



City of Urbana Pedestrian Master Plan Update

Presentation to the City of
Urbana Bicycle and Pedestrian
Advisory Commission
April 18, 2022



Urbana Pedestrian Master Plan - Outline

- Overview
- City Council and Mayor's Goals
- Review Progress on the Pedestrian Master Plan's Goals and Objectives
- Concluding Recommendations

Urbana Pedestrian Master Plan - Overview

- Published in August 2020
- Timeline to 2025 and 2030
- Objectives organized around 4 Pillars (Goals):
 - Accessibility and Connectivity
 - Equity
 - Safety
 - Vibrancy

City Council and Mayor's Goals - 2014-2021

Goal #1: Public Safety	
Objective	Actions
1. Provide for the safety of residents by maintaining sufficiently staffed and well-trained police, fire and public works departments.	1F. Public Works: Add sidewalks and streetlights in areas and neighborhoods where it would significantly enhance public safety.
3. Develop a safe, complete and active transportation system.	3F. Work with neighborhood organizations, like the Urbana Park District, the Urbana School District, and other local agencies, to identify other needs for connectivity among parks, schools, neighborhoods, and business districts.

Goal #4: Vibrant Business Districts	
Objective	Actions
1. The city will strive to retain existing businesses, attract new businesses and fill vacant buildings and sites across all business districts.	1G. Downtown: Develop public square/pedestrian plazas in prominent downtown locations. Consider low-impact non-permanent measures such as paint, fencing, and street furniture.
	1K. Cunningham Ave. corridor: Continue implementation of Cunningham Avenue Beautification Plan, which includes new sidewalks, streetlights, curb cut closures, landscaping and streetscape walls.
	1P. High Cross Road corridor: Work with park district to obtain grant funding [to] develop city link to the Kickapoo Rail Trail.
2. Continue implementation of Boneyard Creek Master Plan.	2A. Initiate design study for Boneyard beautification plan west to Lincoln Avenue and connection with Boneyard redevelopment completed at UI Engineering Quad.

City Council and Mayor's Goals - 2014-2017

Goal #5: Transportation and Connectivity	
Objective	Actions
1. Support modern transportation systems and alternate transportation modes.	1C. Continue to implement the city's complete streets ordinance.
	1D. Seek funding to create a pedestrian master plan.
	1F. Adopt Vision Zero, setting as a community goal reaching zero fatalities for pedestrians, bicyclists, and drivers.
2. Connect neighborhoods with businesses and recreational opportunities.	2A. Initiate design study for Boneyard beautification plan west to Lincoln Avenue and connection with Boneyard redevelopment completed at UI Engineering Quad.
	2C. Work to develop routes of connectivity between Aspen Court and shopping destinations along South Philo Road.
	2D. Work with IDOT to plan and build sidewalks/multiuse path connecting North Cunningham Avenue with shopping destinations north of I-74.

Urbana City Council and Mayor Priorities 2018-2021
1. With consideration of the downtown as a whole, initiate and plan for transformation of the Lincoln Square site into a destination.
4. Expand connectivity of Kickapoo Rail Trail with a focus between Vine Street and Lincoln Avenue and plan for the Boneyard Creek Multiuse Path.
6. Make SE Urbana an economic priority, with an emphasis on the Philo Road Business District.

City Council and Mayor's Goals - 2022-2023

- Strategic Area #1: Public Safety & Well-Being
- Strategic Area #2: Housing
- Strategic Area #3: Infrastructure
 - Improve quality of current infrastructure assets.
 - Increase investment in infrastructure equity.
- Strategic Area #4: Economic Recovery and Development
 - Identify Downtown destinations for Hotel Royer guests; develop plan to enhance the safety and aesthetics of pedestrian paths of travel to those destinations.

City Council and Mayor's Goals - 2024+

- Recommendation:
 - Work with Mayor and Council to align the Goals and Objectives of the Pedestrian Master Plan with Council's Strategic Goals for 2024.
 - Petition to pursue the Pedestrian Master Plan recommendation to hire or designate a dedicated Pedestrian and Bicycle Coordinator for the City of Urbana.

Urbana Pedestrian Master Plan

- Review each objective based on the following
 - On track to achieve or already achieved this objective
 - Still need to make progress on this objective
 - Not making sufficient progress on this objective

* Focused the review on 2025 objectives; we have time to 2030.

Accessibility and Connectivity

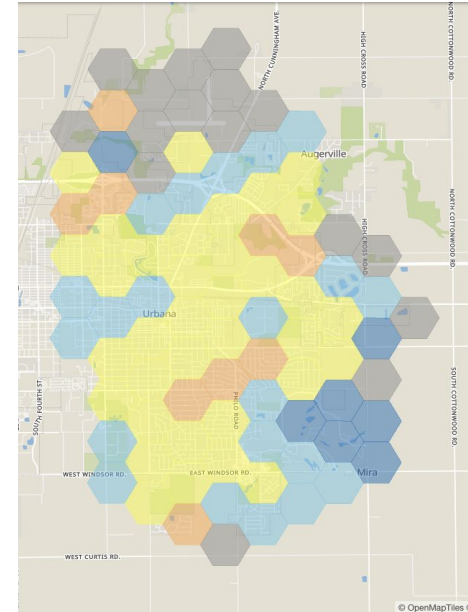
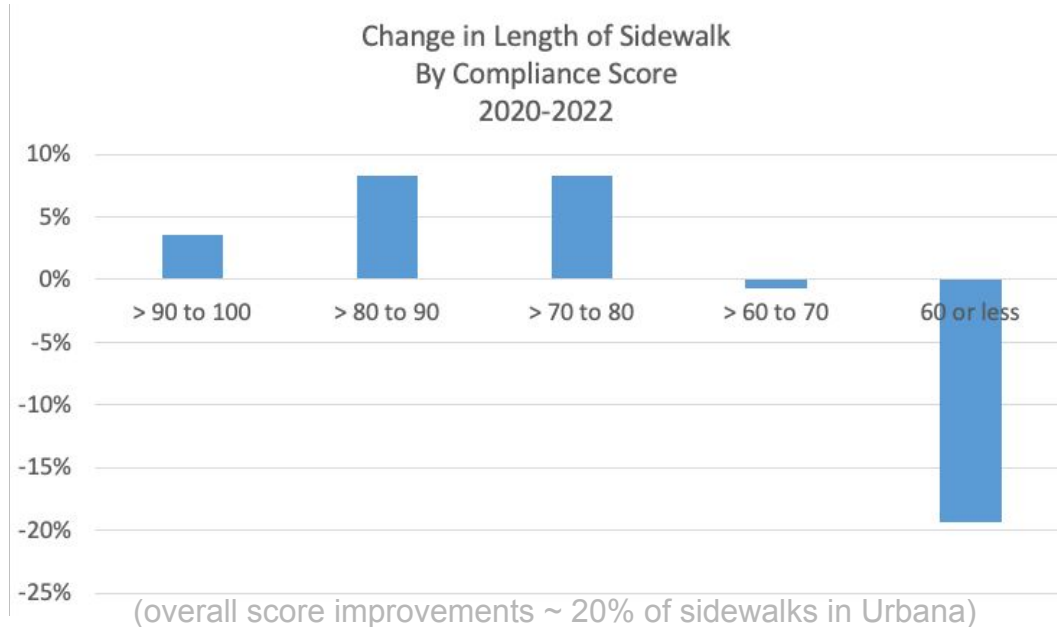
Improve Urbana's Pedestrian infrastructure to enable and encourage all residents and visitors to walk to their destinations

Accessibility and Connectivity

- Increase the Sidewalk ADA Compliance Score for at least 10% of Urbana's existing sidewalks by 2025.
- Increase the sidewalk condition score for at least 5% of Urbana's sidewalks by 2025.
- Increase the amount of new sidewalks in Urbana by at least 2,640 feet by 2025.
- Increase the percentage of arterial roadways in Urbana with pedestrian infrastructure on at least one side the road from 85% to at least 90% by 2030.
- Provide direct and visible access for pedestrians of all ages and abilities from 3 destinations not currently connected to Urbana's sidewalk network by 2030.
- Fix 4 major connectivity barriers that add extra distance and difficulty to walk between destinations by 2025.
- Develop or expand at least one ordinance, program, or policy to mitigate the effects of natural elements on Urbana sidewalks to provide year-round access by 2025.
- Develop or expand at least one ordinance, program, or policy to improve pedestrian access through developments and redevelopments on private properties by 2025.

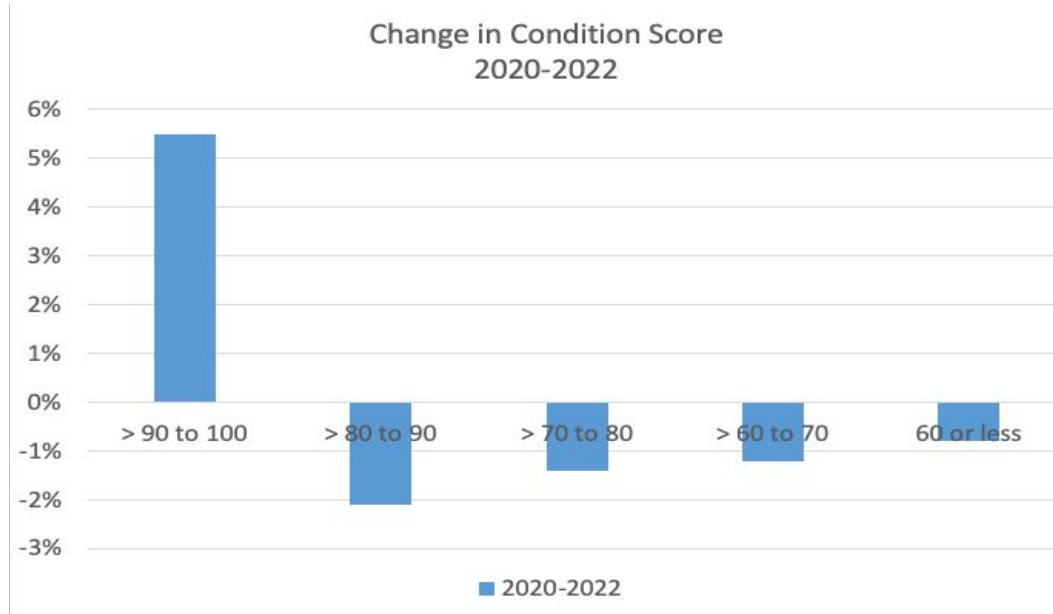
Accessibility and Connectivity

1. Increase the Sidewalk ADA Compliance Score for at least 10% of Urbana's existing sidewalks by 2025.



Accessibility and Connectivity

2. Increase the sidewalk condition score for at least 5% of Urbana's sidewalks by 2025.

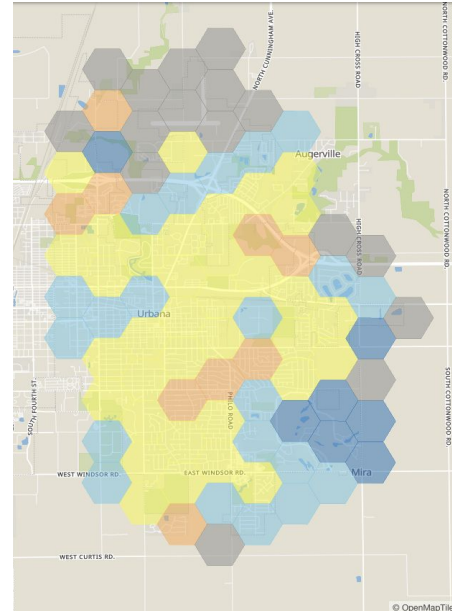


Accessibility and Connectivity

3. Increase the amount of new sidewalks in Urbana by at least 2,640 feet by 2025.

Change in total miles of sidewalk in the inventory from 2020-2022:

17.3 miles ~~ 90,000 feet



Accessibility and Connectivity

- Increase the percentage of arterial roadways in Urbana with pedestrian infrastructure on at least one side the road from 85% to at least 90% by 2030.
 - Unable to find data on public portals.
- Provide direct and visible access for pedestrians of all ages and abilities from 3 destinations not currently connected to Urbana's sidewalk network by 2030.
 - Would benefit from specifically calling out some of these locations and devising targeted strategies.

Accessibility and Connectivity

- Fix 4 major connectivity barriers that add extra distance and difficulty to walk between destinations by 2025.
 - Connect AMBUCS Park to the south as shown in the Champaign County Greenways & Trails Plan (Greenways & Trails Plan calls for a connection between AMBUCS and Judge Webber to the north)
 - Connect Aspen Court and the Urbana Townhomes property directly to Philo Road via an off-street path (path at Lanore Dr and E Fairlawn Dr)
 - Connect Highland Green Apartments and Crystal View Townhomes to Cunningham Avenue near the Saline Branch
 - Work with the railroad and other landowners to connect the Carle complex to Downtown Urbana.
 - Connect areas north and south of Interstate 74 via Cunningham Avenue (path on the east side of Cunningham Ave)
 - Improve existing connections from Crystal Lake Park to areas south of University Avenue (sidewalk improvements along Race St N)

Accessibility and Connectivity

- Develop or expand at least one ordinance, program, or policy to mitigate the effects of natural elements on Urbana sidewalks to provide year-round access by 2025.
 - Determine high use and priority area pedestrian infrastructure where year- round usability is affected by weather and seasonal conditions, such as snow, ice, flooding, debris, and vegetation.
 - Determine encouragement and enforcement measures to improve pedestrian infrastructure where year- round usability is affected by weather and seasonal conditions, such as snow, ice, flooding, debris, and vegetation.
 - **Opportunity here for a snow removal ordinance**

Accessibility and Connectivity

- Develop or expand at least one ordinance, program, or policy to improve pedestrian access through developments and redevelopments on private properties by 2025.
 - Private Development Access: Revise standards for non-single family residential development to require a direct pedestrian path separated from vehicles (i.e. sidewalks, marked crosswalks) to access destinations safely that connect the main building entrance, parking stalls, sidewalks and bus stops in the public right-of-way, adjacent developments, and/or adjacent neighborhoods. **Add this requirement to the Urbana Engineering Site Plan Review Checklist.**

Equity

Invest in Urbana's pedestrian resources to improve all substandard areas, especially areas of concentrated racial or ethnic minorities, lower income areas and transit dependent populations.

Equity

- Implement at least three pedestrian infrastructure improvement projects proposed in the CUUATS Sidewalk Network Inventory and Assessment Project Priority Areas by 2025.
- Implement at least one short-term project proposed in this plan in each of Urbana's eight neighborhoods by 2025.
- Invest in the extension of the Kickapoo Rail Trail to at least one Urbana neighborhood with predominantly low- or moderate-income households by 2030.
- Distribute educational, encouragement, and/or enforcement materials about walking to a minimum of 30 residents of each of Urbana's eight neighborhoods annually by 2025.
- Expand the Walking School Bus program to all Urbana elementary schools by 2025.

Equity

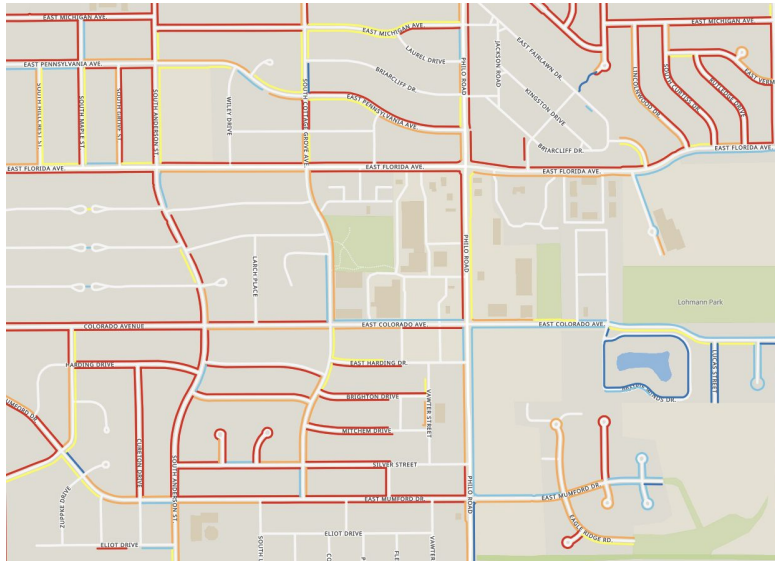
- Implement at least three pedestrian infrastructure improvement projects proposed in the CUUATS Sidewalk Network Inventory and Assessment Project Priority Areas by 2025.
 - EQL #3 (75) Silver St: Sidewalks and Streetlights
 - Lincoln Square Mall Sidewalk Compliance



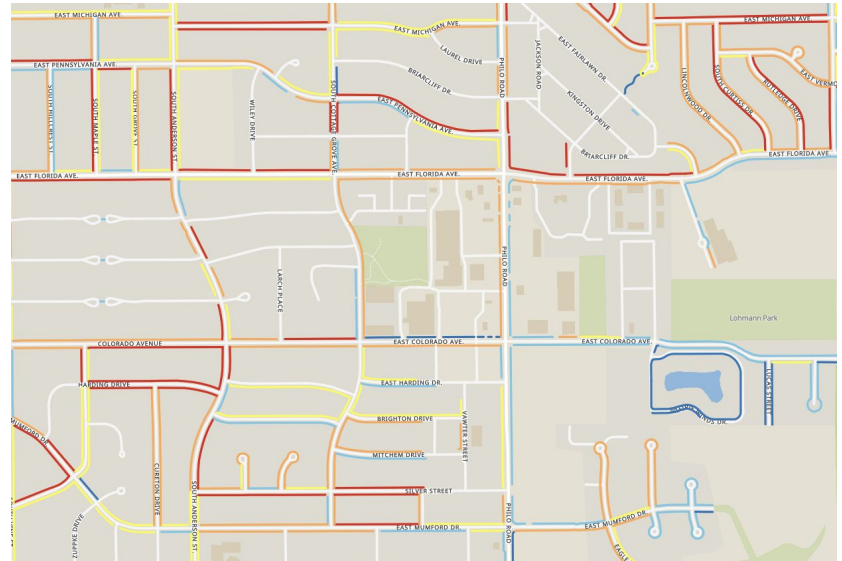
Equity

- Implement at least three pedestrian infrastructure improvement projects proposed in the CUUATS Sidewalk Network Inventory and Assessment Project Priority Areas by 2025.
 - Philo Road and Florida Avenue Compliance Scores

2020



2022



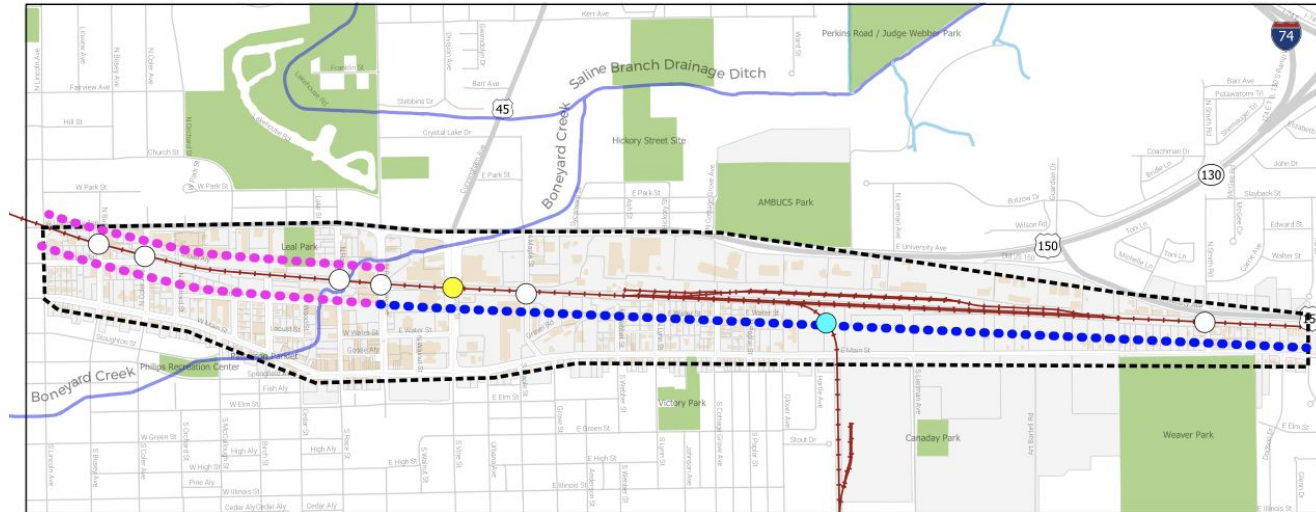
Equity

- Implement at least one short-term project proposed in this plan in each of Urbana's eight neighborhoods by 2025.
 - Produce a list of completed and current pedestrian infrastructure construction projects by neighborhood at the end of each construction year to be shared on the City website and with BPAC.

Equity

- Invest in the extension of the Kickapoo Rail Trail to at least one Urbana neighborhood with predominantly low- or moderate-income households by 2030.

Final Alternative Map



Equity

- Expand the Walking School Bus program to all Urbana elementary schools by 2025.
 - Public Schools with Safe Walking Routes as of 2021:
 - Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary
 - Flossie Wiley Elementary
 - Thomas Paine Elementary
 - Dr. Preston L. Williams Jr Elementary
 - Yankee Ridge Elementary
 - Leal Elementary
 - Public Schools that do not have a Walking School Bus program:
 - Urbana Early Childhood School
 - Winifred Gerber School

Safety

Eliminate fatal and serious pedestrian/vehicle crashes.

Safety

- Act to reduce the average number of annual pedestrian-vehicle crash fatalities in Urbana from 1 to 0 between 2020 and 2025 (2 in 2022).
- Act to reduce the number of severe pedestrian crash injuries in Urbana by a minimum of 50 percent by 2025. (73% in 2022; total incidences were higher)
- Add new or upgrade existing pedestrian safety features at a minimum of 2 signalized intersections in Urbana by 2025.
- Use the Champaign-Urbana Pedestrian Crossing Enhancement Guidelines or the latest pedestrian crossing guidance resources to improve pedestrian crossing safety at a minimum of 3 mid-block locations by 2025.
- Dedicate at least \$150,000 of City of Urbana Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) funding to pedestrian and trail construction and maintenance projects annually.
- Apply for at least 2 Federal, State, and/or private grants for pedestrian infrastructure projects by 2025.

Safety

- Act to reduce the average number of annual pedestrian-vehicle crash fatalities in Urbana from 1 to 0 between 2020 and 2025 (2 in 2022).
- Act to reduce the number of severe pedestrian crash injuries in Urbana by a minimum of 50 percent by 2025. (73% in 2022; total incidences were higher)

Year	Accidents	Injuries	Share Injured
2020	9	8	89%
2021	11	8	73%
2022	15	11	73%
	67%	38%	

Safety

- Act to reduce the average number of annual pedestrian-vehicle crash fatalities in Urbana from 1 to 0 between 2020 and 2025 (0 in 2022).
- Act to reduce the number of severe pedestrian crash injuries in Urbana by a minimum of 50 percent by 2025. (73% in 2022; total incidences were higher)
 - **Develop and adopt a Vision Zero Action Policy and Action Plan.**
 - Educate motorists and bicyclists on stopping for pedestrians.
 - Educate pedestrians on their legal rights and responsibilities.
 - **Have City staff explore the development of a Traffic Calming Policy and Neighborhood Speed Reduction Policy to reduce vehicle speed.**
 - **Provide consistent pedestrian signage, markings, and signals.**
 - Work with the University of Illinois to use student-targeted media effectively to instill good safety practices.
 - **Perform point and area lighting assessments in an effort to reduce crashes.**

Safety

- Add new or upgrade existing pedestrian safety features at a minimum of 2 signalized intersections in Urbana by 2025.
- Use the Champaign-Urbana Pedestrian Crossing Enhancement Guidelines or the latest pedestrian crossing guidance resources to improve pedestrian crossing safety at a minimum of 3 mid-block locations by 2025.

Safety

- Dedicate at least \$150,000 of City of Urbana Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) funding to pedestrian and trail construction and maintenance projects annually.

	FY23 Budget	FY24 Plan	FY25 Plan	FY26 Plan	FY27 Plan
EXPENSE					
200 - CAPITAL REPLACMT & IMPROV FUND	180,000	102,900	105,884	108,955	112,114
331 - COMMUNITY DEV GRANTS FUND	500,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000
	680,000	302,900	305,885	308,955	312,114

Safety

- Apply for at least 2 Federal, State, and/or private grants for pedestrian infrastructure projects by 2025.
 - Florida Avenue Project Proposal for the *Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity* (RAISE) grant (Not Successful, will try again in 2023).
 - Two *Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program* (ITEP) applications:
 - Florida Avenue Side Path
 - Baker's Lane Project

Vibrancy

Create healthy, sustainable, aesthetically pleasing, and economically stimulating community streetscapes and natural landscapes that both inspire and facilitate walking.

Vibrancy

- Create at least 2 connections from the Urbana pedestrian network to natural features such as open spaces, waterways, and wooded areas by 2030.
- Provide support for at least 2 existing and/or new events that connect walking and business by 2025:
 - Pilot an Open Streets event
- Support at least 2 active living initiatives by 2025 that expand and encourage walking to improve health.
- Work to shift at least 1 percent of automobile trips to walking trips measured in the Urbana Pedestrian and Bicycle Survey (PABS) by 2024.
- Budget funds to improve the streetscape on at least 2 street blocks to be more pedestrian friendly by 2025.
- Add at least 2 public art installations to walkable areas by 2025.
- Achieve a Walk Friendly Community designation for Urbana by 2025.

Conclusion

- Work with Mayor and Council to align the Goals and Objectives of the Pedestrian Master Plan with Council's Strategic Goals for 2024.
- Petition to pursue the Pedestrian Master Plan recommendation to hire or designate a dedicated Pedestrian and Bicycle Coordinator.
- Prioritize Safety strategies to reduce pedestrian fatalities and injuries.
- Increase focus on 2025 Priorities.
- Keep walking to 2030.