



MEMORANDUM

To: City of Wichita
 From: Nelson\Nygaard Consulting Associates
 Date: April 22, 2019 (Revised October 31, 2019)
 Subject: Downtown Streets Conceptual Plan Public Meeting #1 Summary

OVERVIEW

To kickOff the Downtown Streets Conceptual Plan, a public meeting was held on Tuesday, February 5, 2019 at Distillery 244 in Old Town Wichita and attended by over 100 participants. The public meeting was facilitated by the Nelson\Nygaard consulting team to gain insight and guidance from various local sources, including key municipal staff, local residents and employees, and business owners with a stake in the study area.

In preparation for the Public Meeting, outreach efforts included:

- Facebook event distribution
- Local media coordination
- Local radio advertisements
- Coordination with local organizations such as Downtown Wichita, Douglas Design District, and Bike/Walk Wichita

PUBLIC MEETING

Event Outreach/Advertisement

In addition to conducting working sessions while in Wichita, the project team conducted a variety of public engagement activities to discuss ideas with concerned and affected stakeholders, and to build community involvement in the planning process. These were promoted via the project website



Do you drive downtown? Do you walk downtown? Then join us on February 5 at Distillery 244 to weigh in on the Wichita Downtown Streets Conceptual Plan. [facebook.com/events/7212024...](https://www.facebook.com/events/7212024...)

11:03 AM · Jan 30, 2019 · Twitter Web Client

4 Retweets 2 Likes

PUBLIC MEETING #1

Please join us to discuss the

WICHITA DOWNTOWN STREETS CONCEPTUAL PLAN

Date: Tuesday, February 5, 2019

Time: 5:30-7:00pm
5:40 to 5:55pm Presentation
 5:55 to 7:00pm Visit Stations
 Questions & Give Input

Location: Distillery 244 Old Town
 244 N Mosley Street
 Wichita, KS 67202

- 1. LEARN**
about the preliminary goals & objectives
- 2. VIEW**
the study map area & other materials
- 3. GIVE**
us your input

DOWNTOWN STREETS PUBLIC MEETING #1 SUMMARY

City of Wichita, Kansas

(www.wichita.gov/DowntownStreets), the City's Facebook page (which was also promoted by the Mayor and some City Council members' pages, Downtown Wichita, Bike Walk Wichita, and others), Twitter feeds, and website as well as through an article in the Wichita Eagle, stories on local television stations such as KAKE, radio advertisements on KMUW, and email notifications to the project email list as well as through organizations such as Downtown Wichita, Old Town, Douglas Design District, and other local groups.

Wichitans say current public transportation isn't cutting it
Posted: Feb 04, 2019 9:32 PM EST
Updated: Feb 05, 2019 10:47 AM EST
written by Taylor Adams, Reporter [CONNECT](#)

Wichita Downtown Streets Conceptual Plan
Public - Hosted by City of Wichita - Government and 4 others

★ Interested Going

Tuesday, February 5, 2019 at 5:30 PM – 7 PM CST
about 8 months ago

Distillery 244 Old Town
244 N Mosley, Wichita, Kansas 67202

About

75 Went · 498 Interested
Share this event with your friends

Details

Please join us to discuss the Wichita Downtown Streets Conceptual Plan

1. LEARN about the preliminary goals & objectives
2. VIEW the study map area & other materials
3. GIVE us your input

Tuesday, February 5, 2019
5:30-7:00 p.m.
5:40 to 5:55 p.m. Presentation
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Visit www.wichita.gov/Parking/Pages/DowntownStreets

Location: Distillery 244 Old Town

Mayor Jeff Longwell shared an event.
February 4 · 🌐

Join us as we continue to shape the future of walking, biking and driving downtown!

Wichita Downtown Streets Conceptual Plan
Distillery 244 Old Town · Wichita, KS

You like City of Wichita - Government

31 2 Comments

Conceptual Plan
KS
rment
2 Comments

Sign-in Table

Participants were asked to provide their name and email address both to track the number of participants and to help with keeping participants informed of future updates. Comment cards were also available at this station for participants to provide written comments. Participants were also asked to place thumbtacks on a map of Wichita representing their home (with a colored tack) and work (with a clear tack) locations.

Presentation

The Public Meeting began with a presentation from the project team on the overall approach to the Downtown Streets Plan. This included an overview of safety considerations, trade-offs,

lessons learned from other communities, and best practices. Presentation slides are attached to this document.

Stations

Before and after the presentation, participants were invited to talk with the project team at two stations to discuss project goals and existing downtown conditions.

Goals Station

At the goals station, participants were asked to prioritize a set of seven goals that had been previously considered in consultation with City staff. Participants were asked to place a blue sticker on the goals that resonated the most with them and green stickers on goals that were then secondary to them. Based on responses, these goals were ranked as follows:

1. Promote Vibrant Downtown Neighborhoods
2. Prioritize Active Transportation Options
3. Provide Mobility Choices for All Residents, Businesses, and Visitors
4. Manage Infrastructure Resources to Maximize Value
5. Foster Economic Investment
6. Embrace Innovation and Technology
7. Enhance Safety and Health

Existing Conditions Station

At the existing conditions station, participants were asked to give the consulting team and City staff input on existing issues and concerns noted downtown. In order to facilitate discussions, maps were presented of the following:

- Downtown Streets
- Transit Infrastructure (including ridership levels at downtown stops)
- Existing and Proposed Bicycle Infrastructure
- Opportunities for Roadway Change (based on traffic volumes and number of lanes)

As participants made comments, they were further encouraged to write specific comments on post-it notes for consideration by the City and consulting team.

Photos of the public meeting and presentation materials are presented on the following pages.

DOWNTOWN STREETS PUBLIC MEETING #1 SUMMARY
City of Wichita, Kansas



Figure 1: Public Meeting Participants

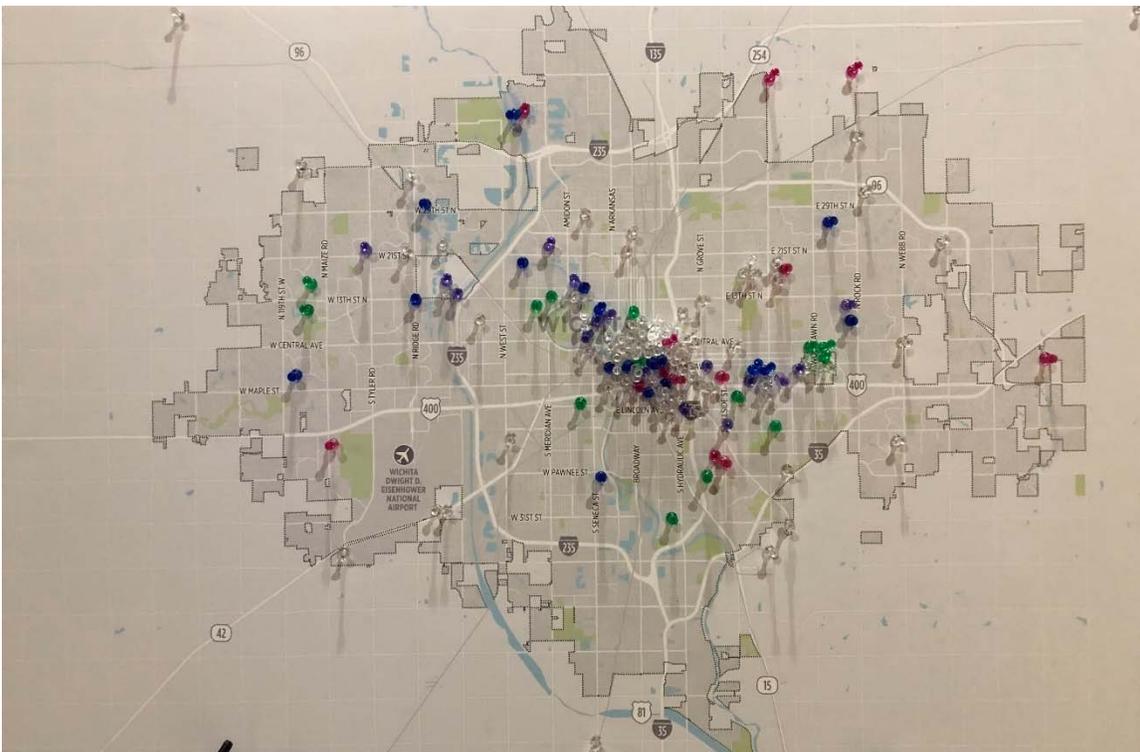


Figure 2: Public Meeting Participant Home (Colored) and Work (Clear) Locations

DOWNTOWN STREETS PUBLIC MEETING #1 SUMMARY
City of Wichita, Kansas

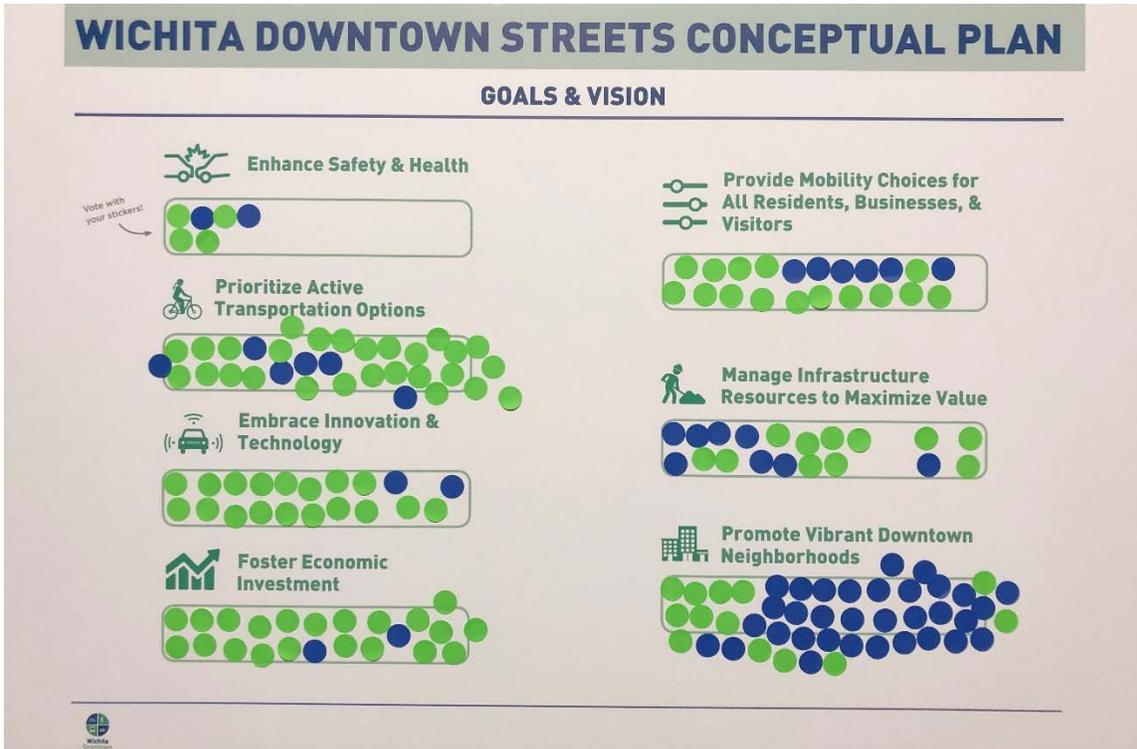


Figure 3: Goals Prioritization

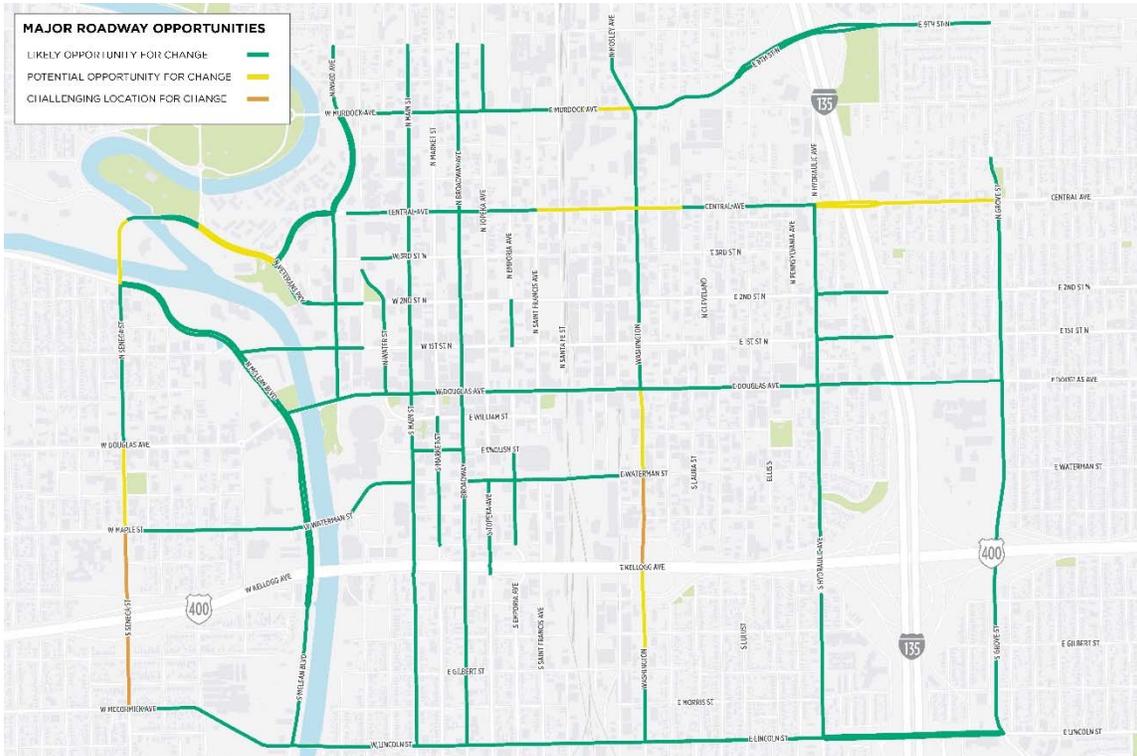


Figure 4: Roadway Opportunities for Change

DOWNTOWN STREETS PUBLIC MEETING #1 SUMMARY

City of Wichita, Kansas

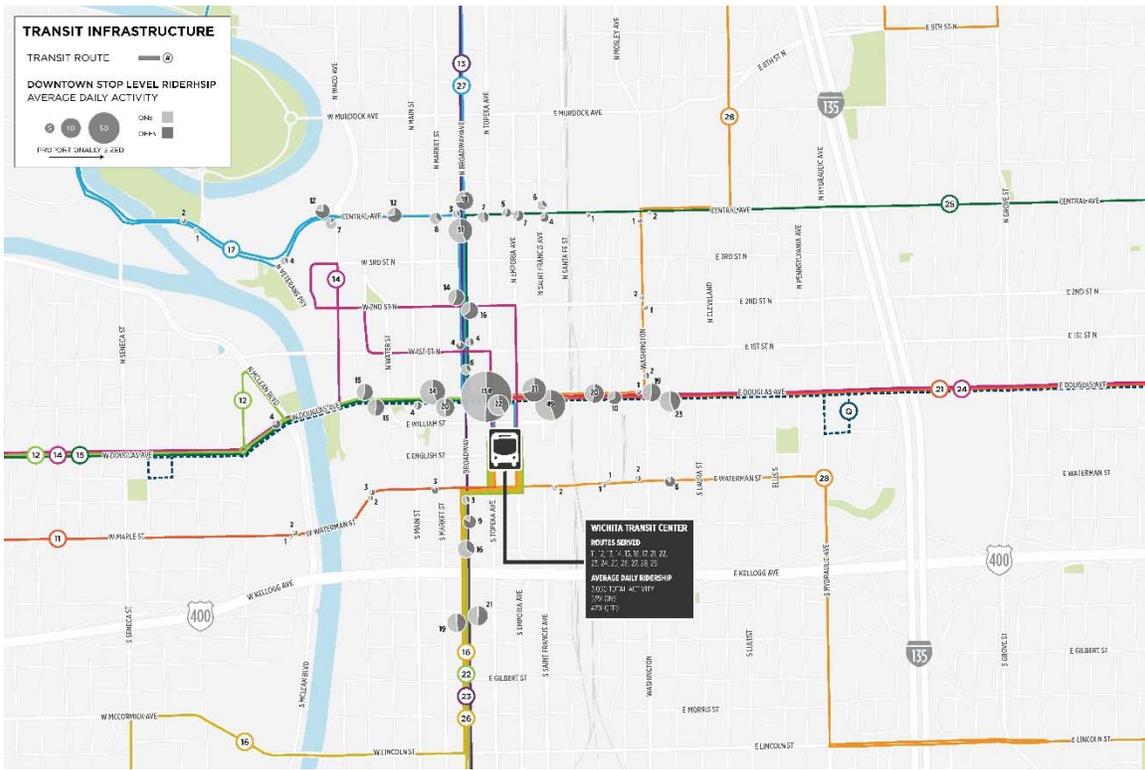


Figure 5: Existing Transit Infrastructure and Downtown Ridership

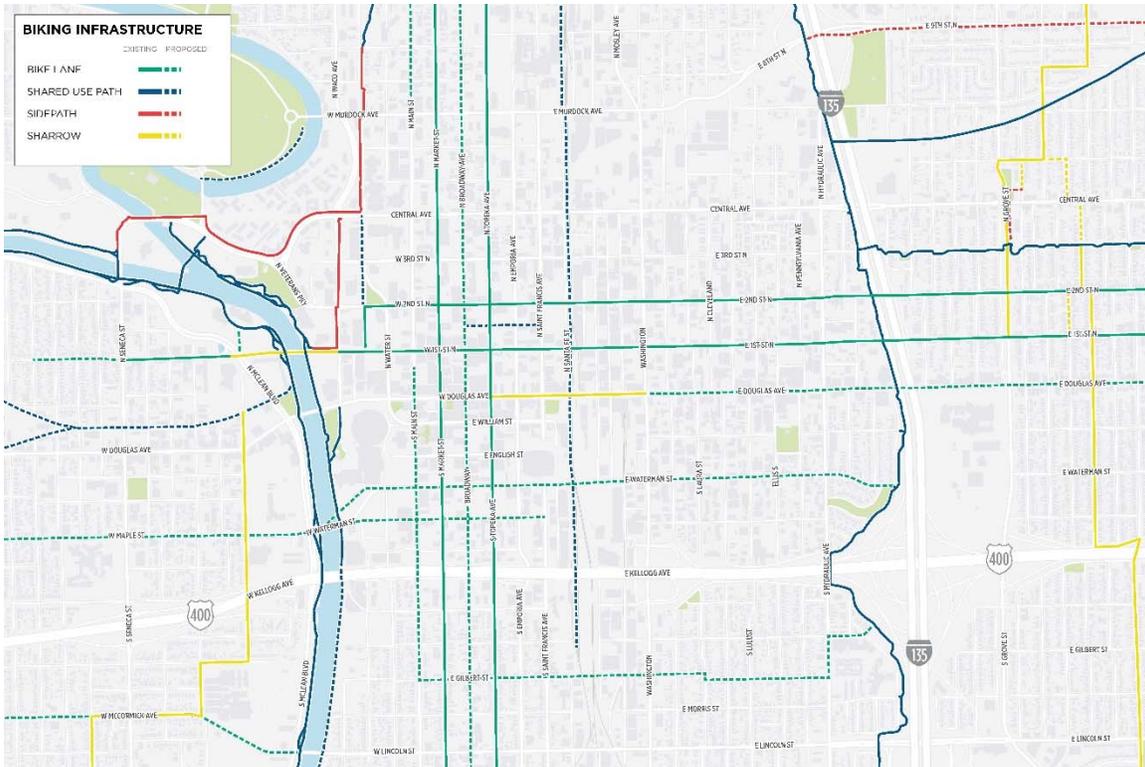


Figure 6: Existing and Proposed Biking Infrastructure

Presentation at 5:40

Wichita Downtown Streets Plan

Community Meeting #1
February 5, 2019



Today's Agenda

- 1 How We Got Here
- 2 Wichita Downtown Streets Process
- 3 What Are Others Doing?
- 4 Wichita's Goals

How We Got Here

What is the Purpose of Cities?



Cities are an invention to maximize exchange (goods, culture, friendship, knowledge) and to minimize travel.

The role of transport is to maximize exchange

...David Engwicht



What is the Purpose of Cities?



Access ← → Mobility

The Role of Transportation

Transportation investments are powerful and far-reaching.

Transportation accounts for **19 percent** of spending by the average household in America - as much as for food and health care combined.

Grin & Bear It By Fred Wagner



The Good Old Days



Douglas Avenue

- Crowded
- Dangerous
- Dirty
- Unhealthy
- Lacking Greenspace



Identifying Last Century's Problems

Infectious Diseases

- TB
- Cholera
- Yellow Fever
- Polio

Formulating A Response

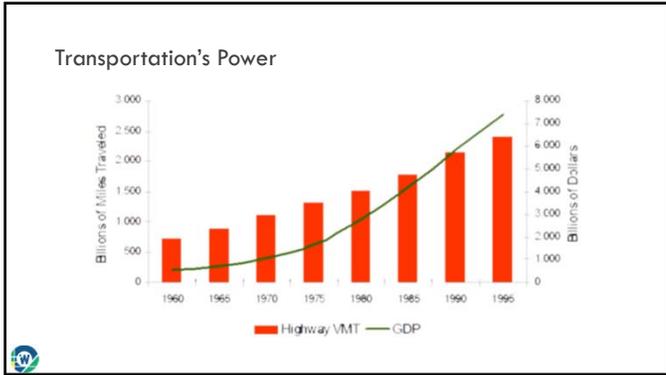


Wichita Sanitarium



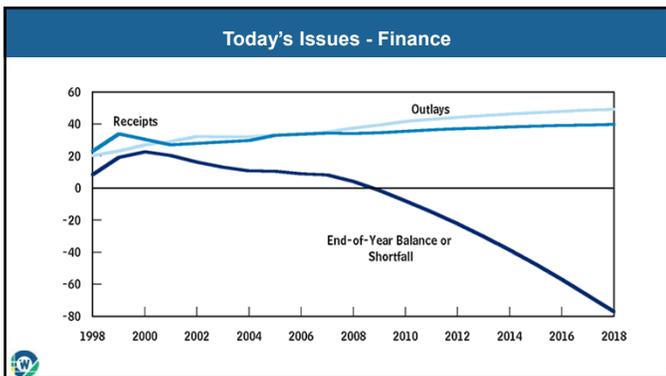
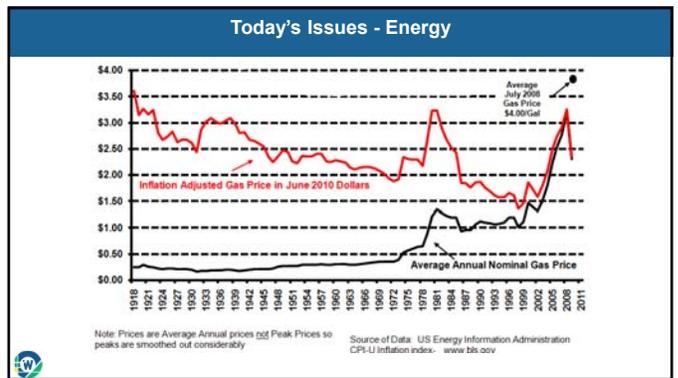
"abundant sunshine, fresh air, fine green parkways will blend together seamlessly with dazzling skyscrapers and seven-lane highways."





Freeways Are Safe!

	RURAL AREAS	PRINCIPAL ARTERIAL	MINOR ARTERIAL	COLLECTOR	INTERSTATE	ALL HIGHWAYS
Vehicle Miles of Travel (Millions)	4,031.36	1,789.58	957.67	4,573.99	11,352.60	
Miles of Highway	1,960.28	1,685.51	1,604.63	467.33	5,737.75	
Total Collisions	3,776	2,128	1,291	2,967	9,562	
Collision Rate (t)	0.94	1.19	1.35	0.52	0.84	



Unintended Consequences

Trenton's Historic Riverfront



The Change for Mobility



Results Over the Last 50-Years

- 1) Vehicle Miles of Travel (VMT) Growing Faster Than Population Growth
- 2) Longer Commute Times
- 3) Decreased Transit Ridership



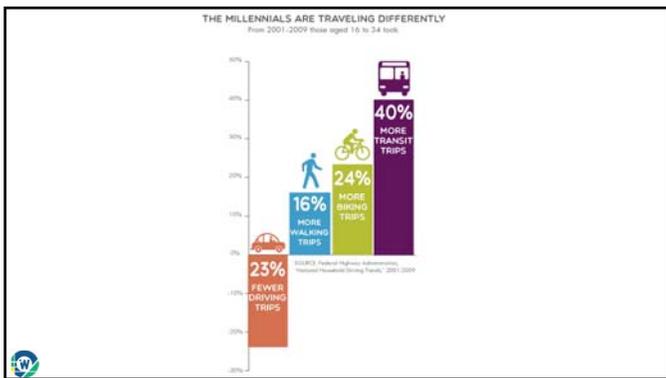
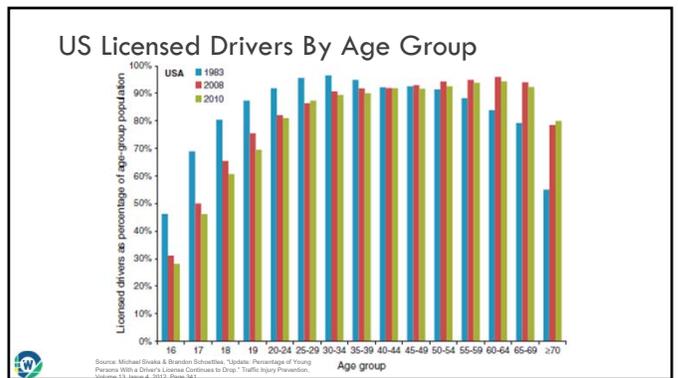
Diseases of this Century

- Cardiovascular: Heart Attack, Stroke
- Respiratory: Asthma, Emphysema
- Weight Related: Diabetes II, Heart Disease
- Environmental: Cancer & other diseases



Consumption of Resources





A Strategic Plan

"A good hockey player plays where the puck is. A great hockey player plays where the puck is going to be."

Wayne Gretzky



OUR PROCESS



DISCOVERY



DESIRE



DESIGN



DOCUMENTATION



Why Do Streets Change?

Economic Vitality

Pennsylvania Ave (DC)



Massachusetts Ave (BOS)



Broad Street (PHL)



Euclid Ave (CLE)



Martin Luther King Boulevard – Chattanooga, TN



Converted December, 2003

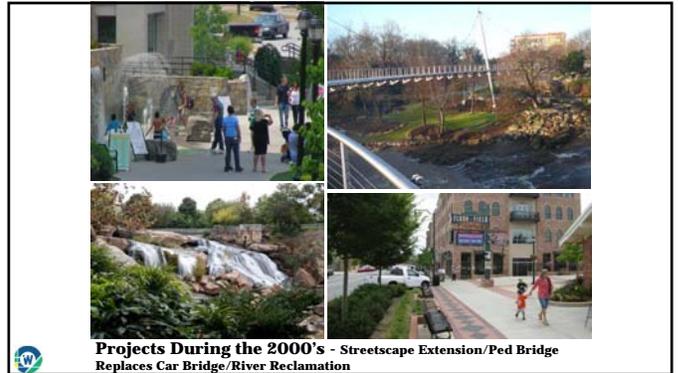
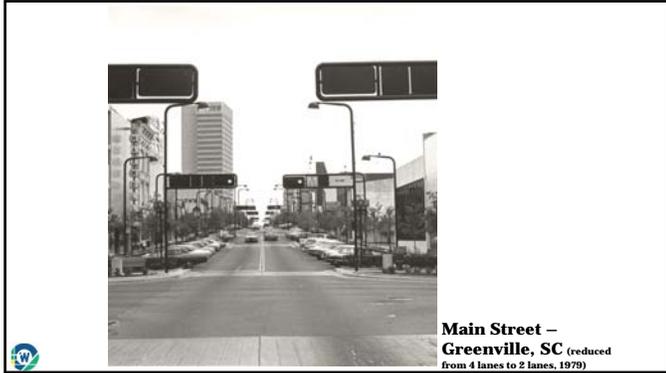


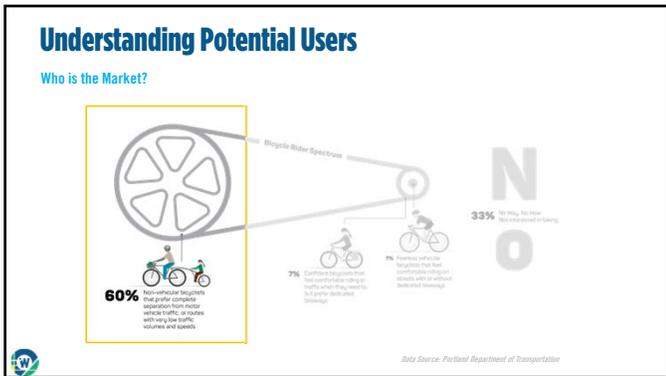
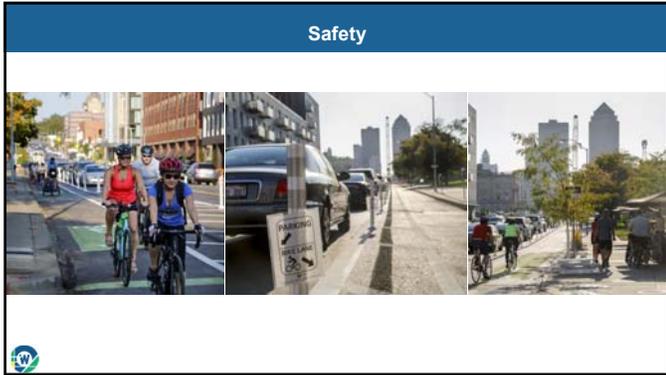
Community Image

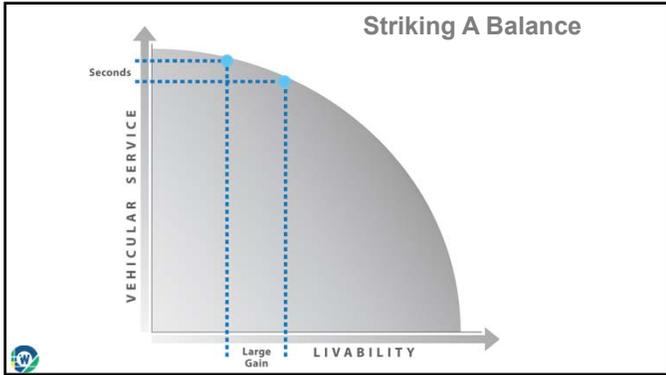


Main Street – Greenville, SC (circa 1970)









WICHITA DOWNTOWN STREETS DRAFT GOALS

Enhance Safety & Health 	Manage Infrastructure Resources to Maximize Value 
Provide Mobility Choices for All Residents, Businesses, & Visitors 	Embrace Innovation & Technology 
Prioritize Active Transportation Options 	Foster Consistent Economic Investment 
Promote Vibrant Downtown Neighborhoods 	

