

Broward *Complete Streets* Initiative

Safer, Healthier Streets for ALL Users



Broward Complete Streets Initiative

Community Engagement Report

MPO, Technical Advisory Committee

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www.BrowardCompleteStreets.org

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Agenda

- ❑ Background
- ❑ Demographics
- ❑ Methodology
- ❑ Results
- ❑ Recommendations
- ❑ Next Steps



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Background

□ Purpose

- The aim of the Broward Complete Streets Initiative is to create healthier and safer streets for all users, including those who walk, ride bikes, and use public transportation in Broward County.
- The Community Engagement Report will translate the findings from UHP's Public Involvement Plan into summaries, recommendations, and strategies that can be used as action guides for achieving Complete Streets in Broward County.



Demographics

- Respondents live, and majority work, in Broward
- Residents from the majority of cities in Broward County were represented
- Equal gender representation
- Majority are middle age from diverse professions
- Residential occupancy is consistent with Broward distribution
- Homeownership is consistent with County average.



Methodology

- ❑ Survey
 - ❑ Was created via SurveyMonkey and distributed via email, online, postcards, etc.
 - ❑ A total of 1,609 Surveys were completed between February and May of 2012.
 - ❑ Responses were analyzed using statistical software
- ❑ Focus Groups
 - ❑ 2 Focus Groups were held
 - ❑ Carver Ranches Library
 - ❑ Highland Gardens Community
 - ❑ Focus Groups were recorded and responses were analyzed
- ❑ Workshops
 - ❑ 3 Public Workshops were held
 - ❑ *Northwest Broward* – North Lauderdale City Complex
 - ❑ *Southeast Broward* – Carver Ranches Public Library
 - ❑ *Central Broward* – NOVA University: Don Taft University Center
 - ❑ 3x5 Boards were created to provide information to community members
 - ❑ Participants were asked to provide feedback on post-its on the boards



Findings

- ❑ Detailed findings will be provided in the CER, the following are a few percentage overviews.
- ❑ 32% travel without a car in Broward County
- ❑ 11% travel by bike when they are not traveling by car
- ❑ 37% of respondents envision never, in their current living and working conditions, would they be able to travel to nearby destinations without a car.



Findings cont...

Sidewalks

- ❑ 15% claimed they would not travel without a car due to a lack of sidewalks, bike lanes, walking and bike paths.

Bike Lanes

- ❑ 30% would travel more without a car if bike lanes were better maintained, 40% if there were more lanes or wide paved shoulders with white lines were provided.
- ❑ 37% travel only 2-5 miles to work, which could be a comfortable bicycle ride if amenities, facilities, and a comfortable and safe route was provided.



Findings cont...

Distance

- More than a 1/3 of individuals stated distance to destinations was the reason why they would choose to only travel by car.

Convenience

- Approximately 10% of respondents have no interest in traveling anywhere without a car



Findings cont...

Safety

- Half of the participants stated they would travel more often without a car if they felt safe
- 10% stated they will only consider traveling with a car because of safety reasons.
- Traffic was mentioned as the main safety concern accompanied by crime, loose dogs, drug users, and the presence of homeless individuals on park and transit benches.

Nearby Trips

- Although only a third of respondents characterized their community as mixed-use, two-thirds of respondents said they could travel to nearby destinations without a car.



Findings cont...

□ Environment

- 39% would travel more often without a car if shade was provided along the paths they would like to walk or bike.
- Despite these barriers, the majority of respondents stated there was the right amount of parks and playgrounds (64%, n=1500) and places to walk to for fun (54%, n=1497).

□ Ability

- If sidewalks were accessible for persons with disabilities 10% (n=1485), an increase in walking would take place among respondents.

□ Transit

- A fifth of the respondents (20.8%) who reported traveling solely by car stated their main barrier was associated with mass transit limitations.
- 48% said there was too little amount public transportation within walking distance.

□ Amenities

- The right Amount is found near there home



Summary

- ❑ The majority of Broward residents would like to see more sidewalks, public transit near their homes, bike lanes with painted white lines, more destinations within walking or biking distance, and want to feel safe while commuting without a car.
- ❑ There are not enough places to bike or public transportation options within an easy walk for Broward Residents.



Summary cont...

- ❑ The majority of respondents stated there was the right amount of parks and playgrounds (64%) and places to walk to for fun (54%).
- ❑ Although approximately two-thirds of respondents were not familiar with the term Smart Growth, the vast majority described the term correctly.
- ❑ The vast majority of students do not actively commute to and from school.



Recommendations

- ❑ Implementation and integration of Smart Growth principals would to alleviate barriers related to distance to vendors and travel time.
- ❑ Social marketing campaigns aimed as shifting cultural norm towards transit perceptions.
- ❑ Further explore the transportation needs of elders, and consider implementing aging in place strategies for Broward County residents.



Recommendations cont...

- ❑ Build a stronger network of sidewalks to connect transit to businesses, retail, and industries for economic, environmental and health benefits.
- ❑ Provide bike lanes and sharrows to increase sense of safety amongst commuters.
- ❑ Consider partnering with large stores to sell carrying devices to encourage people to come walking to buy goods.
- ❑ Implement a comprehensive Safe Routes to School Program to shift cultural norm and increase funding allocated to infrastructure that supports active commuting.



Next Steps

- ❑ Incorporation in to the Complete Streets Manual, June
- ❑ Community Engagement Report Release, July
- ❑ Topic Briefings Release, July
- ❑ Meetings with Community Partners, July - September

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Thank you for assisting us in Transforming
Our Community's Health (TOUCH)!

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