Burnsville Bicycle and Pedestrian Project Acceleration Plan

Steering Committee Meeting #2

Presented by
VHB Engineering NC, P.C.

May 16, 2022

Image: https://www.ncblueridge.com/event/burnsville-metric-3

Today's Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Update on Progress since Last Meeting
- Draft List of Projects with Opportunities and Challenges
- Vision, Goals, and Project Selection Criteria
- Next Steps and Other Discussion

Image: https://www.ourstate.com/a-guide-to-downtown-burnsville/

Update on Progress since Last Meeting

Project Schedule

Existing Conditions

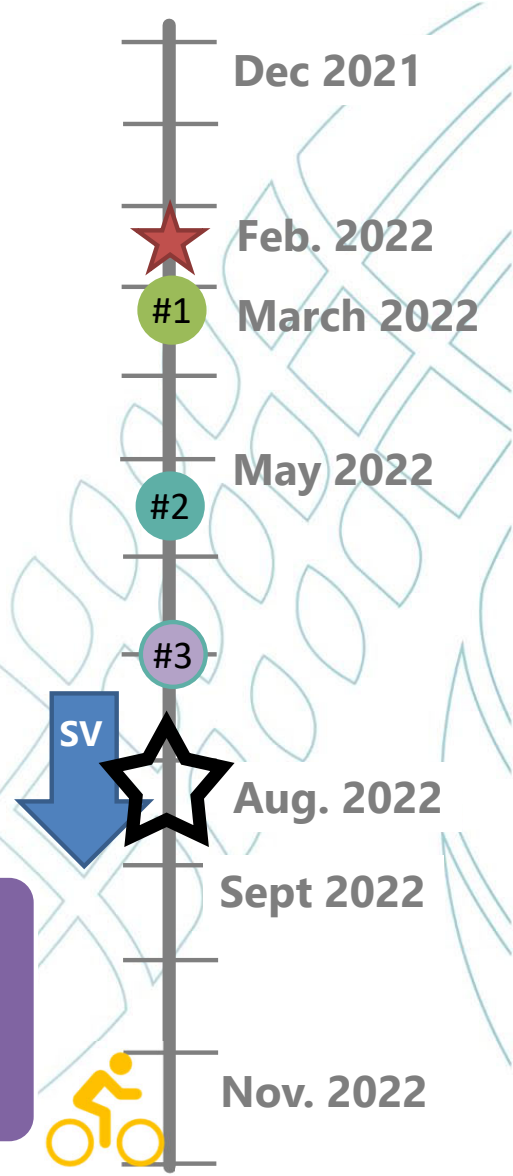
- Kick-off meeting
- Existing conditions
- Steering Committee meetings #1
- Project inventory with opportunities and challenges

Project Prioritization

- Steering Committee meeting #2
- Cost estimates and scoring projects
- Draft Prioritized Projects List

Implementation Plan Development

- Steering Committee meeting #3
- Public engagement event, survey
- Draft Plan
- Final Plan



Progress since Last Meeting

- Updated Draft Vision and Goals
- Draft List of Projects with Opportunities and Challenges Created and Reviewed with Project Team
  - Additional info based on field site visit 3/25/2022
- Initiated Cost Estimates Development

Project List with Opportunities and Barriers- some Additions based on Field Visit

Upgrade Town Square Crosswalks:

- Replace crosswalks to the center of square-about in Town Square with high visibility crosswalks
  - Opportunities: downtown center, a variety of retail opportunities nearby, the middle of roundabout is set up as a town park, sidewalks and curb ramps are already present
  - Barriers: none known, low-cost project

Project Inventory with Opportunities and Barriers-some Additions

Add pedestrian scale lighting along West Main Street from the Town Square to Cooper Street:

- Opportunities: Downtown, lots of visitors, commercial and retail activity, new brewery, members of the public have expressed a safety concern in the past with walking after dark
- Barriers: lack of ROW to install street lights; curb bulb-outs may be considered where on-street parking exists (which would impact on-street parking spaces)

Project Inventory with Opportunities and Barriers-some Additions

Improve Pedestrian Crossing on West Main Street at Gem Mountain on Main St

- Existing High Visibility Crossing with RRFB
- Update to include missing RRFB on the second side
- Opportunities: proximity to Downtown, existing high visibility crossing, many commercial destinations
- Barriers: limited ROW

Project Inventory with Opportunities and Barriers-some Additions

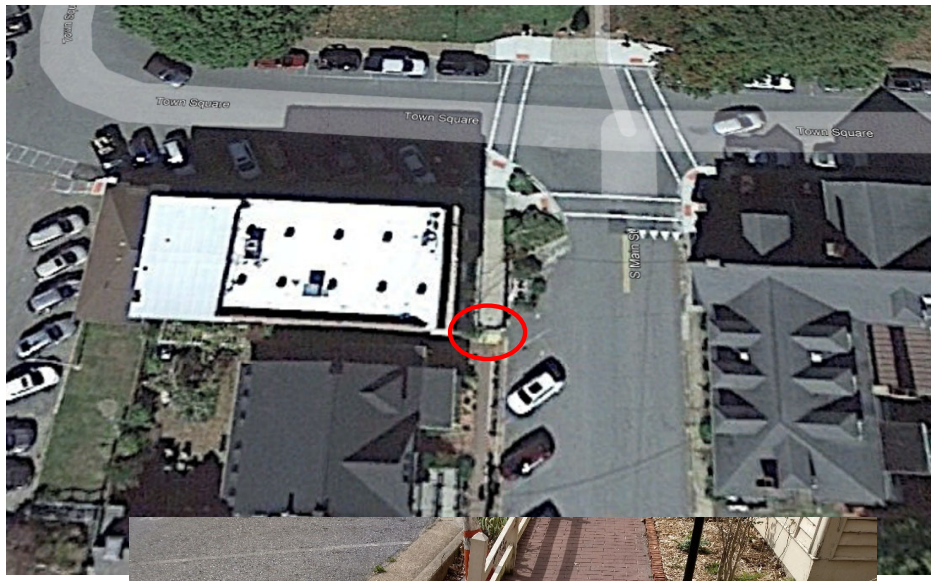
Improve Sidewalks on West Main Street west of Academy St in front of the Visitor Center

- Opportunities: in Downtown, existing sidewalk connections to the east and west, a lot of pedestrian activity
- Barriers: would impact parking availability for this building, in existing configuration wide parking lot entrance precludes the installation of sidewalks
- limited ROW

Project Inventory with Opportunities and Barriers- some Additions

Address ADA issue: Stairs in South Main Street Sidewalk just south of the Square

- Add ADA accessible detour to avoid sidewalk stairs on the west side of South Main St near the Town Center building
- Opportunities: proximity to downtown, a variety of community destinations, links to existing sidewalks
- Barriers: providing an ADA accessible detour would likely require impacts to existing diagonal parking



Project Inventory with Opportunities and Barriers- some Additions

Add Pedestrian Crosswalks at South Main Street and East-West Boulevard

- Add high visibility crossing markings and warning signs for ped crossings across East-West Boulevard (currently crosswalk marked north of intersection and south of intersection at US 19)
- Upgrade curb ramps to ADA compliant, especially northeastern quadrant where no curb ramp or sidewalk extension to the intersection exists
- Opportunities: proximity to Downtown, existing sidewalk connections
- Barriers: utility poles; limited space to add curb cuts and sidewalk links; topography

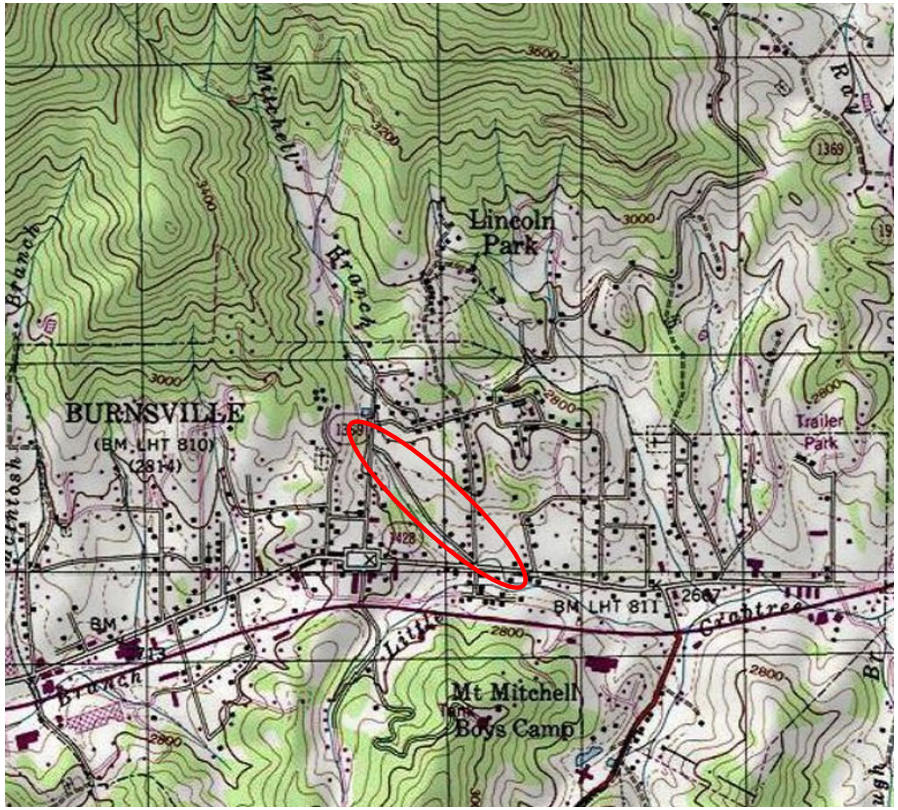
Project Inventory with Opportunities and Barriers- some Additions

Add Sidewalk along East Side of North Main Street from Avery Street up to Green Mountain Drive

- Opportunities: connection to Downtown; DMV office, connection to Green Mountain Drive
- Existing sidewalk on west side of the street
- Coordinate with crossing improvements at Avery Street
- Barriers: steep topography in places and very limited ROW availability; large parking lot driveways mean adding a sidewalk would likely result in loss of some parking spaces

Azalea Lane-Unpaved Walking Trail

- Mitchell Branch Creek daylighting project planned
- Class 3 Trout Stream
- Buffer requirements
- Potential for an unpaved walking trail



Discuss Draft List of Projects with Opportunities and Challenges

Discuss Draft List of Projects

- Anything we should add?
- New funding partners/potential to coordinate?
- New projects underway?

Draft Scoring Methodology

Draft Scoring Criteria

- Destinations defined as schools, colleges/universities, parks, grocery stores, social services, commercial centers, libraries, theaters, town hall, and multi-family residential complexes
- **Equity is comprised of 5 transportation disadvantaged population categories including: Elderly Individuals (Aged 65+), Zero Vehicle Households, Households in Poverty, Limited English Proficiency, and Concentration of Minority Race/Ethnic Groups

Criteria	Score
Points of Interest*	20
Project connects to 10+ destinations	20
Project connects to 5 – 9 destinations	10
Project connects to 1 – 4 destinations	5
Safety	20
High Risk Location (upper quintile) or history of bicycle or pedestrian crashes	20
Moderate risk location (upper 3 or 4th quintiles)	10
Project meets neither of those above but provides separation	5
No separation	0
Equity **	20
Affordable Housing within ¼ mile of project	15
Project in Environmental Justice (EJ) composite score 4	5
Project in Environmental Justice (EJ) composite score 3	2
Cost Effectiveness	10
Lowest 33% of projects by cost	10
Middle 33% of projects by cost	5
Highest 33% of projects by cost	0
Completing the Network	10
Project fills a gap or extends the existing network	10
Project does not fill a gap or extends the existing network	0
Roadway Volume	10
AADT greater than 10,000	10
AADT 2,001 – 10,000	5
AADT 2,000 or less	0
Project Difficulty	10
Project not in flood zone or area of steep elevation (slope greater than 20%)	10
Project is in flood zone or area of steep elevation (slope greater than 20%)	0

Next Steps

Next Steps and Other Discussion Items

1. Confirm scoring criteria and calculate cost estimates and score projects
2. Identify priority projects based on scoring
3. Prepare visuals for the the top 5 projects
4. Start on draft report
5. Schedule next SC meeting

Image: https://townofburnsville.org/

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