Welcome!
The Lower Town Area Mobility Study Meeting Will Begin Soon.

Technology Overview – Things to Know

• To help prevent “Zoom bombing,” (when an unauthorized person or stranger joins a Zoom event and says offensive comments or shows offensive images), the video, speaking, and screen sharing functions are available to presenters, but disabled for participants.

• You can communicate through the Q&A feature.

• You can leave and rejoin the meeting at any time (unless the meeting is at capacity or you are removed for inappropriate behavior).

• Multiple opportunities for questions will be provided throughout the presentation.

• Presentation and additional materials are available at www.a2gov.org/lowertown
Technology Overview – Ask a question/share a comment

We will be using the Q&A feature for those using a computer and the Raise Hand feature for those who are on the phone.

Q&A:
• Please use the Q&A feature located at the bottom of the screen to ask a question/comment.

• Type your question/comment.

• Click Send.

Raise Hand:
• Select *9 to raise your hand
• You will be identified by the last 3 digits of your phone number
Zoom Meeting Norms

• Commit to learning and avoid speculation – we encourage you to ask questions through the chat feature so we can explore the issue together.

• When speaking over the phone, please move to a quiet area and silence any background sounds. We want to be sure that we hear what you are saying.

• Please remember the importance of rights and the dignity of others. With that, we ask that you:
  • Critique ideas, not people.
  • Are thoughtful about your language so this can be a comfortable and respectful forum for all participants - inappropriate written and/or verbal comment or language, including personal attacks and accusations, will result in the attendee being removed from the meeting.
Public Engagement Outreach Survey

Thank you for participating with the City of Ann Arbor. The city is trying to gain a better understanding of who we are reaching to find ways we can continuously improve public engagement efforts and support inclusivity. To help us gain this understanding, please complete this brief, anonymous survey. This survey is completely voluntary; you are not required to fill it out.

To fill out the survey, please visit: https://bit.ly/2X7LDxW
Follow-up Expectations

• Meeting summaries will be posted by Monday, November 23 on the project website.

• Your feedback will be considered in addition to technical and cost considerations for the recommendations of this study.
Public Meeting #2
Vison, Goals, and Alternatives
Lower Town Area Mobility Study
City of Ann Arbor
YOUR PROJECT TEAM

Eric Dryer
Transportation Planner

Lauren Hood
Facilitator

Stephen Dearing
Traffic Engineer

Heather Seyfarth
City Planner

Luke Liu
City Project Manager
Take a Moment to Participate in our Poll!

www.ahaslides.com/lowertown
Why Do a Mobility Study?

• Need a holistic view of transportation conditions in the Lower Town area
• Consider all travelers in the area
• Overall goal is to make traveling around the Lower Town Area easier, safer, and more efficient
What We’re Studying

Purpose is to identify opportunities to make traveling easier within Lower Town.

Looking Specifically at:
- Traffic Congestion
- Bicycle Travel and Connections
- Pedestrian Movements
- Public Transit
- Roadway Safety
- Intersection Designs
Study Process

• Two Year Timeline
• Nearing the halfway point
Outcomes of the Study

• Identify ways to improve mobility for all users
  • Drivers, cyclists, pedestrians, transit riders, etc.

• Explore opportunities to change travel habits
  • Changing travel habits and patterns can help limit congestion issues

• Innovative solutions that improve efficiency of the system
Today’s Public Meeting

• Review Existing Conditions Findings

• Discuss Vision and Goals for Lower Town Area

• Brainstorming for Alternatives
Public Engagement

Virtual Office Hours

- SEPTEMBER 25TH, 2020
  12 - 1 PM
  WHAT IS A MOBILITY STUDY?

- OCTOBER 9TH, 2020
  12 - 1 PM
  TRAFFIC CONDITIONS:
  WHAT CONTRIBUTES TO TRAFFIC
  CONGESTION IN THE AREA?

- OCTOBER 23RD, 2020
  12 - 1 PM
  BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN
  CONDITIONS: HOW CAN WE MAKE
  WALKING AND BIKING EASIER?

- NOVEMBER 6TH, 2020
  12 - 1 PM
  SAFETY CONDITIONS:
  HOW CAN WE MAKE TRAVELING
  SAFER?

Public Meetings

Stakeholder Interviews

We Are Here

- Project Kick Off
  Understanding the existing transportation conditions in the
  area.

- Conditions Analysis
  Developing the initial needs

- Project Vision and
  Goals
  Evaluating and refining
  potential solutions.

- Solution Development
  Developing and refining
  potential solutions.

- Final Recommendations
  Reporting and reporting
  findings and creative
  contributions.
What We’ve Heard

Stakeholder Concerns

- Gaps in non-motorized facilities
- Few walkable businesses
- Growing population in area
- Peak hour congestion from commuters
- Inadequate public transit frequency
- Traffic safety discourages walking/biking
- New development parking is inadequate
- Limited crossing opportunities of Huron River
What We’ve Heard

Concerns from Virtual Office Hours

• Specific areas in Study Area in need of safety improvements
• Residents don’t feel comfortable walking and biking
• Transit is not frequent enough to use
• Heavy traffic from M-14 coming through area
• Bike infrastructure is disconnected
• Safety concerns around A2 STEAM school
• New development is adding to traffic
• Safety conflicts between bikes and pedestrians
What We’ve Heard

Opportunities

• More frequency and more visibility to transit
• Improve walking connection to Hospital
• Easier access to Border-to-Border trail
• Add more mixed-use retail to new developments
• Improve snow clearance in winter for bikes and peds
• Add safe crossing infrastructure
• Create a cultural shift to more walking and biking
• Educate public on safely using streets
Traffic Conditions in Lower Town
High Congestion Intersections

Based on Model
- Plymouth Rd at Barton Dr
- US-23 off-ramp to Barton Dr
- Barton Dr to US-23 on-ramp
- Dhu Varren Rd at Pontiac Trail
- Division St at Catherine St

Based on Observation
- Barton Dr at Pontiac Trail
- Maiden Ln/Broadway St/Moore St
- Maiden Ln at Fuller Rd
Travel Patterns

• 55% of trips along Lower Town area roads are passing through the area

• 21% are coming to Lower Town from other areas in and around Ann Arbor

• 20% are traveling from Lower Town to districts outside

• Only 4% of trips are completely within Lower Town
Ped/Bike Analysis Approach

Team used two tools:
- Pedestrian Environmental Quality Index (PEQI)
- Bicycle Environmental Quality Index (BEQI)

Benefits of these tools:
- Based on feedback from national experts
- Comprehensive
- Customizable
- Observational field survey
**Input Categories**

- **Intersection Safety**
  - Crosswalks
  - Traffic Control

- **Traffic**
  - Number of Lanes
  - Speed Limit

- **Street Design**
  - Width of Facility
  - Connectivity

- **Land Use**
  - Retail Use
  - Public Art

- **Perceived Safety**
  - Street Lighting
  - Signs
**PEQI & BEQI Scores**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Conditions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0 - 20</td>
<td>Unsuitable for pedestrians/bicyclists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 - 40</td>
<td>Poor pedestrian/bicyclist conditions exist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41 - 60</td>
<td>Basic pedestrian/bicyclist conditions exist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61 - 80</td>
<td>Reasonable pedestrian/bicyclist conditions exist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>81 - 100</td>
<td>Ideal pedestrian/bicyclist conditions exist</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Barton Dr & Plymouth Rd**
- **Plymouth Rd Broadway St**
- **Pontiac Trail & Amherst Ave**
Bicycle Environmental Quality Index (BEQI)

**BEQI Score**

- **N / A**  
  One-Way Street

- **Red 0 - 20**  
  Unsuitable for bicyclists

- **Yellow 21 - 40**  
  Poor bicyclists conditions exist

- **Green 41 - 60**  
  Basic bicyclists conditions exist

- **Light Green 61 - 80**  
  Reasonable bicyclists conditions exist

- **Light Blue 81 - 100**  
  Ideal bicyclists conditions exist

Intersections:
- □ Signalized
- ○ Non-Signalized

Street & Intersection BEQI Scores calculated based on San Francisco Department of Public Health Methodology.
Safety
Crash Analysis

• 5-year analysis

• 479 crashes (264 at 3 major intersections)

• 4 ped and 10 bicycle crashes

• Recommended mitigations include:
  o Roundabouts
  o Providing paved shoulders
  o Checking clearance intervals for signalized intersections
  o Leading pedestrian intervals
  o Alternate intersection configurations
  o Enhanced pedestrian crossings
Review of Uncontrolled Pedestrian Crossings

- Evaluation in accordance with NCHRP 562 “Improving Pedestrian Safety at Unsignalized Crossings”
- 31 existing pedestrian crossing were evaluated
- 1 merited Standard Plus treatment
- 30 merited Standard (5 did not have in place)
- 4 new locations identified
Road Safety Audit

- Pedestrian Infrastructure
- Speed Management
- Traffic Congestion
- Bicycle Infrastructure
- Pavement Conditions
- Traffic Control Devices
Comprehensive Transportation Plan

- Ann Arbor: Moving Together – creating a safer, more sustainable, accessible, and equitable transportation system for everyone.

- Mobility Values
  - Safety
  - Mobility
  - Accessibility for All
  - Healthy People and Sustainable Places
  - Regional Connectivity

- Critical Goals
  - Vision Zero
  - Carbon Neutrality
Split into Breakout Groups

1st Breakout – 2 parts (15 Minutes)
  - Lower Town Area Issues
  - Project Goals

2nd Breakout (20 Minutes)
  - Alternatives

Report out to larger group between and after breakouts
**Issues Q1:**
What do you see as the biggest transportation issues in the Lower Town Area?

**Issues Q2:**
What is your experience moving through the Lower Town Area, as a driver, pedestrian, bicyclist or transit rider? How could you experience be improved?

**Goals Q1:**
What goals do you have in improving the mobility conditions in Lower Town?
Report Out
Let’s Discuss Your Group’s Findings
Alternatives
Potential Alternatives

• Road Safety Audit Improvement Alternatives:
  • Intersection changes
  • Lighting upgrades
  • Non-motorized infrastructure
  • Transit Improvements
  • Speed Management
  • ADA Access
Transportation Demand Management

- Strategies to redistribute when and how people travel through Lower Town
  - Improved non-motorized conditions
  - Improve public transit
  - Ridesharing programs
  - Incentives to give up parking
  - Flexible work times
  - Transit supportive development
Improvement Ideas from the Community

• From Virtual Office Hours:
  • RRFBs along Pontiac Trail
  • Speed management along Pontiac Trail
  • Seamless Border-to-Border trail connection from Broadway
  • Green bike lane paint
  • Driver and pedestrian safety education
  • Park and Ride Locations
Alternatives Q1:
What would you like to see done in the Lower Town Area to improve mobility conditions?

Alternatives Q2:
Consider the most problematic areas in Lower Town and share ideas for potential improvements.

Alternatives Q3:
What improvements could be implemented to encourage residents to switch travel modes?
Report Out

Let’s Discuss Your Group’s Findings
Next Steps

• Summary of Public Meeting #2
• Consolidation and Refinement of Alternatives
• Analysis and Evaluation of Alternatives
• Public Meeting #3 – Present Alternatives
• Report Development
• Public Meeting #4 – Overall Findings and Recommendations