

Strategic Plan TT 5.1 Team

SIDEWALK PETITION PROGRAM REVIEW AND REFORM

City Council Work Session
April 16, 2024



Raleigh



Agenda

- Sidewalk Program Overview
- Historic Sidewalk Petition Program
- Findings of Equity Review
- Policy Revision Considerations

Sidewalk Program Overview

Sources of New Sidewalks

City Capital Improvement Program

Major Streets: Ped Plan, Small
Area Plans, Street Plan

Local Streets: Sidewalk Petitions
(Currently Suspended)

Microgap List

NCDOT Projects

NCDOT's Complete
Streets Policy (New)

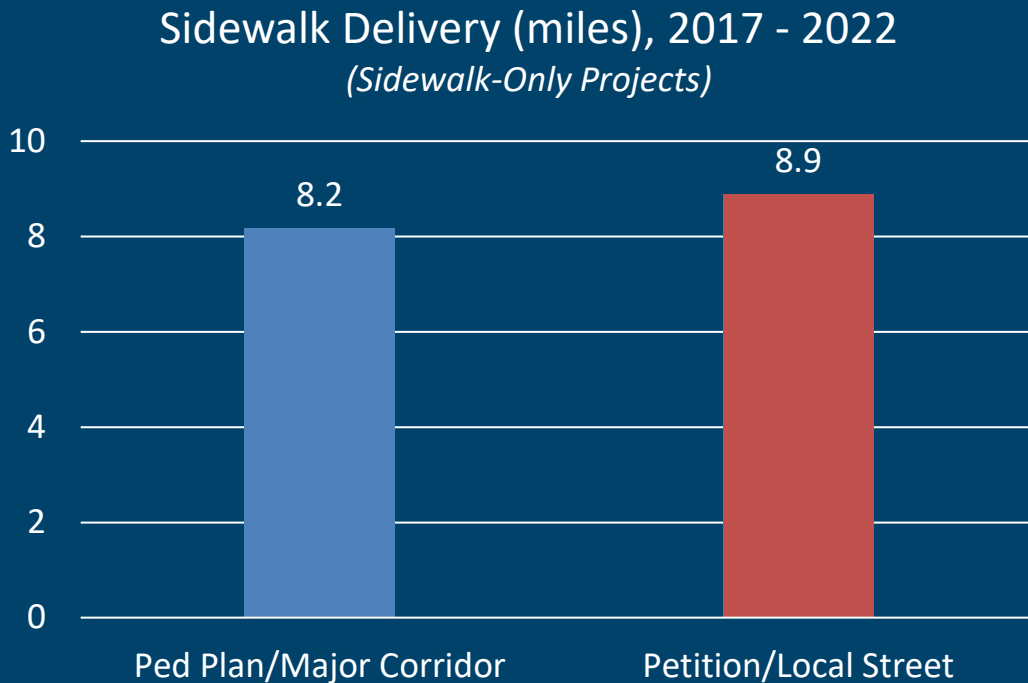
City Participation
through Agreements

Private Development

Tier 3 Site Plans

Subdivisions

Sidewalk Program Overview - Implementation



Historic Sidewalk Petition Program

- Driven by requests
- Addresses sidewalk needs on local streets
- Neighborhood support determined via balloting
- Funded through CIP
- Suspended in 2020 due to construction backlog and insufficient funding

Strategic Plan TT 5.1 Equity Review

Racial Equity Toolkit – Key Principles

- Desired Results and Outcome
- Data
- Community Engagement
- Analysis and Strategy Development
- Implementation
- Accountability and Communication

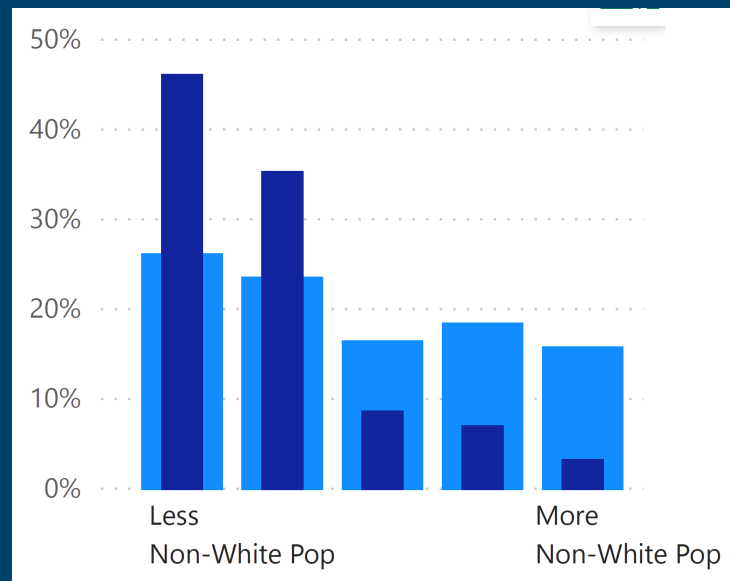
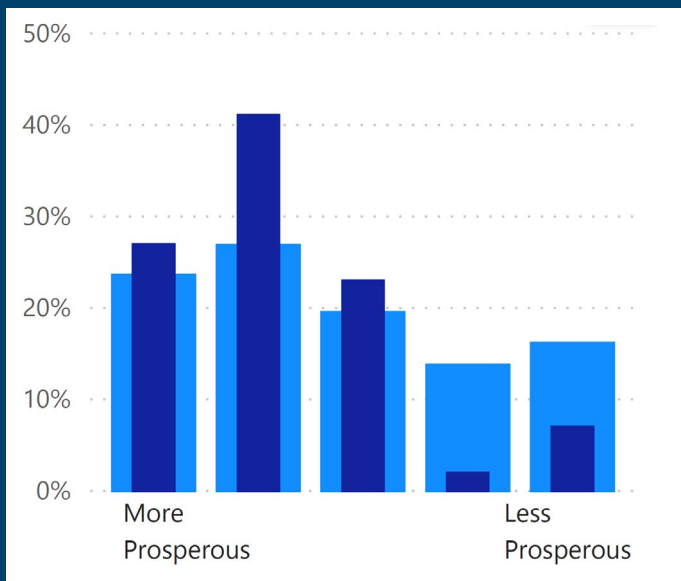
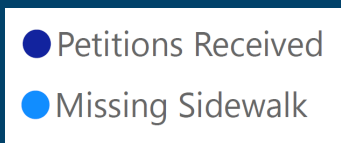
Strategic Plan TT 5.1 Equity Review

Racial Equity Lens – 5 Questions

- Who is experiencing burden?
- Who is experiencing benefit?
- What are the racial impacts?
- What are the root causes of disparities?
- What are the unintended consequences?

Data Review Findings

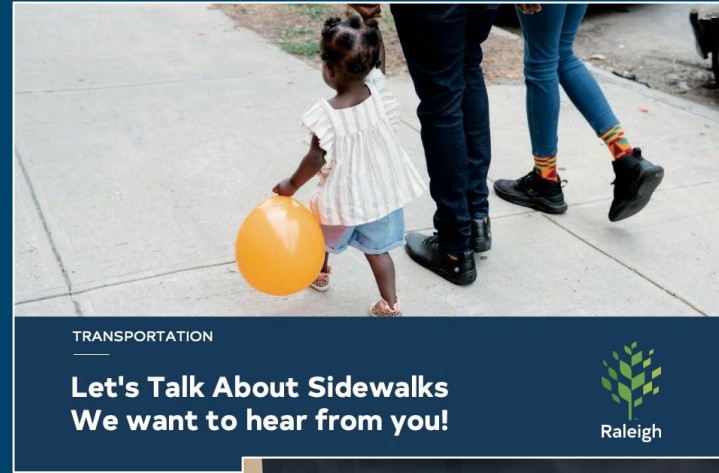
Petitions overrepresented in whiter, more prosperous areas



Engagement

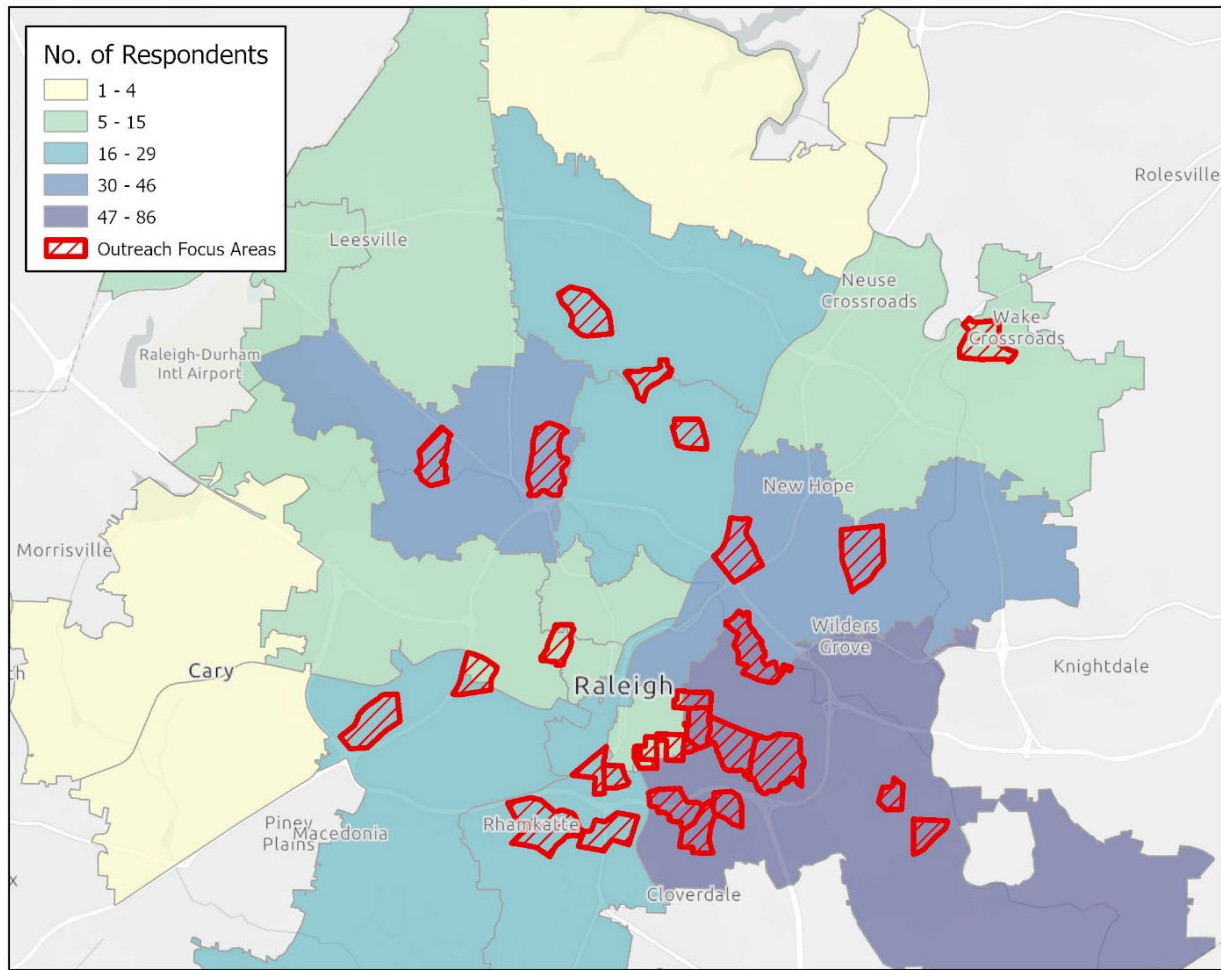
Strategy

- Community Survey
- Postcard Mailings
- Pop-Up Events
- Targeted areas underrepresented in program



Engagement

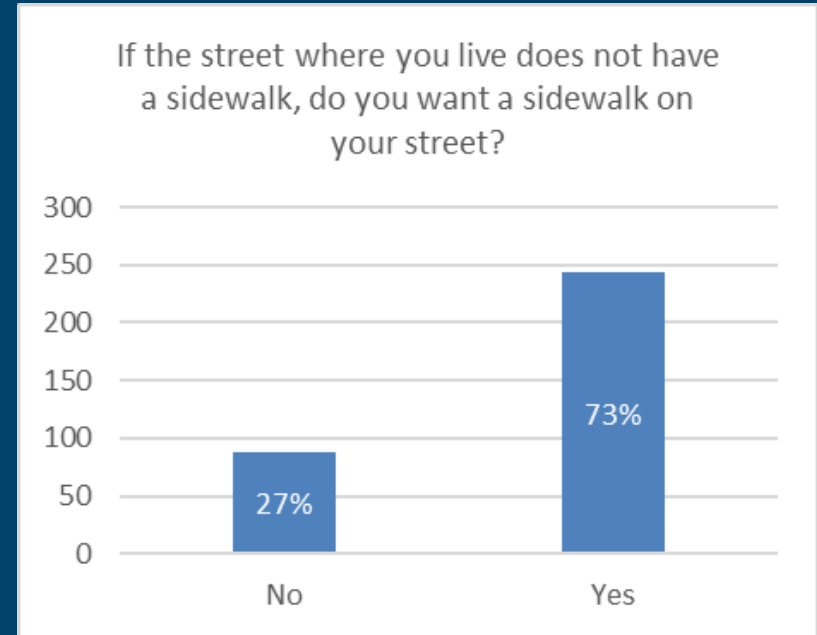
Results



Engagement

Findings

No clear correlation between sidewalk preferences and previous participation

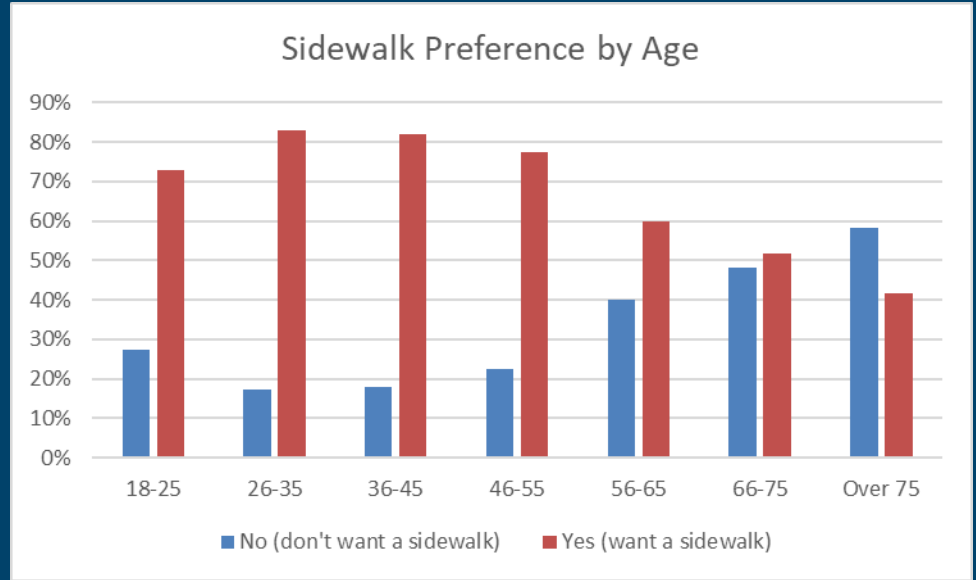


Engagement

Findings

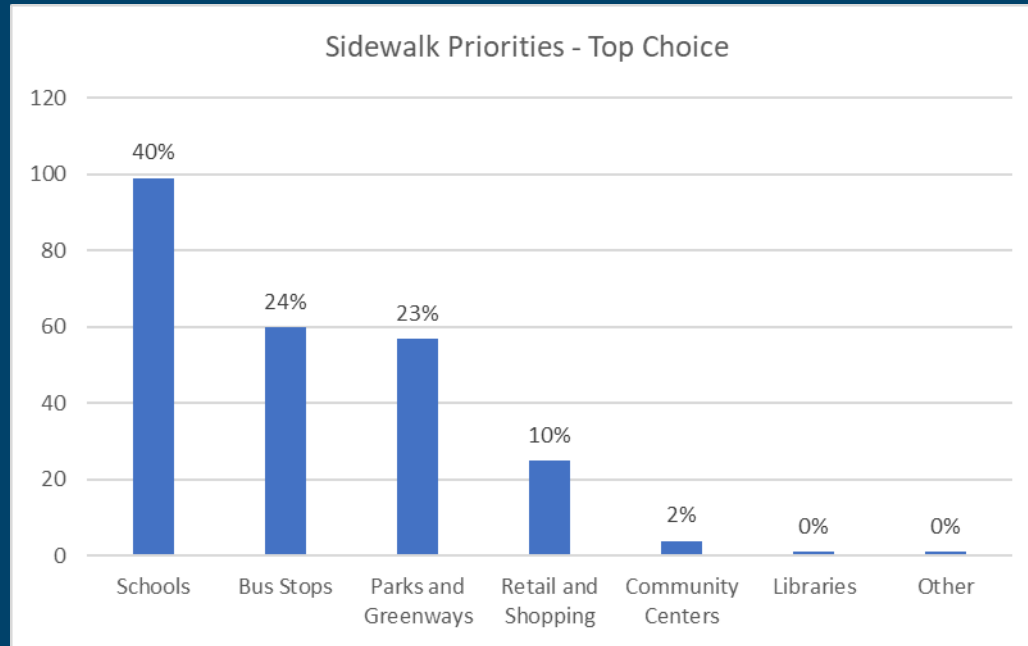
The following groups are more likely to want a sidewalk:

- Newer residents
- Residents who rent
- Younger residents



Engagement

Findings



Policy Revision

Project Identification

Current Policy:

- Resident-initiated petition
- All local streets with curb and gutter are eligible

Consideration:

- Data-driven project list
- Key connections through neighborhoods are eligible, regardless of existing curb and gutter

Policy Revision

Project Scoring

Current Policy:

- Ped Plan scoring matrix used for major street sidewalks (updated 2015)
- Petition Program scoring matrix adopted in 2019

Consideration:

- Single, streamlined scoring matrix for all sidewalk projects (equity, safety, transit access, destination access)

Policy Revision

Balloting

Current Policy:

- Complete preliminary design to identify side of the street
- Ballot property owners on both sides of the street

Consideration:

- No balloting on streets designated in Street Plan
- Ballot all residents within two blocks on undesignated streets (owners and renters)

Policy Revision

Funding Allocation

Current Policy:

- No explicit allocation between project types

Consideration:

- Use target allocation between Major and Neighborhood categories
 - 70% Major Streets
 - 30% Neighborhood Streets

Discussion

Policy Revisions

- Data-driven project identification
- Simplified and consistent project scoring
- Limit balloting to undesignated streets and expand to renters and nearby residents
- Explicit funding allocation between project types

Questions?

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