

Lucas County Active Transportation Plan

March 20, 2023

livewelltoledo.org/local-active-transportation



Agenda

- **Welcome & Introductions**
- **Active Transportation and Benefits**
- **Plan Highlights**
 - Plan Timeline, Vision, and Goals
 - Existing Conditions
 - Public Engagement
 - Proposed Projects and Programs
- **Next Steps**



What is active transportation and why is it important?



What is Active Transportation?



- **Human-powered travel**

- Walking
- Cycling
- Mobility assistance devices (such as wheelchairs and scooters)
- Skating or skateboarding

Why is Active Transportation Important?



- Improved public health
- Economic development
- Greater quality of life
- Enhanced environmental quality

Why is this Plan important to Lucas County?

- Connecting people to where they want and need to go across the county
- Equitable access for all
- Pedestrian and bicycle safety
- Ongoing engagement and involvement
- Pursuing funding



Timeline



Timeline

2017

- Participation in Ohio Action Institute

2018

- Steering Committee established
- Workshop on Active Transportation

2019

- Workshop on county-wide Active Transportation Plan, vision, and goals
- Continued Steering Committee meetings



Timeline

2020

- Assessment of plan efforts to date and identification of need for broader public engagement

2021

- Public engagement
- Draft plan completed in December 2021

2022

- Public Engagement
- Finalizing the plan
- Letters of endorsement

2023

- Plan is presented to decision makers for adoption
- Begin implementation



Vision and Goals



Vision

In 2040 Lucas County will be an accessible community where people of all ages and abilities, including children, can conveniently, comfortably, affordably, and safely walk, cycle, or use public transit as part of their everyday travel behaviors.



Goals

Health and Safety

- Encourage the development of a safe and context-appropriate bikeway and pedestrian system for all users in Lucas County including special populations.

Livability

- Create a framework for a comprehensive, community-driven, transportation network for all users, of all ages.

Equity

- Create a more accessible community for all through development of interconnected pedestrian and bicycle facilities.

Sustainability

- Reduce per capita energy consumption and promote alternative fuel resources to increase affordability and resilience of regional energy supplies.

Existing Conditions



Existing Conditions

- **Lucas County ranks:**

- In the bottom 25% of counties for overall health outcomes
- Higher than other counties with large cities for severe injury and fatal pedestrian crashes
- In the top five for pedestrian and bicycle crashes

- **Reviewed:**

- Trail network
- Active transportation education and encouragement programs

Travel Mode	Fatal Crashes, 2009-2018	Serious Injury Crashes, 2009-2018
Pedestrian- involved crashes	61	317
Bicyclist-involved crashes	12	120

Source: Pedestrian Fact Sheet, Ohio Strategic Highway Safety Plan.

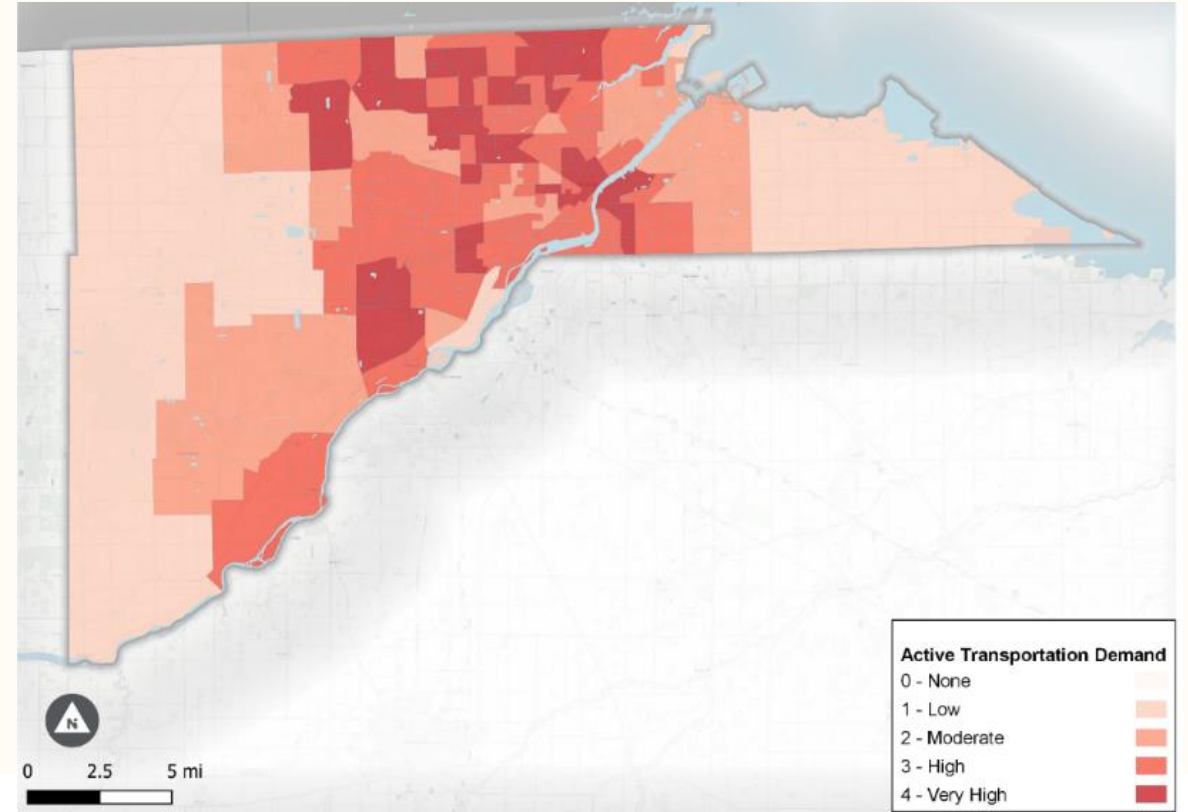
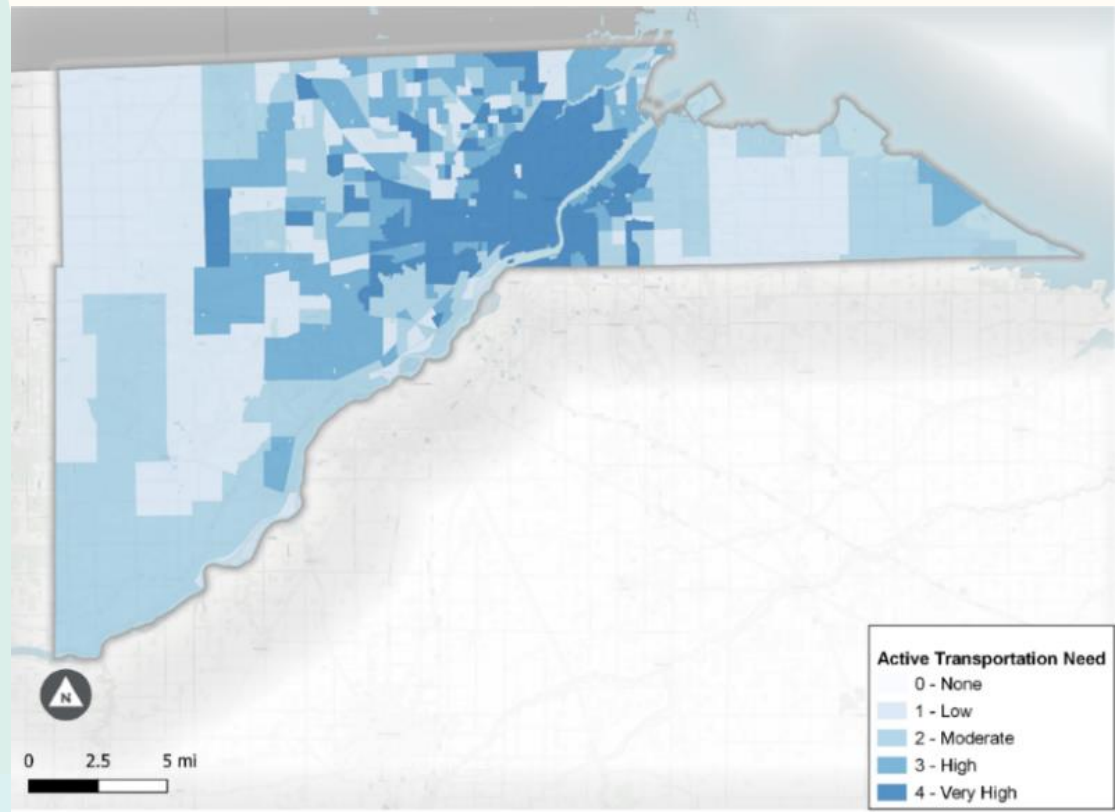
<https://www.transportation.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/odot/programs/highway+safety/dashboard-tests/04-strategic-highway-safety-plan-dashboards>

Source: Bicycle Fact Sheet, Ohio Strategic Highway Safety Plan.

<https://app.powerbigov.us/view?r=eyJrIjozM2QyZDI5NGEtNjQ0Ny00NzcyLWFkZGUtZTllZTRiNGRiMDNkliwidCI6IjUwZjhmY2M0LTk0ZDgtNGYwNy00NGViLTM2ZWQ1N2M3YzhhMjU9>



Need and Demand Maps

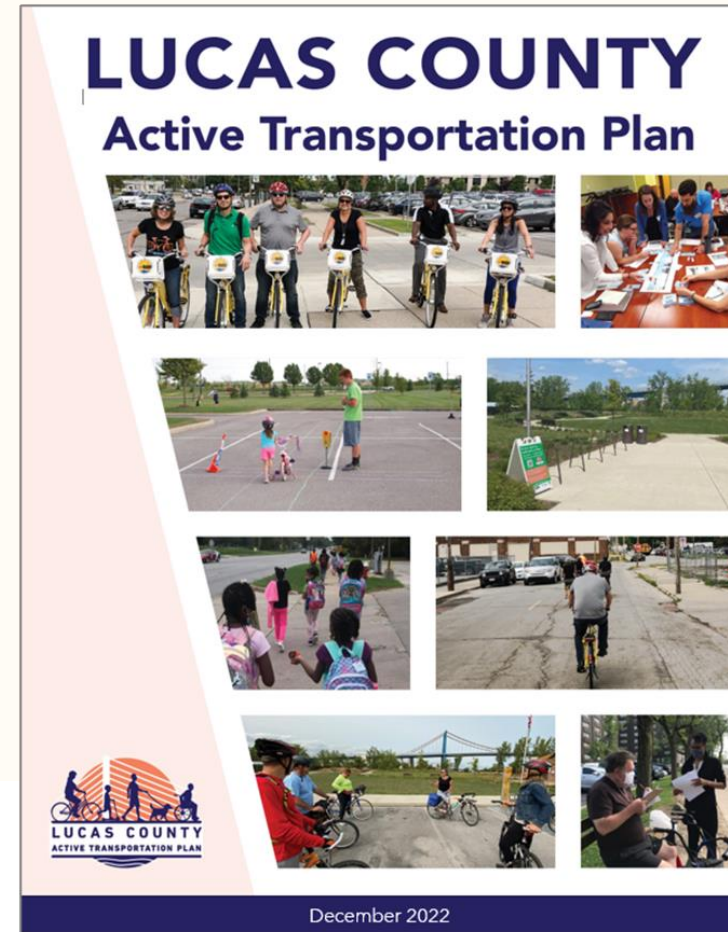


Engagement



Active Transportation Steering Committee

- Monthly Meetings
- Representatives from local jurisdictions including Toledo



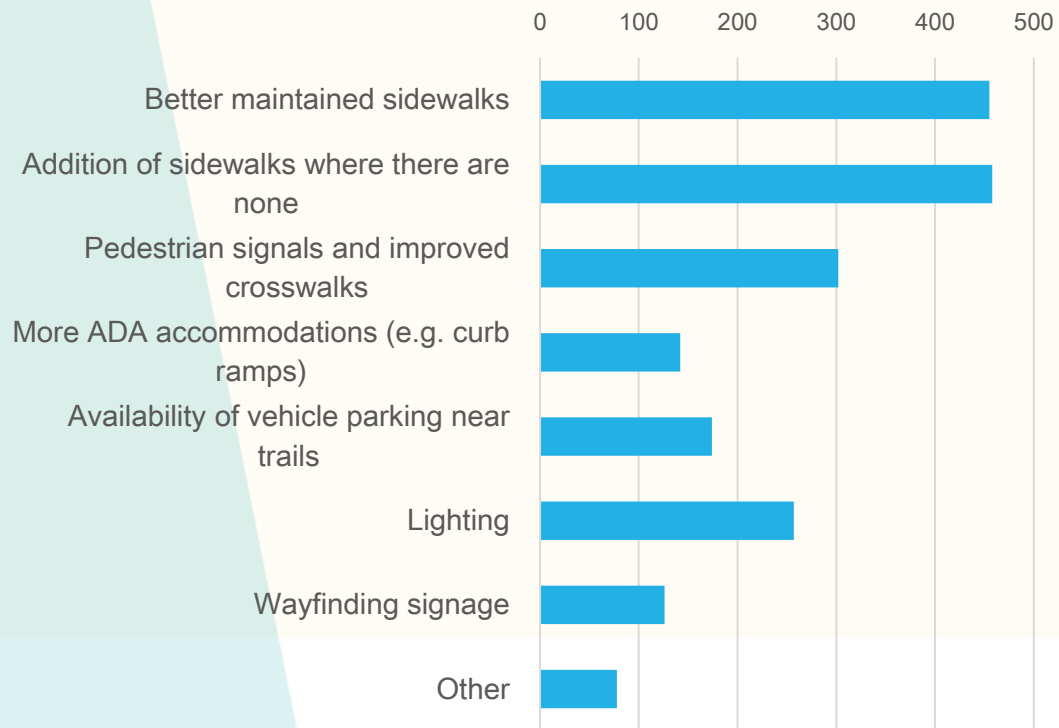
Public Surveys

- Online and Paper Surveys
- Survey Questions:
 - Demographics
 - How often respondents walk or bike
 - Why they walk or bike
 - How to improve walking and biking in Lucas County

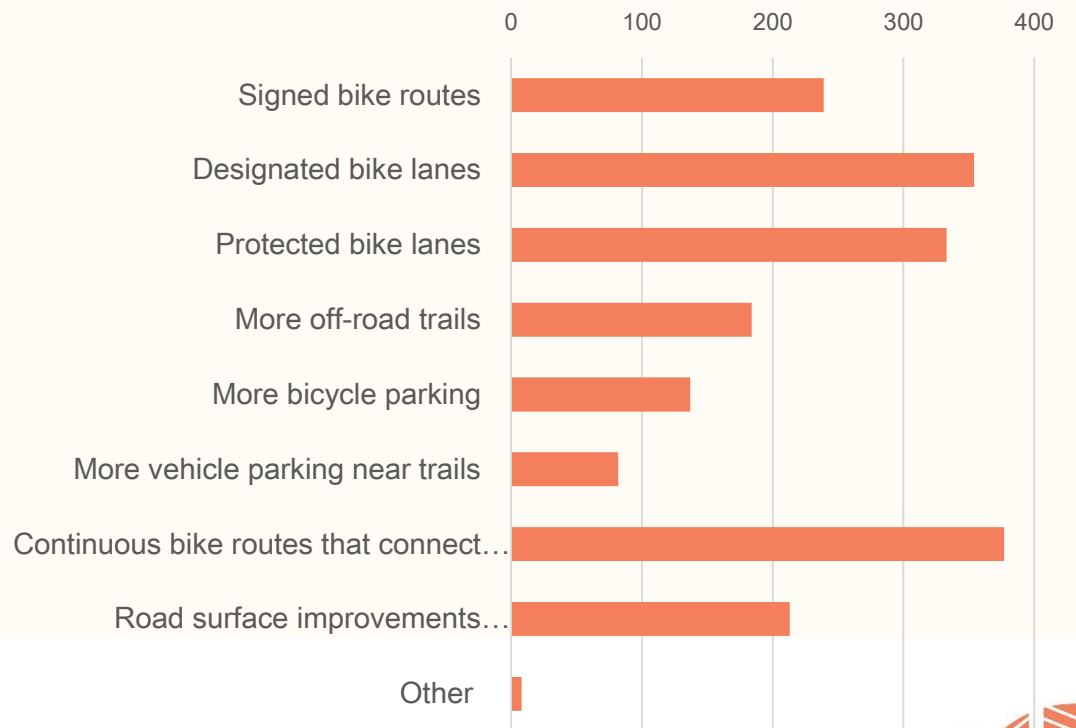


Public Surveys

What would improve walking?



What would improve bicycling?



Interactive Mapping Tool



How to use the map:

- 1 **Draw** points and lines by clicking on "add route" or "add point" below.
- 2 **Describe** the point or route in the pop-up window.
- 3 **Agree/disagree** with comments by clicking on other's points or lines.

For detailed instructions, see "About & Help" below.

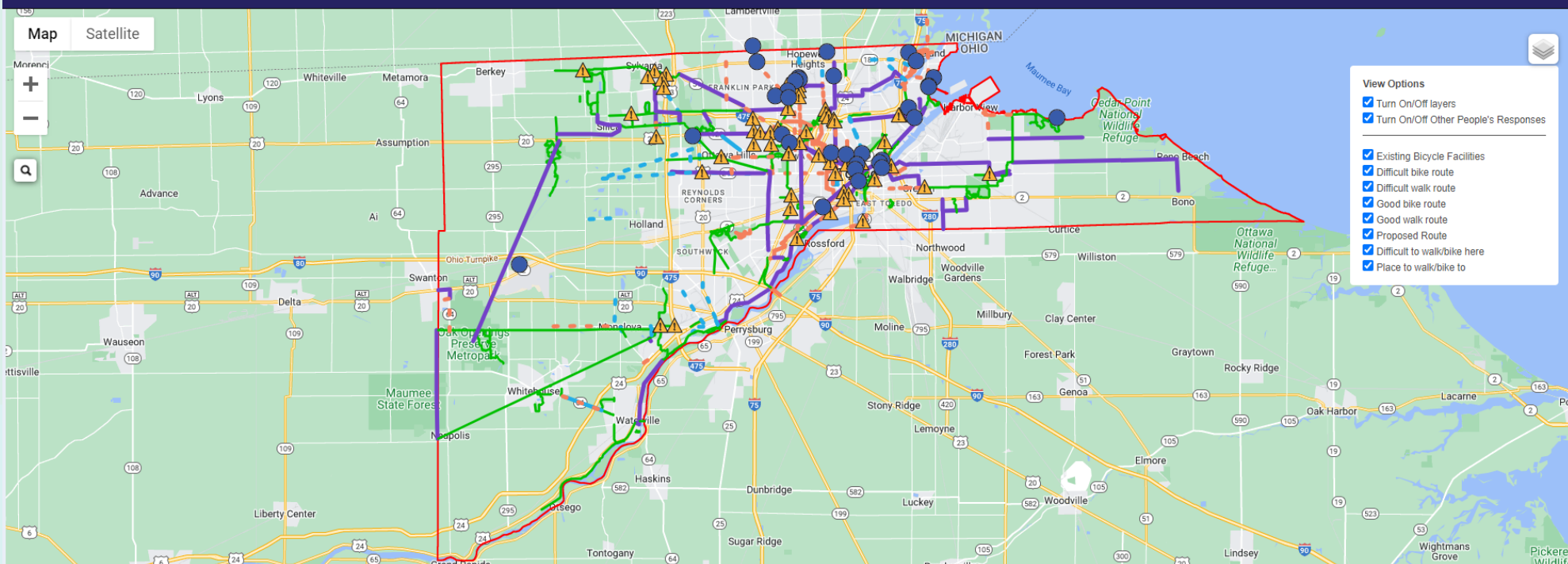
Add:

- Good walk route
- Difficult walk route
- Good bike route
- Difficult bike route
- Proposed route
- It's hard to walk/bike here
- Places to walk/bike to

Existing:

- Existing Bike Facilities
- Click on the "layers" icon to toggle others' feedback on and off

Lucas County Active Transportation Plan Welcome



In-person Tabling Events



- **Locations**
 - Farmer's Market
 - TARTA Transit Center
 - Safe Kids Day
- **Community members filled out surveys or used the poster map to pinpoint areas where they have trouble walking or bicycling**

Proposed Projects and Programs



Proposed Bicycle Facilities

47 miles

Shared Use Paths



5 miles

Buffered or
Separated
Bicycle Lanes

21 miles

Bicycle Lanes



11 miles

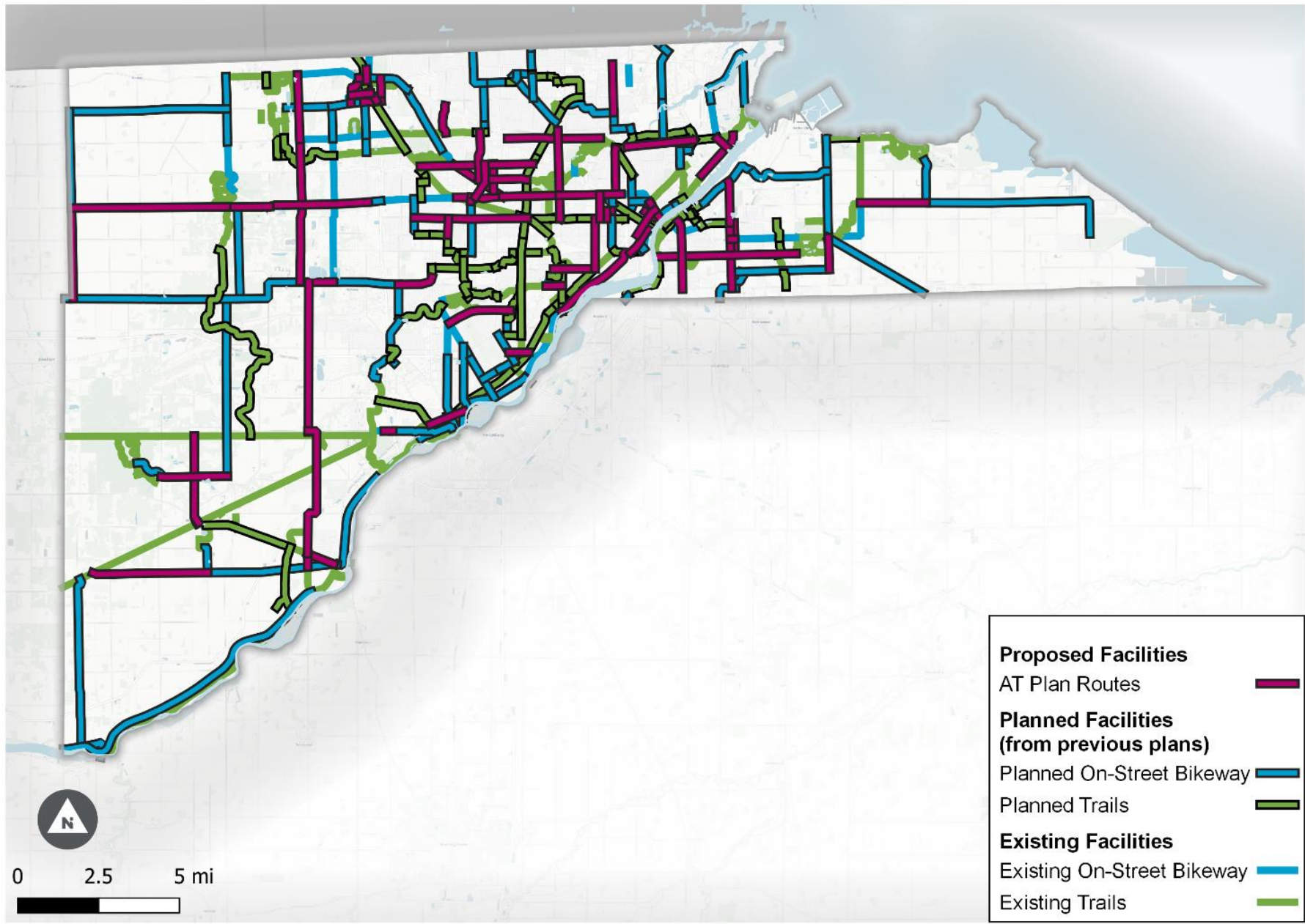
Bicycle
Boulevards

20 miles

Wide Shoulders



Proposed Bike Network



Safe Systems Approach

- Holistic approach to eliminate fatal and serious injuries for all road users.
- The Need and Demand maps in Chapter 2 can inform where to make pedestrian infrastructure investments.



Audible Pedestrian Signals from Pedestrian Toolkit

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY TOOLKIT

Sidewalks



Sidewalks are pedestrian paths. Sidewalks should be 5+ feet wide and be connected to provide continuous routes to destinations.

High Visibility Crosswalk



High-visibility crosswalks use parallel markings that motorists see more easily compared to traditional crosswalk markings.

Raised Crosswalk



A raised crosswalk is a crosswalk on top of a speed hump. They improve visibility and calm traffic.

Pedestrian-Scale Lighting



Lighting illuminates crossings and pathways to improve comfort and safety for people walking in low light hours.

Pedestrian Toolkit

Program Recommendations

- A variety of programs and policies can help establish a culture of walking and cycling at all levels.
- Recommendations consist of education opportunities, policy implementations, community support, and data analysis and collection.



Bike fix-it/helmet fitting event at Greenwood Elementary

Program Recommendations

Category	Program Name	Program Lead	How does this program support active transportation?
Education	Establish a program that teaches bicycling skills in all elementary schools	Safe Routes to School, School Districts, Safe Kids Greater Toledo	Teaching students to ride a bicycle and the rules of the road creates a generation that is more confident in bicycling for recreation and transportation. This program could be modeled off a similar program implemented in Washington, DC called Biking in the Park.
Policy	Adopt a county-wide Safe System approach to road safety.	County Commissioners, Public Works and Transportation Department Leadership, City and County Engineers	A Safe System Approach assumes shared responsibility for road safety and assesses risk factors to eliminate serious and fatal crashes. Installing or improving pedestrian and bicyclist facilities based on a Safe System approach will help to address safety at locations with a high risk for crashes, whether or not those locations have a history of crashes. The Safe System approach is central to Vision Zero. The City of Toledo signed a Vision Zero commitment in 2021 and is pursuing a Vision Zero Action Plan. Similar strategies can be applied elsewhere in the county to create safer places to walk and bike and enable more people to use active transportation.
Community Support	Increase publicity and events for Bike Month	TMACOG, Metroparks, YMCA, Health Department, Safe Kids Greater Toledo, City of Toledo, Worksites	Bike to Work Day and Bike Month are annual campaigns, usually held in May, to encourage people to bicycle to work and for other trips. These campaigns often include highly publicized rides with elected officials, stations with information about bicycle commuting and giveaways. Bicycle repair stations, an annual bicycle ride or race, educational activities, and virtual communications can bolster the County's existing Bicycle Month activities.
Data	Perform a county-wide risk analysis to identify roadways and intersections in need of pedestrian safety improvements.	TMACOG, ODOT	Building on the policy recommendation to adopt a Safe System approach, the risk analysis can identify locations for improvements before crashes occur, saving lives and making streets and intersections safer for walking and bicycling.

Examples from the Plan for each category

Next Steps



Next Steps

- **Adoption**
 - 18 letters of endorsement
- **Implementation**



Questions



Thank you!

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