

Pedestrian Advisory Committee Meeting #6 8/29/19



THANK YOU!

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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Attachments

- A. Meeting #5 Summary

USEFUL RESOURCES

PROJECT TEAM CONTACT INFORMATION

City of Boulder

Amy Lewin (Project Manager) – LewinA@bouldercolorado.gov

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Emily Kleinfelter (GO Boulder Planning Specialist) –
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Mike Sweeney (Transportation Operations Engineer) –
SweeneyM@bouldercolorado.gov

Samantha Glavin (Communication Specialist) – GlavinS@bouldercolorado.gov

Kathleen Bracke (GO Boulder Manager/Acting Co-Director of PW-Transportation)
– BrackeK@bouldercolorado.gov

Catalyst, Inc.

Barbara Lewis (Meeting Facilitator) – catalystbel@comcast.net

Boulder Walks

Darcy Kitching (Walk2Connect/Boulder Walks Coordinator) –
darcy@walk2connect.com

KEY WEBSITES

General Transportation page: bouldercolorado.gov/transportation

Transportation Master Plan (TMP) page: boulderTMP.net

Pedestrian Plan page: bouldercolorado.gov/transportation/pedestrian-system-plan

1. DESIRED MEETING OUTCOMES

- Members are aware of the edits made to the draft Pedestrian Plan and the next steps in the plan development process.
- Members are informed about opportunities to continue to be engaged and help implement the Plan's action items.
- Members recognize and celebrate their contribution to the Plan.

2. HOW YOUR INPUT IS BEING USED TO UPDATE THE DRAFT PED PLAN



An initial draft outline of the Pedestrian Plan was presented to the PAC at Meeting #5 (May 9, 2019), and the full Draft Pedestrian Plan was released August 14, 2019.

BE HEARD
Boulder

2019 **BOULDER**
Pedestrian Plan
DRAFT



HOW YOU PROVIDED INPUT

- Meeting #5 Comment Form (re: draft plan outline)

- Focus Group (August 19, 2019)



- PAC-specific questions via email
- Be Heard Boulder Questions

KEY THEMES IN FEEDBACK

- Overall
 - Supportive of plan
 - Feel like PAC feedback was incorporated
- Would like more:
 - Boulder-specific detail
 - Accountability
 - Emphasis on 15-minute neighborhood and low-stress work
 - Variety in photos

WHAT WE ARE DOING

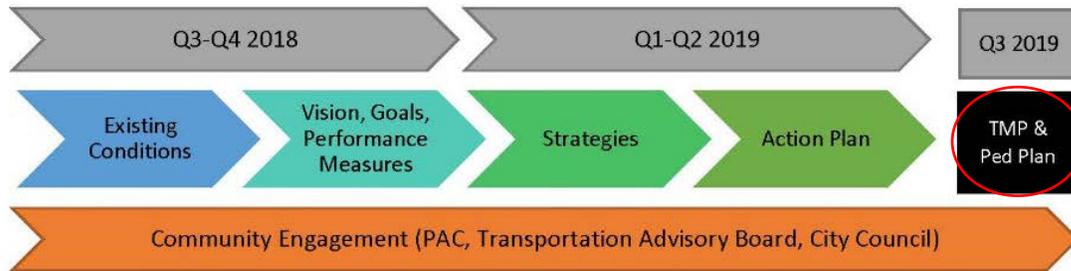
- Adding more Boulder specifics to case studies and action items
- Accountability, including performance measures, will be focus of “PAC 2.0” (see next section)
- Adding detail about the 15-minute neighborhood concept and the low-stress walk network
- Including a variety of photos in terms of locations, demographics and abilities of people represented

The Be Heard Boulder comment period has been extended through September 3.

The updated version of the document will be provided to TAB and City Council for acceptance.

3. PLANNING PROCESS

WE ARE HERE



KEY DATES

September 9 – TAB Meeting

- Council Chambers, Municipal Building, 1777 Broadway
- Meeting starts at 6p
- Ped Plan is on the agenda with TMP Update Public Hearing, currently scheduled for 6:20p

September 17 – City Council Hearing

- Council Chambers, Municipal Building, 1777 Broadway
- Meeting starts at 6p
- Detailed agenda has not yet been determined; we will let you know the expected time of the agenda item as soon as it is published. You can also access City Council agendas at: <https://bouldercolorado.gov/city-council/city-council-agendas-and-materials>

Question for the PAC

- What are the ways you would like to get involved and show your support?

4. FUTURE OF THE PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCE

The next step for the Pedestrian Plan (after approval) is implementation! As we think about ways for you to support implementation we would like to learn from your experience.

Questions for the PAC

- Which activities/experiences worked well?
- What new approaches would you recommend?

INITIAL IDEAS FOR THE FUTURE

- Continue “PAC 2.0.”
- Every current PAC member is invited to continue, and potentially have an application process for other interested community members.
- Meet every other month.
- Help support the “Immediate Priorities” identified in the plan:
 - Walk Friendly Community Application
 - Vision Zero Action Plan
 - Comfortable “Low-Stress” Walking to Daily Destinations
 - Pedestrian Crossing Treatment Installation Guidelines
 - Americans with Disabilities Act (Transition Plan)
 - Snow Removal Enhancement
- Responsibilities:
 - Attend meetings
 - Spread the word about activities
 - Solicit input from community

Questions for the PAC

- Given the immediate priorities, what topics most interest you?
- Any other thoughts on the initial ideas? What’s missing?

5. RECENT EVENTS

Here are some highlights of events since the May 9 meeting:

WALKABOUT #6 WALK WITH COUNCIL (JUNE 15, 2019)

Councilmember Aaron Brockett kicked off the first Walk with Council on June 15.

The walk began at the North Boulder Rec Center and led participants along part of the new planned 13th Street Neighborhood GreenStreet up to 15th/Iris.



WALKABOUT #7: VISION ZERO WALK (JUNE 25, 2019)



On June 25 we saw a great turnout for the Vision Zero Walk with. The walking route highlighted five intersections in Central Boulder with safety improvements identified in the 2019 Safe Streets Report. Participants were provided with a handout that gave a detailed description of each intersection, the crash trends observed there, and mitigation that has been planned or implemented.

WALKABOUT #8: ALPINE-BALSAM WALKING TOURS (JULY 15 & 17, 2019)



Community members gathered on the morning of July 15 and the afternoon of July 17 to participate in walking tours for the Alpine-Balsam project. After more than a year of community engagement, the Area Plan is nearing completion. The walking tours were meant to engage members of the community in discussions about the

transportation connections in the Alpine-Balsam area and to gather feedback on the transportation Connections Plan. Both walking tours had great turnout, with over a dozen people at each. Members of the public were passionate and vocal about their opinions on the proposed plans and staff appreciated getting all types of feedback.



WALKABOUT #9: WALK WITH COUNCIL (AUGUST 17, 2019)

About a dozen community members and several city staff members joined the second Walk with Council August 17, which featured Councilmember Bob Yates (who originated the idea of Walks with Council). The 2-mile walk started at the East Boulder Recreation Center and ended at the Meadows Shopping Center. Some of the projects highlighted included the Hogan-Pancost development, the 55th Street Neighborhood Speed Management Program project, and the Foothills underpass south of Colorado (to replace the existing overpass).

For details on future walks, check out www.boulderwalks.org.

6. NEXT STEPS/UPCOMING EVENTS

Date	Event Type	
Sept 9	TAB Meeting	Part of TMP Update Public Hearing agenda item
Sept 10, 12, 14	Bike-Ped Counts	Volunteer to count users on multi-use paths (mandatory training session Sept 4)
Sept 17	City Council Meeting	Part of TMP Update Public Hearing agenda item
Sept 21	Walk with Council	Councilmember Mary Young In Spanish with English interpretation
Oct TBD	Walk with Council	TBD

7. HOMEWORK

1. **Show your support**—join us at TAB (September 9) and/or Council (September 17).
2. **Volunteer and recruit others**—to count users on multiuse paths as part of the 2019 Bike-Ped Counts (see <https://bouldercolorado.gov/transportation/pedestrian-and-bicycle-count>)

8. MEETING WRAP-UP

Share your thoughts: What are you most proud of (in the Ped Plan, related to your work on the PAC, etc.)?

9. PUBLIC COMMENT/NOTES

Never doubt that
a small group of
thoughtful,
committed citizens
can change the
world; indeed,
it's the only thing
that ever does.

— Margaret Mead



PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING #5 SUMMARY

THURSDAY, MAY 9, 5:30 – 8P



PRESENT

Alex Weinheimer (TAB)
Amy McCormick
Ann Moss
Brent Halsey
Craig Towler
Hugh Bell
James Krolick
Lisa White
Mark Rosenstein
Nora Schlosser
Paul Wallick
Sarah Massey-Warren
Spenser Havlick

ABSENT

Alicia Halberg
Diane Denenberg
Randi Grassgreen
Robyn Kube
Tila Duhaime (TAB)
Yoav Lurie

STAFF & CONSULTANTS IN ATTENDANCE

Barbara Lewis, Meeting Facilitator (Catalyst, Inc.)
Amy Lewin, Project Manager (City of Boulder)
Darcy Kitching, Boulder Walks Coordinator
(Walk2Connect)
Emily Kleinfelter, Planning Specialist (City of Boulder)
Mike Sweeney, Transportation Operations Engineer
(City of Boulder)

OTHER SPEAKERS

Ann Haebig, Board Secretary (Community Cycles)
Gary Sprung (Community Cycles)

MEETING HANDOUTS

- Meeting #5 Comment Form

AGENDA

1. Dinner Activities/Introductions
2. Desired Meeting Outcomes
3. Community Cycles
4. Pedestrian Crossings
5. Comfortable (“Low-Stress”) Walk Connections to Your Daily Destinations
6. Draft Ped Plan Outline Review
7. Project Update
8. Next Steps
9. Homework
10. Meeting Wrap-up

Committee members were provided a meeting packet with information that served as a tool to help guide participants through the information presented in the agenda above.

1. DINNER ACTIVITY/INTRODUCTIONS

DINNER ACTIVITY

During dinner, PAC members discussed their questions about pedestrian crossings and wrote them on slickies to post on the wall for Mike to address.

INTRODUCTIONS

Amy kicked off the meeting and reminded members of the TMP and how the Pedestrian Plan is connected to it. She reiterated why the PAC was created in the first place, emphasizing how important the input members are giving to affect the final update to the Pedestrian Plan.

Amy asked all PAC members to introduce themselves so that the newest member of the committee, Alex, could be welcomed.

2. DESIRED MEETING OUTCOMES

Barbara highlighted the desired outcomes (see below) for the group and reviewed the agenda for the meeting.

Desired outcomes for meeting #3:

- Members are informed about crossing design and engineering and provide input on upcoming guidelines update
- Members understand the Low-Stress network methodology and connection to 15-minute neighborhoods and provide input on prioritization factors
- Members provide input on draft Ped Plan outline
- Members learn more about the Community Cycles Advocacy Committee and members' thoughts on pedestrian issues

3. COMMUNITY CYCLES

Ann and Gary from Community Cycles spoke to the PAC about the importance of working together to advocate for safer streets for bicyclists and pedestrians. Gary emphasized that pedestrians and cyclists have a lot in common and should work as a team.

Gary explained to the PAC the different items the Community Cycles organization has been focusing on, such as working on the Design and Construction Standards (DCS) with the Planning department. Community Cycles wants these standards to address driveway crossings, street width, sidewalk reconstruction standards, etc. They want to see better standards for the city and need the help of pedestrians to advocate with them.

Community Cycles would like to see the Level of Service scoring removed from the Vision Zero Action Plan or applied equally to cyclists and pedestrians, not just cars.

Gary shared his opinion that the crossing of Iris and 15th is very dangerous for pedestrians and bicyclists. He also has an issue with the pedestrian signals being deactivated during snowy weather at the intersection of Linden and Broadway

because the signals turn to flashing yellow and red for cars, giving pedestrians no dedicated opportunity to cross safely. Mike responded to this concern, noting that the practice was designed for pedestrian safety because, historically, the city has seen that it has been challenging for motorists to stop at this location in snowy and icy conditions.

4. PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS

One of the main topics of the evening was pedestrian crossings. PAC members shared their homework (identifying pedestrian crossings they liked and disliked and any questions they had about crossing treatments). Amy then provided a brief overview of the type of crossings that Boulder provides for pedestrians and an example of the sample costs for the installation of a pedestrian crossing.

Mike summarized the work he does for the City of Boulder as a transportation engineer, highlighted the upcoming update to the Pedestrian Crossing Treatment Installation Guidelines and answered questions from PAC members.

Below is a table with the collected questions and their respective responses:

Question	Response
In terms of safety and equal access, are ramps required at marked crossings?	Yes, all crossings that are marked will have ramps. Any ramps that are not currently ADA-compliant will be flagged and addressed as part of the ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan.
Why not experiment with a brightly lit “Pedestrians are Crossing” sign in addition to flashing yellow lights?	The current city crossing treatments are defined in the city’s Pedestrian Crossing Treatment Guidelines (PCTIG). A current action item is to update the guidelines so this could potentially be an opportunity to explore changes to the treatments within the guidance of the MUTCD.
Why no sign at Broadway at CU to say jaywalking is illegal and dangerous?	<p>Technical definition of jaywalking is when “a pedestrian who crosses a street at a point where there is no designated crosswalk, without proper regard for, or careless as to vehicle traffic, without abiding by traffic signalization, and usually, but not necessarily, diagonally.”</p> <p>We have found poor compliance with installing just signs to discourage behavior.</p>
Right turn lights coincide with pedestrian walk signals. Why? It seems very risky.	We developed a set of Traffic Signal Practices that identify conditions at which that can occur safely. Signal phasing to try to enhance safety of people crossing, including No Right

	Turn on Red. If mixed traffic lanes use Ped Head Start, consider separate right turn lane.
Why does the city have control of 28 th Street only north of Baseline and CDOT is south although that is still city of Boulder?	Functionally, 28 th Street changes from a limited access highway to a surface street north of Baseline. If CDOT proposes changes to US 36 south of Baseline the City can respond via the NEPA process .
Speed reduction for arterials with crosswalks?	Vision Zero Action Plan includes speed management/reduction on arterials. We are planning a workshop within the next year with CDOT (has regulatory authority over many of our arterials, which are state highways)
Is there any reason why RRFBs use yellow lights over red? E.g. legal, effectiveness/collisions, etc.	Yes, yellow denotes the yield condition, which is what is used at crosswalks. Red would require a yellow clearance interval. A hybrid approach is a HAWK, which is in between ped signal and RRFB. We tried one on Regent and it was not liked, so it was replaced with a pedestrian signal (e.g., Table Mesa/42 nd Street).
Why doesn't the city do more 4-way traffic light stops in dangerous intersections so pedestrians can cross (as in Denver)?	We have a few signals with all ped phase near schools. . .efficiency v. safety. . .do consider

Will pedestrian crossing treatments still be necessary when autonomous vehicles are here?	At this point we anticipate the need to maintain pedestrian crossing treatments, even with the introduction of autonomous vehicles.
Can you put dollar cost estimates on our major PAC action items?	Cost estimates for some of the larger items have been incorporated into the Transportation Master Plan's investment program analysis.

5. COMFORTABLE (“LOW-STRESS”) WALK CONNECTIONS TO YOUR DAILY DESTINATIONS

Amy reviewed the low-stress and 15-minute neighborhood concepts and the methodology used to identify future areas of focus (initially called Pedestrian Improvement Zones, now called Pedestrian Improvement Areas). The PAC was then asked to weigh in on ideas for how to prioritize which zones to study and improve first.

Input from the PAC about prioritization of Pedestrian Improvement Areas:

- Go through each node and change from low comfort to high comfort to see impact
- Consider prioritizing locations with crash trends
- Transit access/service (frequency)
- Pedestrian volumes?
- Look for locations where there is great benefit from simple changes
- Future population and employment density
- Student population density
- Where can we impact the most people positively?

Other PAC Comments, Questions/Responses:

- o Question: How do you determine if something is low-/high-stress? How did you get the data? Response: We are still testing and developing the model

at the moment. We may fine tune the model in the future as additional systemwide data is available.

- Consider changes in comfort in different weather conditions
- Question: Is the model developed in-house? Response: A consultant is helping us develop a model that is customized to Boulder.
- Question: Have we identified 15-minute neighborhoods? Response: We have a model that calculates the accessibility score. Some areas have higher scores than others. (note: Applying the 15-minute neighborhood scores will be discussed as part of the first phase of implementation for the Pedestrian Plan.)
- Question: Is it the same as the Walkscore? Response: Similar idea but a different score.

6. DRAFT PED PLAN OUTLINE REVIEW

Amy presented the PAC members with the first draft outline of the Pedestrian Plan for their review. The members were then asked if they thought any topics/elements were missing from the plan or any other ideas to incorporate.

Input from the PAC re: what's missing/other ideas:

- On the Horizon section
 - Apps for Boulder (could also go under Innovation)
- ADA compliance spotlight
- Strategies & Actions
 - Intermodal Connectivity (mostly in TMP)
 - Include timeframes
- More pedestrian advocacy
- Under Performance Measures there needs to be a Targets section where PAC can give their input
 - Specifically state what the goal is and measurable targets to reach it
- Add Executive Summary/At a Glance section
- Include Ped Plan in prominent way in the TMP
- Add safety as a challenge

7. PROJECT UPDATE

Amy updated the group on events that have occurred since the last PAC meeting, including:

- Saturday Morning Walkabout (April 20, 2019)
- Walkabout #5: East Boulder Subcommunity Plan (April 24, 2019)

8. NEXT STEPS/UPCOMING EVENTS

Amy explained that there a lot of upcoming events that PAC members might be interested in (see list below).

Date	Event Type	
May 18	Walkabout	Recurring Saturday morning walkabout
May 30	Walkabout	Vision Zero
June	Walk and Bike Month	See walkandbikemonth.org for event details!
June 2, 9, 16, 23, 29	Walk 360	Walk 360 segments and Slow Marathon
June 11 (5:30 – 6:30p)	Accessibility Event	Accessible & SharedPaths Boulder Public Space & Symposium, Boulder Depot
June 15	Walkabout	Walk with Council – Aaron Brockett confirmed to-date
June 18	City Council Meeting	Transportation Master Plan and Pedestrian Plan

9. HOMEWORK

1. **Comment Form** – if PAC members did not turn in tonight, please fill out and send to Amy Lewin (lewina@bouldercolorado.gov) by COB Monday, May 13.

2. **ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan** – review the brochure and provide input on barriers when online tool is ready (anticipated by early June): <http://bouldercolorado.gov/transportation/ada>
3. **Walk and Bike Month** – spread the word about activities and participate!
4. **Extra Credit** – attend the City Council Meeting June 18 on the TMP and Pedestrian Plan

10. MEETING WRAP-UP

No public comments were given during this meeting.

Amy thanked everyone for attending.