

Montgomery Planning

# PEDESTRIAN MASTER PLAN EXISTING CONDITIONS REPORT BRIEFING



## Description

Staff will brief the Planning Board on the Pedestrian Master Plan Existing Conditions Report.

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MASTER PLAN INFORMATION

Draft

Report to Planning Board

Date

March 24, 2022

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Planning Board Information

MCPB  
Item No.8  
03-31-2022

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EXISTING CONDITIONS REPORT OVERVIEW

The Pedestrian Master Plan Existing Conditions Report (Attachment A) sets the stage for developing data-driven recommendations in the Pedestrian Master Plan by providing an in-depth understanding of the pedestrian experience today. In addition to various national and regional data sources, the project team developed several unique data sources, including:

- A statistically-valid pedestrian survey to document pedestrian activity and perceptions for the county as a whole and different land use types, sent to 60,000 households;
- A student travel tally to understand how public school students arrive to and depart from school, completed by over 70,000 students;
- A Pedestrian Level of Comfort analysis cataloguing pedestrian conditions along the entirety of the pedestrian transportation network in Montgomery County; and
- The 2015-2021 countywide crash dataset with enhanced geocoding.

The report is organized around the plan goals:

- Goal 1: Increase Walking Rates and Walking Satisfaction
- Goal 2: Create a Comfortable, Connected, Convenient Pedestrian Network
- Goal 3: Enhance Pedestrian Safety
- Goal 4: Build an Equitable and Just Pedestrian Network

The report first describes how and why people are walking (and rolling with mobility devices), then details where different types of pedestrian infrastructure (sidewalks, crosswalks, median refuge

islands, tree canopy) can be found countywide and how comfortable it is to access different community destinations as a pedestrian. It then highlights the circumstances that lead to pedestrian-involved crashes, particularly those that result in severe or fatal injury. Throughout the document, different data points are compared through an equity lens using Equity Focus Areas and other metrics, so staff can better understand disparities that may exist. Finally, the Next Steps section links the report findings to development of the plan's funding prioritization (Task 4), policy (Task 6), and programmatic recommendations (Task 7).

## SCHEDULE

### COMPLETED

- Task 1: Planning Board Scope of Work
- Task 2: Identify Best Practices for Pedestrian Master Plans
- Task 3: Existing Conditions Report

### IN PROGRESS: TO BE PRESENTED TO PLANNING BOARD IN SEPTEMBER 2022

- Task 4: Pedestrian Infrastructure Prioritization
- Task 5: Progressive Pedestrian Design Toolkit
- Task 6: Pedestrian-Supportive Policies
- Task 7: Pedestrian-Supportive Programming

### FUTURE

- Task 8: Planning Board Review and Transmittal – Estimated to begin January 2023 and continue through May 2023.
- Task 9: Council Review and Approval – Estimated to begin May 2023 with the County Executive's Fiscal Impact Analysis and continuing through November 2023.

## NEXT STEPS

Staff will develop draft recommendations; conduct internal, interagency and community engagement; and present recommendations to the Planning Board for review.

## ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment A: Existing Conditions Report