AGENDA
PEOPLE-FRIENDLY STREET PROJECTS

■ Direction setting
  – Looking back
  – Where we are going
  – Coordinating city initiatives

■ Shared values + outcomes
  – Aligning values
  – Desired outcomes and project opportunities

Photo Credit: Nicole Hester / MLIVE
DIRECTION SETTING

PEOPLE-FRIENDLY STREETS
RECENT CIC WORK AND FOCUS

5th Ave & Detroit
Huron
William
First & Ashley

Project Emphasis
— Infrastructure repair + private development infrastructure investment
— Safe Access
— Sustainability
— Flexible, vibrant places

Breakdown of Project Costs
- Infrastructure & Roadway Repair 64%
- Environmental & Stormwater 13%
- Bikeways 9%
- Landscape & Furnishings 3%
- Street Lighting 11%
Key city initiatives:

- Affordable Housing (Housing Commission) & Analysis of City-Owned Properties
- A2 Zero – Carbon Action Plan (Office of Sustainability & Innovation)
- Transportation Master Plan (Transportation Department)

Climate events, lack of access, and significant disparity between wages and housing costs hamper economic health and increase inequities.

*We need to build resiliency in these areas!*
**AFFORDABLE HOUSING & INCLUSIVITY**

**KEY TAKEAWAYS**

- **Systemic inequities:** Historic exclusionary & segregationist housing policies have created neighborhoods segregated by income and race. Decisions and public dialogue have emphasized more privileged, outspoken citizens, which perpetuates inequity.

- Ann Arbor has 2x’s the average state Area Median Income (AMI)

- Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) is the primary source of funding for affordable housing development.

**What the DDA can do to assist:**

- Improve LIHTC competitiveness & help to leverage dollars by:
  - Helping with infrastructure costs: Watermain, stormwater sanitary, restoration of the site
  - Helping solve complicated site conditions & showing community support/investment

- Support mobility and access for people with low car ownership rates (20% have vehicles)
**A2ZERO, CLIMATE ACTION PLAN**

**KEY TAKEAWAYS**

- **Systemic inequities:** Low-income populations and people of color experience the environmental and health impacts of climate change most intensely. Decisions and public dialogue have emphasized more privileged, outspoken citizens, which perpetuates inequity.

- City plan is grounded in equity, sustainability, and transformation

- Goal for carbon neutrality by 2030

**What the DDA can do to assist:**

- Support goal of reduce VMT by 50% by investing in safe, welcoming bike/walk/transit systems.

- Enhance resilience of people and place (stormwater, urban heat island, healthy economic activity, safe access)

- Significantly improve energy efficiency (solar, geothermal, support e-bikes, EV’s, LED lighting + City ownership)

- Support denser land use patterns
TRANSPORTATION MASTER PLAN

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- **Systemic inequities:** Funding has primarily served the needs of those who are more inclined to drive. Results in missing infrastructure and a greater burden (safety, cost, access) on the most vulnerable. Decisions and public dialogue have emphasized more privileged, outspoken citizens, which perpetuates inequity.

- City plan is grounded in (1) safe, equitable access for all and (2) supporting healthy people/healthy places

- Vision Zero by 2025 (no fatalities or severe injuries from transportation)

**What the DDA can do to assist:**

- Put people first (invest in bike/walk/transit, address transportation cost burden)

- Improve safety and access for the most vulnerable users

- Minimize impact of large vehicles (loading and delivery, emergency response routes)

- Fill gaps in the non-motorized network

- Evaluate projects based on multi-modal service – not just vehicles.
WHERE WE ARE GOING

DIRECTION

Economic Development for all

- Safe and equitable access to social and economic opportunities downtown
- Economic and demographic diversity downtown
- Improved resilience to significant climate and economic events
- Creating inclusive public spaces
SHARED VALUES

PEOPLE-FRIENDLY STREETS
THE IMPORTANCE OF VALUES
CRITICAL FOR DEFENSIBLE DECISION-MAKING

- Values frame what is important to a community
- Provide direction to staff about priorities and desired outcomes
- Need to be honest and affirmative about what our values are and commit to acting in accordance.
- Set the stage for defensible decision-making.

"There is no power for change greater than a community discovering what it cares about."

MARGARET J. WHEATLEY
**SHARED VALUES**

**PEOPLE-FRIENDLY STREETS**

- Safe, comfortable downtown streets
- Equitable, just access for all people
- Affordable and inclusive community
- Resilient, energy responsible downtown
- Vibrant and thriving local economy
- Responsible design and implementation
- Connected community with streets as civic space

**During planning/design:** Used to identify and prioritize project opportunities.

**After implementation:** Used to measure success and impact.
Desired Outcomes

- Eliminate fatalities and serious injuries caused by traffic crashes by 2025
- Reduced crashes, especially for vulnerable users. Relate street improvements to crash modification factors.
- Reduced speeds and speeding. Push towards 25 MPH. Align design/signed/operational
- Improve pedestrian and biking comfort and reduce level of traffic stress
- Increase accessibility for all users
- Understand and integrate regional transportation needs/opportunities
**Desired Outcomes**

- Prioritize improvements for those most vulnerable to death or serious injury.
- Provide safe and efficient access to jobs, services, shops, school, and social spaces.
- Increase active transportation and promote healthy lifestyle options for all people.
- Prioritize improvements that reduce emissions on streets/neighborhoods that are currently the most heavily impacted.
- Utilize an equitable engagement process. Ensure that the voices of vulnerable users are engaged in the process.
Desired Outcomes

- Use infrastructure to reduce / offset / act as a match housing commission projects.
- Position housing projects to be more competitive for LIHTC and other funding opportunities.
Desired Outcomes

- Reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) by 50% by 2030
- Mode shift towards non-single occupancy vehicles
- Infiltration and/or retain stormwater in excess of required targets
- Reduce urban heat island
- Increase access to mobility hubs
Desired Outcomes

- Strengthen local business growth and ownership
- Design for flexibility in the streets
- Improve attractiveness
- Ensure that all people feel welcome in the downtown.
- Increase diversity and supply of employment opportunities
- Support lower income employees
- Support construction in sustainable industries
RESponsible Design and Implementation

Desired Outcomes

- Deliver improvements that are maintainable
- Coordinate construction with other projects and improvements
Desired Outcomes

- Deliver improvements that respect neighborhood context and foster more people-connections.
- Deliver improvements that encourage social interactions between people and the community around them.
- Prioritize improvements that provide flexibility for civic uses and events, where appropriate.
- Reflect local character through creative ideas, art, and collaborations.
SHARED VALUES

PEOPLE-FRIENDLY STREETS

Safe, comfortable downtown streets
Equitable, just access for all people
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Connected community with streets as civic space
LINKING VALUES TO PROJECTS

**Community Alignment**
- Define what is important to the community
- Align and support other priorities and initiatives

**Desired Outcomes**
- Identify tangible differences we can make in the community
- Establish a means of measuring success

**Project Opportunities**
- Evaluate + prioritize project opportunities based on potential outcomes
- Measure and track outcomes after implementation
Next Steps

Project Timeline
- COVID-19
- Public engagement & outreach
- Pilot project implementation
- CIP process (upcoming DDA CIC / Board Meetings)

NEXT MEETING: Project types & opportunities discussion
- Infrastructure projects for supporting affordable housing
- Equitable access + mobility systems (safety, non-motorized. equity)
- Placemaking / business supportive / flexible streets