Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan Update
Active Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting | March 2020
Agenda

• Project Overview
• Initial Stakeholder Feedback
• Online Interactive Map Feedback
• Sidewalk and Handlebar Survey Results
• Systemic Safety Risk Analysis
• Gap Analysis
• Next Steps
Project Team

MEMPHIS MPO

**Alta**
- Overall Project Leadership
- Analysis + Recommendations Lead
- Draft + Final Plan Lead

**Pique**
Public Engagement + Communications Lead

**Allworld**
Stakeholder Engagement Lead

**Neel-Schaffer**
- Public + Stakeholder Engagement Support
- Recommendations Support
Why do we need an update?

- Progress has been made since the 2014 plan
- Safety
- Equity
- Lack of connectivity
- New trends in transportation
Inspire Action
Focus on implementation
We are here!
Identify and prioritize high impact projects, programs, and policies
Create a vision informed by local needs

WINTER 2020
SPRING 2020
SUMMER 2020
FALL 2020
Expected Outcomes

- Priority Networks
  - Regional Focus Areas
  - Regionally Significant Trails/Greenways
  - High-Risk Corridors

- Updated Prioritization Model

- Catalyst Projects

- Complete Streets 2.0: Shared Mobility and Transit Integration Framework

- Policies and Regulatory Tools
Progress to Date

- Sidewalk surveys
- Review of existing plans
- GIS mapping data collection
- Online interactive map
- Systemic safety analysis
- Network gap analysis
- Stakeholder outreach

“Walking and Biking is enjoyable because it is exercise for us, and we are inclined to walk our neighborhood more.”
- Tyler and Sebrina

“Walking and taking transit is enjoyable because I like being outside.”
- Ralph

November 2019 Intercept Surveys
What we’ve heard so far
Memphis MPO Walk and Roll Stakeholder Survey

Thank you for taking the time to participate in our survey. The results of this survey will help guide our upcoming Stakeholder Meetings and ultimately the updated Regional Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan. Your feedback is appreciated.

We would appreciate your response by Wednesday, February 5th by close of business day.

1. Respondent Name:

   Enter your answer
Initiative Prioritization:

#1. Improving existing sidewalks and crosswalks to ensure safety and accessibility.

#2. Providing sidewalks in unserved areas.

#3. (Tie) Providing on-street bicycle facilities

#3. (Tie) Providing off-street shared use (bicycle and pedestrian) trails.

#4. Providing bicycle and pedestrian education, encouragement, and enforcement programs.
Question: Should the updated Regional Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan consider connections to related kinds of trips (transit, scooter, bike share, etc.)?

Answer: Overwhelming YES!
Stakeholder Feedback: Surveys

Question: What is the single biggest challenge to walking and cycling in our region?:

“Memphis is built for cars”

“planning focused on making life more convenient for drivers”

“Lack of political will”

“lack of funding” (7 mentions)

“pedestrian infrastructure that is ADA accessible”

“Lack of protected space (bike lanes, sidewalks, etc.)”
Stakeholder Feedback: Surveys

Question: What opportunities do you see to make the next Plan better?:

“Locally we need to focus on filling in sidewalk gaps”

“Better inter-connectivity” of overall system.

“Greater access for all citizens”

“focus on under resourced communities”

“The updated plan should also reflect changes in best practices in terms of design and engineering”

“Develop social marketing campaign to encourage increased knowledge and use of bike and pedestrian facilities”
A summary of topics discussed at the meetings includes the following:

**Engineering**
- Need to **fill gaps** in the active transportation system to create better **connectivity**.
- Facilities should **accommodate people of all ages and abilities**.

**Education**
- Facility selection and design education should be spread to all professionals and jurisdictions in the region.
- Inform residents and police of traffic laws related to walking and bicycling.

**Encouragement**
- Boost rates of walking and bicycling through encouragement programs.
Stakeholder Feedback: Meetings

A summary of topics discussed at the meetings includes the following:

**Enforcement**
- **Enforce traffic laws** related to walking and bicycling, including activities that deter people from walking and bicycling.

**Evaluation & Planning**
- **Develop consistent, cohesive policies** that move complete street projects forward throughout the region.
- **Coordinate project delivery** across multiple jurisdictions & agencies.

**Equity**
- **Bring under-represented groups to the table**, such as people that rely on transit, schools, parks and recreation departments, senior groups, and community development corporations.
Online Map Feedback

As of February 27th:
349 total comments/reactions

RESPONSE BY FOCUS

- Crossing Improvements: 64 (18%)
- Insufficient Buffers: 35 (10%)
- Preferred Routes: 41 (12%)
- Desired Destinations: 100 (29%)
- Routes for Improvement: 109 (31%)
Crossing Improvements

- 64 responses/reactions
- 11 responses call specifically for active signalization at crossings, such as Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon.
- **N Orleans St** is identified for a need of multiple improved crossings.
- Most liked comment: “**Mid-block pedestrian crossing would be very helpful in accessing Crosstown Concourse from the Evergreen neighborhood.**”
Online Map Feedback

Insufficient barriers

- **35 comments/reactions**
- **31%** of comments pertain to adding new buffers.
- **20%** of comments refer to adjacent vehicular speed as the cause of discomfort.
- Most liked comment: "Central, especially the stretch between East Parkway and Cooper, is difficult to bike on. The streets are uneven with lots of potholes, the lanes are small and it is heavily trafficked. With East Parkway and its median, there are limited routes to navigate into midtown."
Online Map Feedback

Pedestrian Route Improvements

- **29 responses/reactions**
- **45%** of responses suggest the addition of sidewalks and a more connected sidewalk system.
- Other suggestions include widening sidewalks, introducing traffic calming measures, and implementing complete streets.
- Most liked comment: “Lots of kids walk to school and the sidewalk ends before our street. They have to walk in the street or through the mud.”
Online Map Feedback

Bike Route Improvements

- 80 responses/reactions
- **Central Ave** considered particularly uncomfortable for biking.
- Most liked comment: "**Poplar is not even safe to drive. This road needs a complete rebuild from road to sidewalk. Make it friendlier for everyone.**"
Online Map Feedback

Desired Destinations

• 100 responses/reactions
• 98/100 responses are desired destinations for bicyclists.
• Other suggested destinations include the library, grocery store, historic square, Riverside, and airport.
• Most liked comment: “The Highland Strip needs a bike share station! We would love to use bike share, and we would buy a membership if there was a station near our home. But as it is, we’d have to drive to a station to make it work.”
Additional Takeaways

- There are several comments suggesting that general access to Overton Park be improved.
- 40 preferred bike routes and 1 preferred walking route have been drawn onto the map. Several streets have become popular bike routes, including:
  - Cooper St
  - Linden Ave
  - Riverside Dr
  - Adam Ave
  - Jefferson Ave
  - North Pkwy
Online Map Feedback

Additional Takeaways

Desired Destination:
“[Need] safe route to get [to Nesbit Park] from East Memphis”.

Desired Route:
"Byhalia to Winchester to bike to work and shop"
Sidewalk and Handlebar Surveys
Sidewalk and Handlebar Surveys

Common reasons people walk, bike, and use transit:

24% Do not own car/ car out of commission
23% Enjoy being outside/taking in surroundings
20% Convenience to and from destinations
20% Health benefits
13% Saves money
Sidewalk and Handlebar Surveys

Ideas to improve walking, bicycling, and transit in the Greater Memphis region:

- **27%** Improved infrastructure and accessibility
- **17%** Increased enforcement and overall safety
- **10%** Bus frequencies that are often and on time
- **8%** Amenities
Existing Conditions & Needs
Existing Sidewalks

Existing Facilities
(Excluding Local Streets)
Existing Bikeways and Trails

[Map showing existing facilities and programmed facilities, with legend indicating different types of bike paths and trails.]
Hot Spot Analysis (Livability 2050)

Model Inputs

- Transit
- Land Use Context
- Intersection Density
- Crash Density
- Crash Severity
- Zero Car Households
- Vulnerable Populations
Systemic Safety Risk Analysis
Gap Analysis

Existing Facilities for Trails and Bikeways
- All Ages & Abilities
- Other Bikeways

Proposed Facilities by Livability 2050 Hot Spot Score
- Low
- Middle
- High
Next Steps

- Public Virtual Engagement (March-April)
- Pop-up Meetings/Sidewalk & Handlebar Surveys (April/May - TBD)
- Refine Existing Conditions Analyses (March-April)
- Priority Network Development (April-May)
- Stakeholder Workshop (May)
- Catalyst Project Development (Summer)
- Public Open Houses (August)
Interactive Map

https://memphismpo.alta planning.cloud/#/home