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Pedestrian Master Plan Takes Shape

Plan identifies key pedestrian routes and needed citywide improvements.

Pedestrian Plan

City planners are seeking input from the public on a draft plan to improve pedestrian routes.

- [View the plan](#)



AUGUST 19, 2003 -- A draft of the city's Pedestrian Master Plan is now available online for public review and feedback. The plan acknowledges that walking is an important method of transportation and a vital community link that connects people and

neighborhoods. It identifies a citywide pedestrian route network and suggests improvements to ensure that pedestrian needs are met so that they can use those routes to access public transportation, schools, shopping and other amenities.

Comments

Submit your comments about the master plan via [E-mail](#) to an associate city planner.

E-mail comments will be accepted until November 8.

The plan was developed as a recommendation of the city's Blueprint Denver plan, and it also addresses key concepts within the city's Comprehensive Plan 2000 and the Parks and Recreation Game Plan.

The [pedestrian plan](#) outlines seven specific goals: safety, accessibility (providing barrier-free mobility), public education (raising awareness of safe practices and laws), connectivity (completing missing links), streetscape (using attractive landscaping and providing traffic buffers), land use (promoting mixed-use development), and public health (promoting the benefits of walking.)

City planners within the Public Works Department developed the plan by conducting a comprehensive evaluation of Denver's sidewalk system. Data from the city's geographical information system was an integral component.

Related Links

- [Infrastructure Planning and Programming](#)

Using a complex and powerful modeling tool called grid cell analysis, planners conducted a series of calculations to define areas with a potential for high pedestrian activity and to categorize and prioritize those areas based on certain features, including the proximity to light rail and bus lines, schools, parks and existing trails, libraries, and neighborhood commercial destinations.

- [Public Works Department](#)

Visual assessments by city planners along with two series of public workshops helped identify existing conditions and needed improvements.

- [Geographic Information Systems](#)

Of the 2,696 miles of sidewalk within the city, planners discovered that 1,684 miles are attached, 1,012 are detached, and 193 miles are missing sidewalks entirely. Other issues were identified, including sidewalks with obstacles,

- [Comprehensive Plan/Blueprint Denver](#)

without curb ramps, without proper lighting, with sections needing repair, and areas with "Hollywood-style" sidewalks where the path is adjacent to the street without a safe buffer from traffic.

- [Parks and Recreation Game Plan](#)

The pedestrian plan presents an initial list of over 100 key sidewalk sections needing repair or improvement, for example, a missing sidewalk along Colfax Avenue between Gaylord and Vine Streets, and the need for an elevated walkway along Alameda Avenue that passes over I-25 and Santa Fe Drive.

- [News Archive: Additional Meetings for Pedestrian Plan](#)

It also outlines city intra-agency relationships, policies and responsibilities that are critical to the implementation and ongoing success of the pedestrian route network. Potential funding sources and estimated project timeframes are also identified.

- [News Archive: Public Meetings for Citywide Pedestrian Plan](#)

City planners are seeking comments on the plan until November 8. Comments can be sent in writing by e-mail to rebecca.record@ci.denver.co.us, or by standard mail to Rebecca A. Record; Associate City Planner; 201 W. Colfax Avenue, Dept. 509; Denver, Colorado 80202.

- [News Archive: Coloradans Taking Steps for Health](#)

Following any revisions, the plan will be presented to city council this fall. If adopted, implementation will begin by the end of this year, with key projects phased in over the next 10 years.

Written by Content Developer [Betsy Kimak](#), Office of Television and Internet Services.

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