

# Pedestrian Advisory Committee Meeting #1 8/30/18



## THANK YOU!

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*Thank you for volunteering on the Pedestrian Advisory Committee to help improve the pedestrian experience in Boulder.*

*“We are all pedestrians”*



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## USEFUL RESOURCES

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### KEY WEBSITES

General Transportation page: [bouldercolorado.gov/transportation](http://bouldercolorado.gov/transportation)

Transportation Master Plan (TMP) page: [boulderTMP.net](http://boulderTMP.net)

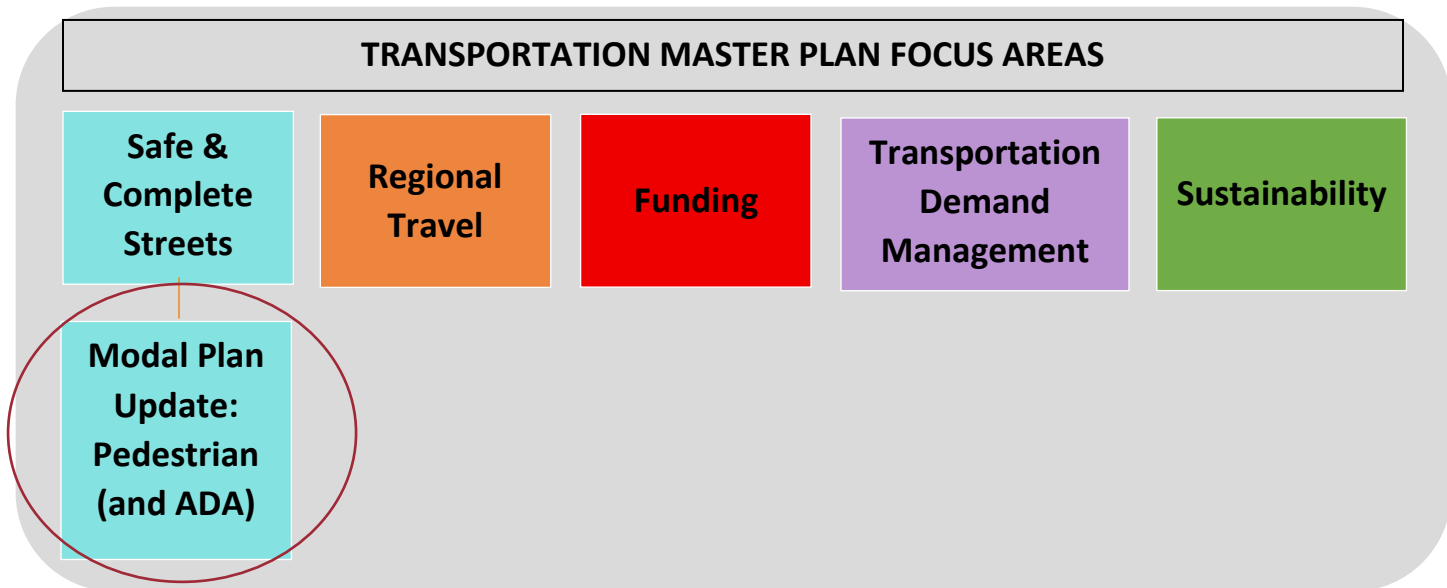
Pedestrian Plan page: [bouldercolorado.gov/transportation/pedestrian-system-plan](http://bouldercolorado.gov/transportation/pedestrian-system-plan)

# 1. OVERVIEW OF PEDESTRIAN PLAN

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## TRANSPORTATION PLANNING IN BOULDER

The Transportation Master Plan (TMP) is the guiding policy document for the city of Boulder's transportation system. The TMP is organized around five "Focus Areas." The Pedestrian Plan is an important component of the Safe & Complete Streets Focus Area.



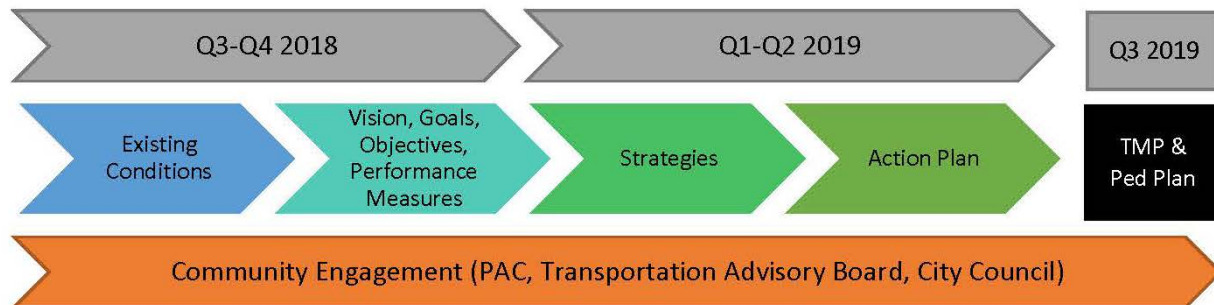
The TMP is currently being updated with a planned completion of Q3 2019. Community Engagement with involvement by the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) and City Council will be a key part of the project.

## PEDESTRIAN PLAN

The Pedestrian Plan is the blueprint to improve walking conditions in Boulder and is being updated in concert with the TMP. It was last updated in 1996.

Key elements of the Ped Plan will include:

- **Existing Conditions Snapshot** to understand where we are today, including a full sidewalk inventory
- **Vision Statement, Goals, Objectives, Performance Measures** to determine the desired future
- **Strategies** to achieve the vision
- **Action Plan**, including responsible parties, and timelines for the city and partners to follow



## 2. ROLE OF THE PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC)

Members of the committee will:

- **Identify and examine issues** related to being a pedestrian in Boulder
- **Provide feedback** on information prepared by city staff to ensure it is understandable, accurate and complete
- **Provide advice** on community outreach strategies
- **Help share information** with other community members

The committee's input will be used by city staff to help shape materials that will be presented to the Transportation Advisory Board and City Council during the planning phase of the Pedestrian Plan update.

### 3. DRAFT PAC MEMBER COMMITMENTS

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#### PARTNER ACTIVITY

- Pick a partner ... someone you don't know well.

#### Part 1: Interview on Best Practices

##### Steps:

1. Interview your partner using the interview guide below.
2. Conduct one complete interview and then switch roles—5 minutes per interview

##### Tips:

- Be a generous listener, focusing on your partner's responses and refraining from interjecting your own
- Capture in writing some of the key words and phrases used in the story.
- Allow time for reflection and silence. Some people will take time to think about their answers.

##### Questions:

1. Tell me about yourself. Where do you live and work? How do you travel around town?

2. Think about an experience you've had when a diverse group worked really well together. Meetings were productive and people were respectful of different views but still focused on achieving their purpose. It may have been when you served on a similar community working group, or it may

have been at work, school, or in an organization where you serve as a volunteer.

Reflecting back on that experience, what were the core conditions that made the group productive? Think about how people contributed, how they handled disagreements, what preparation they did for meetings, their follow through, how the meetings were run, timing, etc.

What lessons from that experience should we embrace for this Pedestrian Advisory Committee?

*Switch roles – the interviewer becomes the interviewee.*



## Part 2: Discussion of Commitments

### Questions:

1. Together, review the draft commitments below. Given what you learned in your interviews, discuss whether there are additions or refinements you would recommend. Post these on the large chart.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Extra Credit Discussion: Imagine together that the Pedestrian Plan is completed and you are quite proud of it and the PAC's contribution. You believe the process was both credible and meaningful. What would have happened?

## DRAFT COMMITMENTS

### ***Practice inclusive participation***

- Listen well and allow everyone to be heard
- Respect each participant and their views; avoid personal attacks
- Seek to understand community input and be open to different perspectives
- View disagreements as opportunities to learn, not battles to be won
- Seek common ground

### ***Use our time productively***

- Stay on track
- Come to meetings prepared
- Be prepared to “agree to disagree” and move on
- Avoid rehashing past issues and meetings

### ***Share responsibility for success***

- Understand the process and how decisions will be made
- Respect the process and the working group’s role
- In speaking about the project, present individual views and only documented information; avoid trying to characterize the views of others.
- Help elicit community input and bring comments into the working group process

### ***Serve the common good***

- Seek what is best for the community as a whole
- Recognize that personal goals may be different from the greater good
- Involve all stakeholders, constituents

## 4. DRAFT EXISTING CONDITIONS

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This section includes **\*draft\*** graphics and maps depicting existing conditions for pedestrians. Note that some maps are not legible in letter-size format and are provided here for reference. Please review the large printed boards.

### **Questions for the PAC:**

- 1. Is the information understandable? Is it accurate and complete?**
- 2. What are your takeaways from this information?**
- 3. What other existing conditions would you like to see?**

# Snapshot of Walking in Boulder

Draft



Source: City of Boulder Resident Travel Survey Data (2015)



# Boulder's Pedestrian Plan

A comprehensive look at all of the elements that work towards a better walking experience

# Draft

**The Missing Sidewalk Links Program** identifies, prioritizes, and constructs missing sidewalk segments to provide a continuous pedestrian network and ensure a safe walking environment.

**SafeRoutes** The Safe Routes to School program enables and encourages students to walk and bike to school. The program aims to empower our community by addressing barriers that prevent students from walking and biking to school.

New sidewalks follow the City of Boulder Design and Construction Standards and ADA Requirements. Most sidewalks were put in when adjacent homes were built.

Construction detours for pedestrians are designed and implemented using the transportation planning standard Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) for Streets and Highways.

Transit stops should be easily accessible by foot and located near popular destinations such as schools and libraries.

All sidewalks need to meet ADA (American Disabilities Act) standards, including curb cuts and ramps.

The Annual Sidewalk Repair Program identifies, prioritizes, and programmatically repairs sidewalks throughout the city to improve the infrastructure used by pedestrians.

**BOULDER WALKS** Boulder Walks aims to celebrate and encourage walking as a travel choice for residents and employees by organizing community group walks.

Some traffic signals prioritize pedestrians at crosswalks with a "leading pedestrian interval" (LPI) that gives pedestrians a 3-second head start. Some locations also prohibit right turn on red.

**HOLD UP YOUR SIDE OF THE CROSSWALK** The Hold Up Crosswalk Safety Campaign is focused on enhancing crosswalk safety through education and enforcement for drivers, cyclists and pedestrians.

Maintenance such as snow and vegetation removal is typically the responsibility of the adjacent property owner.

Underpasses are an essential part of the off-street pedestrian network.

The city's Transportation Maintenance work group and Parks and Recreation Departments provide routine inspection, sweeping, maintenance, and removal of snow/ice from the multi-use path system.

The Pedestrian Crossing Treatment Installation Guidelines documents the city's approach to installing crosswalks consistently across the city. Crossings are typically based on the roadway type. Example elements include marked crosswalks, median refuge islands, flashing yellow lights (FFELs), pedestrian traffic signals, and underpasses. The guidelines are being updated in 2018-19.

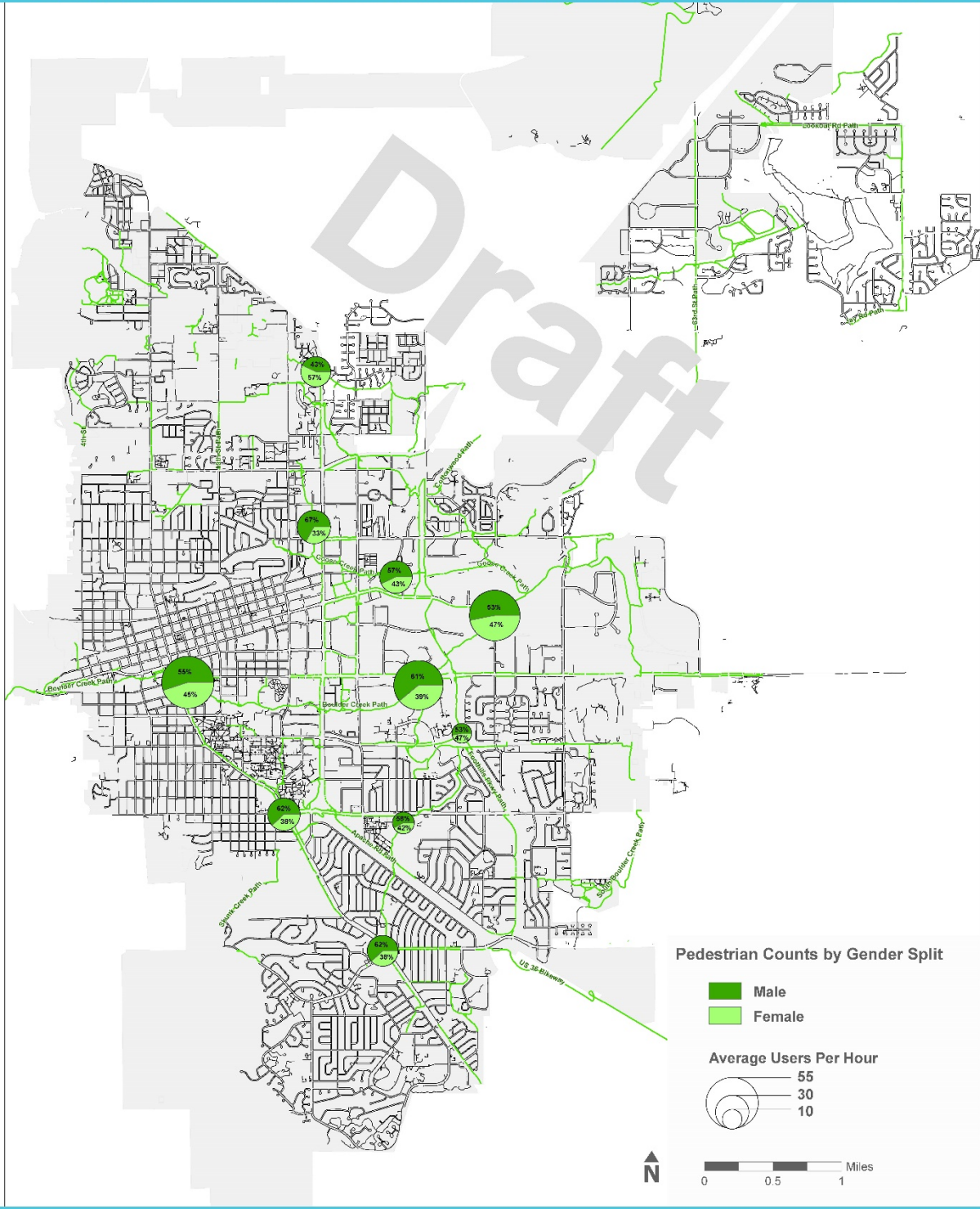
**VISION ZERO** Vision Zero is the Boulder community's goal to reduce the number of traffic-related fatalities and serious injuries to zero. At its core, this goal is inspired by the belief that traffic collisions are preventable, and even one fatality is too many.

**the way of the path** The Way of the Path, a series of rules designed to encourage proper etiquette and safety for all path users.

# PEDESTRIAN COUNTS BY GENDER ON MULTI-USE PATHS

## Pedestrian Counts by Gender on Multi-Use Paths

This map displays pedestrian volumes on multi-use paths according to circle size and the gender split according to color.

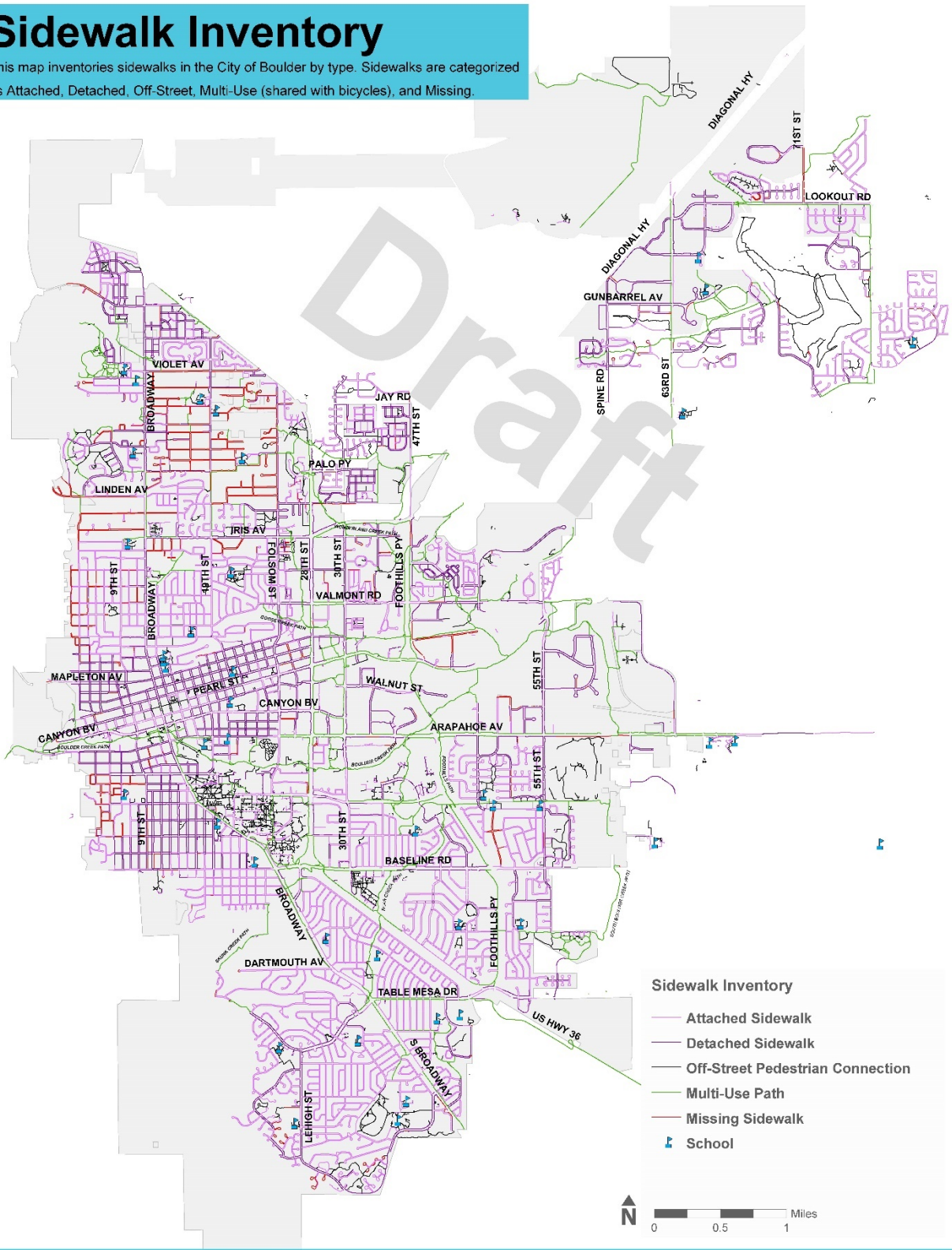


Source: Pedestrian and Bicyclist Count September 2017

# SIDEWALK INVENTORY

## Sidewalk Inventory

This map inventories sidewalks in the City of Boulder by type. Sidewalks are categorized as Attached, Detached, Off-Street, Multi-Use (shared with bicycles), and Missing.

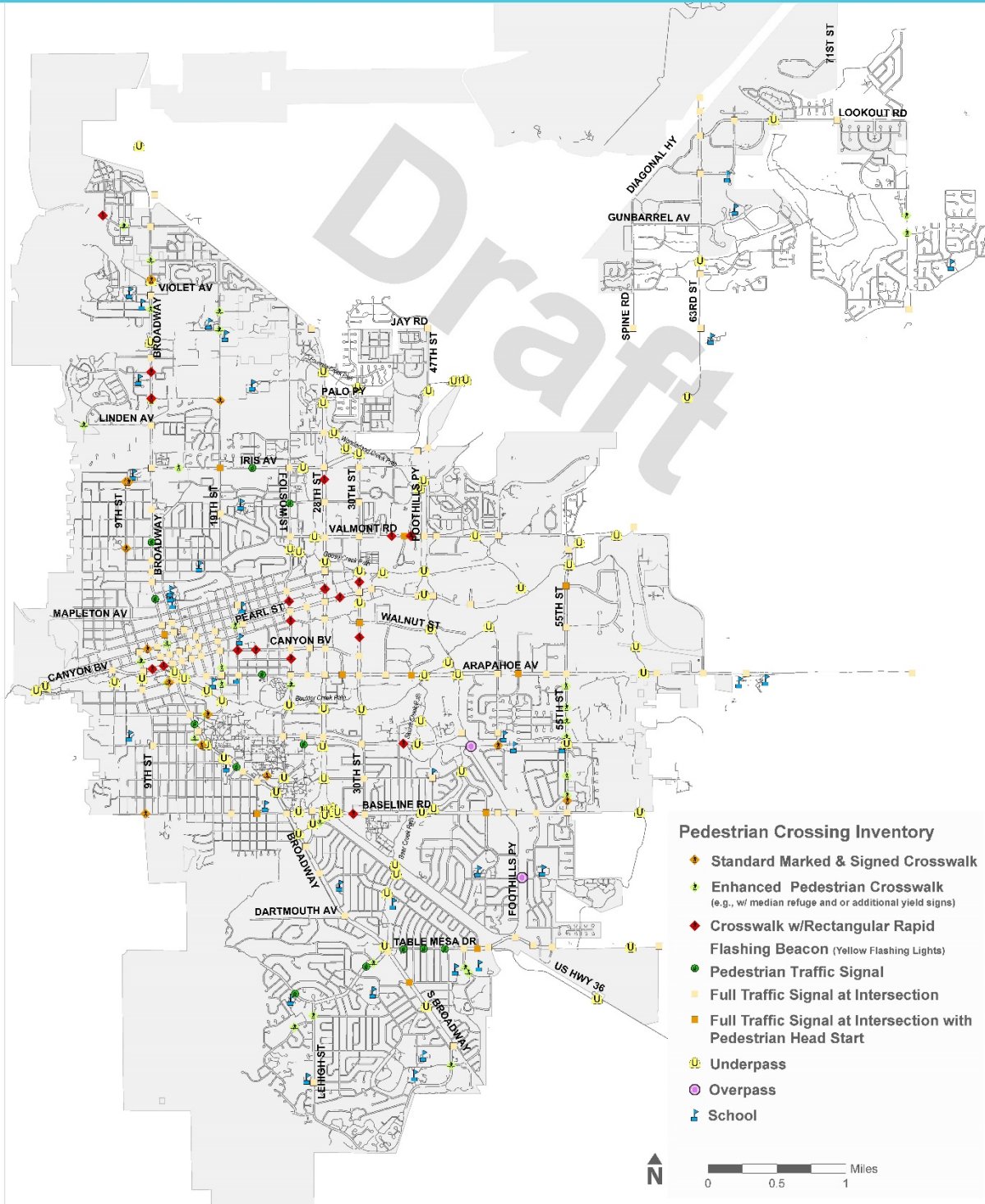


Source: City of Boulder (2018)

# PEDESTRIAN CROSSING INVENTORY

## Pedestrian Crossing Inventory

This map displays the various pedestrian crossing treatments in Boulder.



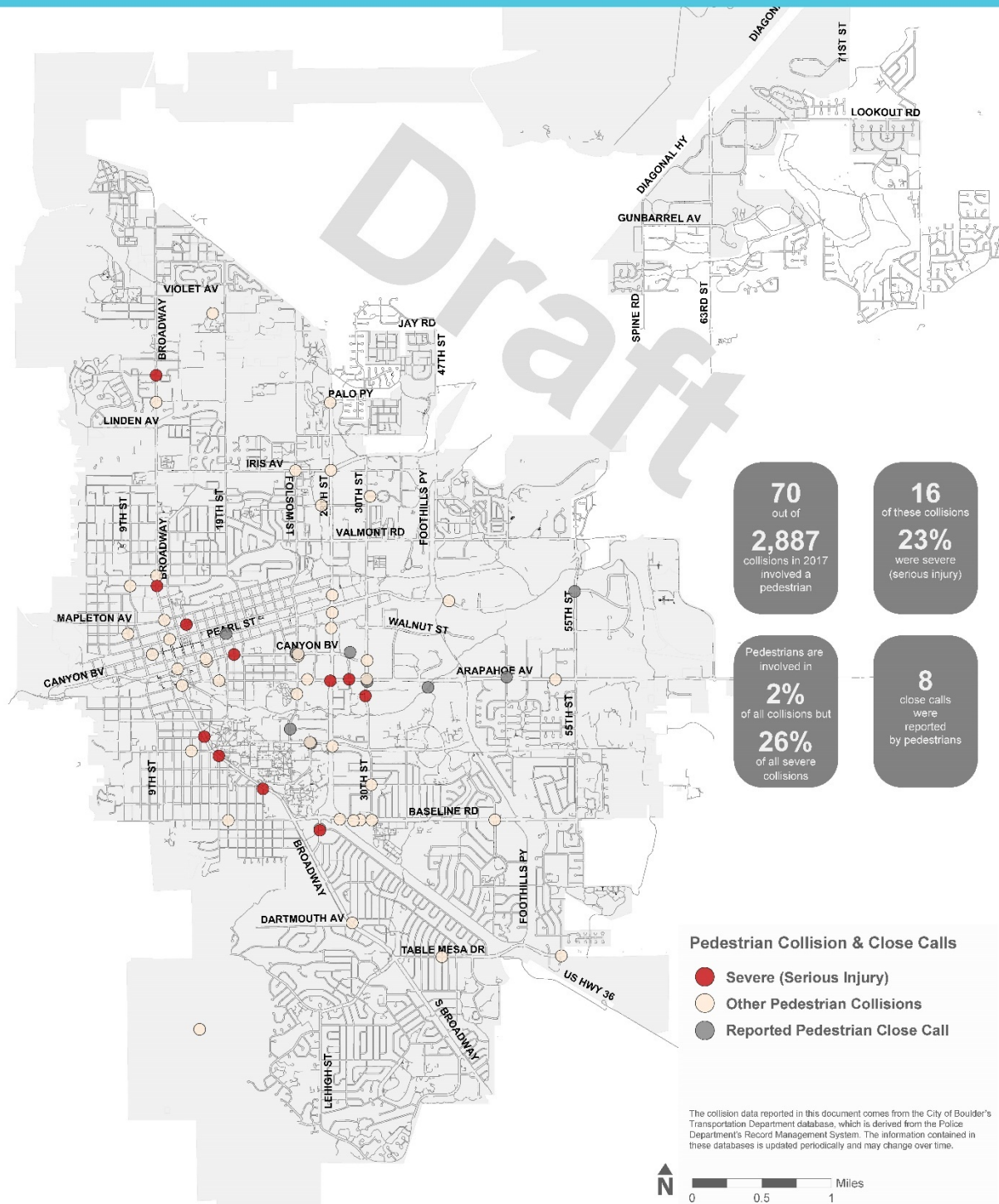
Source: City of Boulder (2018)



# PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

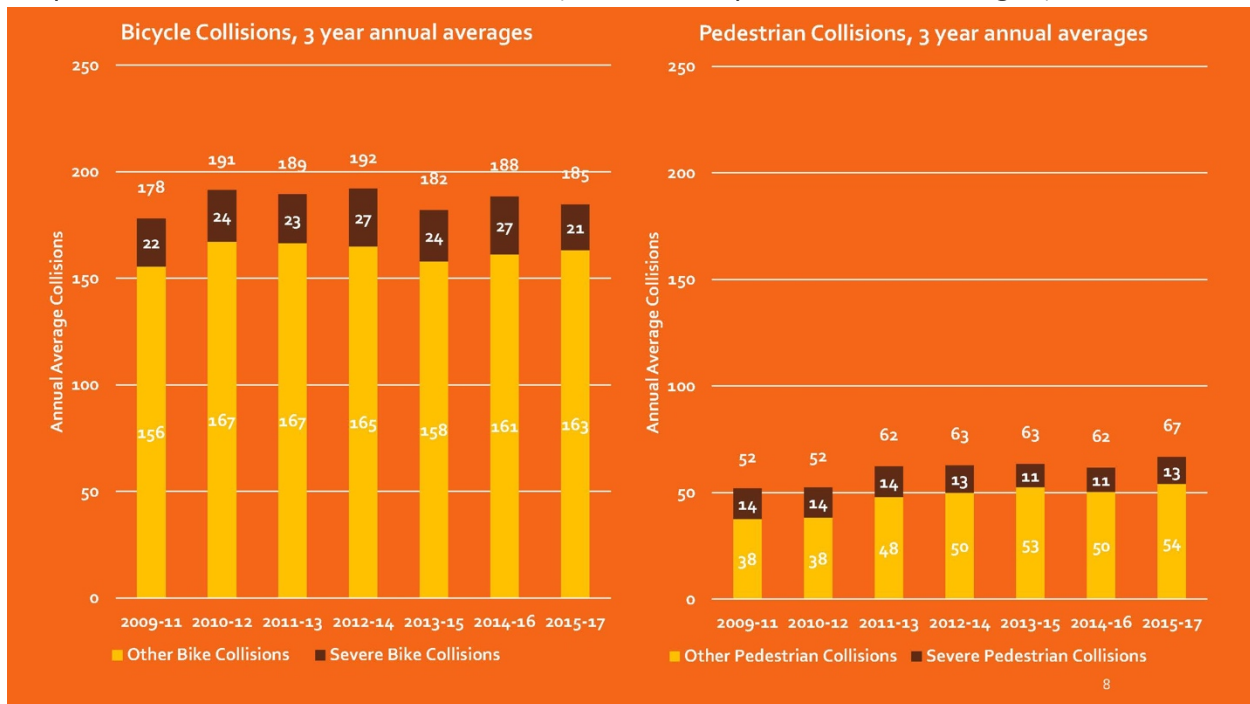
## 2017 Pedestrian Collisions & Close Calls

This map shows pedestrian collisions by severity and self-reported pedestrian close calls for 2017.



Source: City of Boulder (2018)

## Bicycle and Pedestrian Collision Data (2009-17, 3 year annual averages)



## 5. DRAFT SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY INPUT

This section includes **\*draft\*** summaries of community responses to key questions about walking that were asked at in-person events and online at Be Beard Boulder from March through June 2018. About 100 people from the community responded, and key themes and example quotes are provided here.

This input will help inform the vision, goals, and objectives, as well as strategies and actions for the plan.

### Questions for the PAC:

1. Are there any surprises?
2. What might you add?

# WHAT DO YOU ENJOY ABOUT WALKING?

"It is great exercise and gets me outdoors"

# Health

"Much less stressful than driving and having to park"

"In Boulder, there are many great paths and trails with fantastic views"

# Easy Nature

# Community

# Access to Places

"(..) allows me to see the city at a different pace and from a different perspective"

"I enjoy how you can walk to almost any destination that you desire in and around Boulder"

WHAT WOULD MAKE IT EASIER FOR YOU TO WALK?

“Places to walk that are near to current neighborhoods”

”I [dislike] walking along or crossing all these 4-lane streets”

**Fewer/slower cars**

“More protected bike lanes so there are fewer cyclists on the sidewalk”

**Walkable destinations**

**Fewer bike conflicts**

# Safer Crossings

## Sidewalk maintenance

“Cars [that] stop at intersections for pedestrians without me having to be assertive”

“When they plow the main streets they leave huge mountains in front of the bus stop”

WHAT ARE YOUR HOPES AND CONCERNS ABOUT WALKING IN BOULDER IN THE FUTURE?

“That walkability can incentivize people to leave their cars behind”

**Fewer people driving**

“Get bicycles off of sidewalks”

**Bike/Ped separation**

“More police enforcement for cars disregarding walk signals and crosswalks”

**Safer pedestrian environment**

“It would be nice to feel safer to walk alone after dark”

**Prioritizing pedestrians**

**Walkable destinations**

“Moving people other than their personal vehicles”

“I am concerned that the city won't be aggressive enough in their decisions. We need to continue to be the leaders of the world and push for a more sustainable future”

“That we won't be bold enough. That we won't take a big picture view of land use and transportation as an integrated problem”

“That we will have truly walkable neighborhoods – mixed use where I can walk from my house to a destination”

## 6. HOMEWORK

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1. **BHB Walking stories**—by October 25, submit your own walking story online at [beheardboulder.org](http://beheardboulder.org) (choose Transportation Planning Projects from the Active Projects menu). Want help? Contact Darcy Kitching at [darcy@walk2connect.com](mailto:darcy@walk2connect.com) or 303-250-2436.
2. **Inspiration**—at Meeting #2 (November 8) bring a pedestrian-related idea from another city and share how you could envision it applied to Boulder.
3. **Spread the word**—let your neighbors, friends, colleagues, and family know about the Pedestrian Plan and how to get involved; we will send you some resources.
4. **EXTRA CREDIT: Review background information and previous planning documents**—read the pedestrian-related sections in the [2014 TMP](#) and the [1996 Pedestrian Policy Plan](#); come to Meeting #2 (November 8) ready to share your thoughts:
  - a. What is still relevant?
  - b. What needs to be updated?
  - c. What is missing?

## 7. NEXT STEPS

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- **Walkabout** (September 27)
- **Community Outreach Webinar** (October TBD)
- **Meeting #2** (November 8—*tentative*)
- 1x1 Interviews staff and members—we will reach out to schedule with you
- Staff to follow up on action items identified during meeting, including draft charter and media kit

## 8. MEETING WRAP-UP

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Share your thoughts on how this meeting went.

**Questions for the PAC:**

- 1. What worked well during this meeting?**
- 2. What are your suggestions for next time?**
- 3. What did you appreciate about your experience?**

## 9. PUBLIC COMMENT/NOTES

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