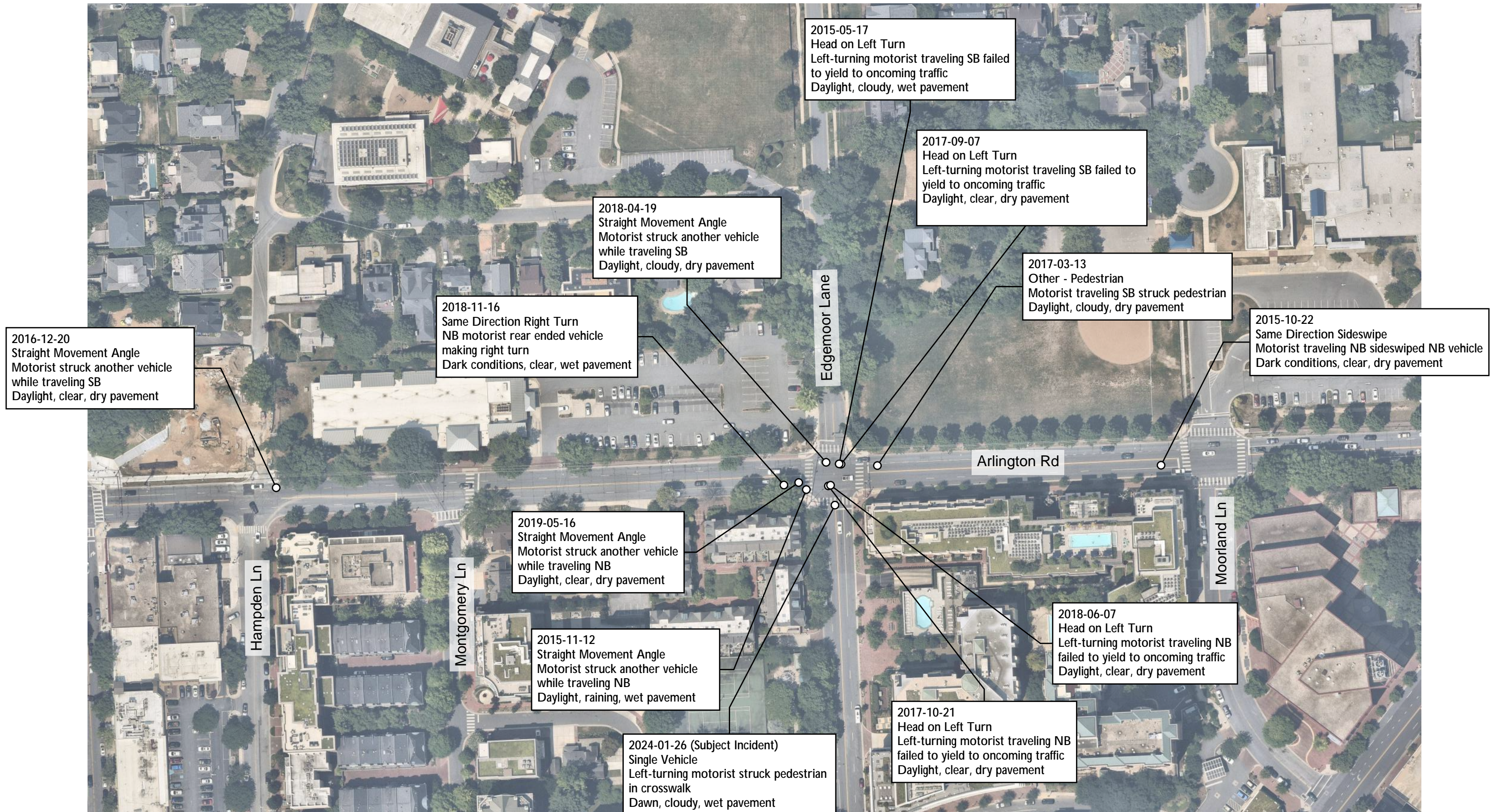


Figure 3 - Crash History (2015-2024)