

Transportation & Planning Committee
Monday, January 12, 2015
3:30 – 4:30 p.m.
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center
Room 280

Committee Members: Vi Lyles, Chair
David Howard, Vice Chair
Patsy Kinsey
Greg Phipps
Kenny Smith

Staff Resource: Debra Campbell, City Manager's Office

AGENDA

I. University City Area Plan –20 minutes

Resources: Amanda Vari and Kathy Cornett, Planning

The draft University City Area Plan includes three transit station area plans along the Blue Line Extension alignment and surrounding areas. Staff will provide an overview of the planning process, introduce the Plan, describe new techniques used to improve policy guidance for future development and discuss the schedule for Council review and adoption of the Plan.

Action: For information only

Link to the Project website: <http://UCAP.charlotteplanning.org>

II. Walkability Scan and Charlotte WALKS – 30 minutes

Resource: Scott Curry, Transportation

Staff will update the Committee on The Charlotte WALKS effort. The Charlotte Walks initiative will coordinate the City's various efforts related to pedestrian safety and walkability including the walkability scan, and offer recommendations for actions the City can take to make Charlotte a more walkable community.

Action: For information only

Attachment: 1. Charlotte WALKS: Taking the Next Steps.pdf

III. 2015 Committee Meeting Schedule and Future Topics – 10 minutes

Resource: Debra Campbell, City Manager's Office

Review and adopt the proposed 2015 meeting schedule, and review upcoming agenda items.

Actions: Adopt the proposed 2015 Committee meeting schedule and discuss topics to be presented at future Committee meetings.

Attachment: 2. 2015 Proposed Committee Meeting Schedule.doc

- Permitting and Inspection Process Review
- Zoning Ordinance Update
- Auto Oriented Uses
- Parking near Colleges and Universities
- Prosperity Hucks Area Plan
- University City Area Plan
- Transit Oriented Development Review
- Focus Area Plan Review

Next Scheduled Meeting: January 22 at 12:00 p.m.



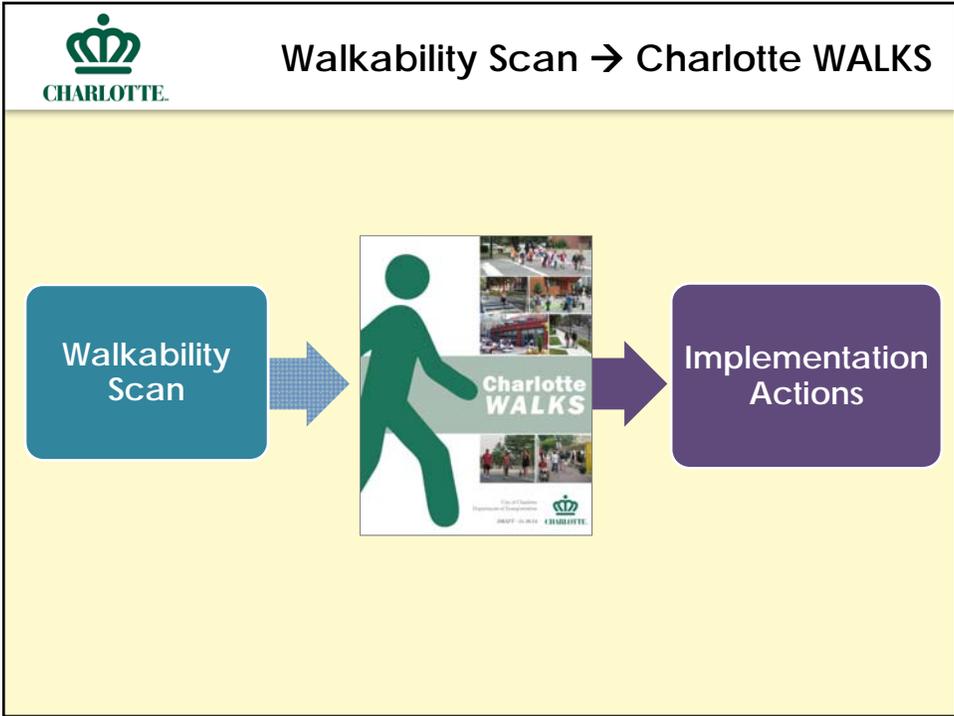
Charlotte WALKS:

Taking the Next Steps

CDOT Pedestrian Program | January 12, 2015



We are all pedestrians



This slide features the Charlotte logo and the title 'Walkability Scan → Charlotte WALKS' at the top. The left side has a yellow background with the text 'Walkability Scan' in green and a green silhouette of a woman holding a child's hand. The right side has a dark blue background with a list of criteria:

- USEFUL**
 1. Variety of destinations & land uses
 2. Minimal walking distance
 3. Clear & obvious access to buildings
- SAFE**
 4. Separation from traffic
 5. Safe & convenient crossings
 6. Sense of security
- INVITING**
 7. Space to walk
 8. Visual interest & activity
 9. Screening from the elements




CHARLOTTE.

- *Steps Toward a More Walkable Charlotte*




CHARLOTTE.

- Steps Toward a More Walkable Charlotte
- *Charlotte's Ongoing Challenges*




CHARLOTTE.

- Steps Toward a More Walkable Charlotte
- Charlotte's Ongoing Challenge
- *Charlotte WALKS Strategy*




CHARLOTTE.

- Steps Toward a More Walkable Charlotte
- Charlotte's Ongoing Challenge
- Charlotte WALKS Strategy
- *Let's Take a Walk*





- Steps Toward a More Walkable Charlotte
- Charlotte's Ongoing Challenge
- Charlotte WALKS Strategy
- Let's Take a Walk
- *Preliminary Recommendations*

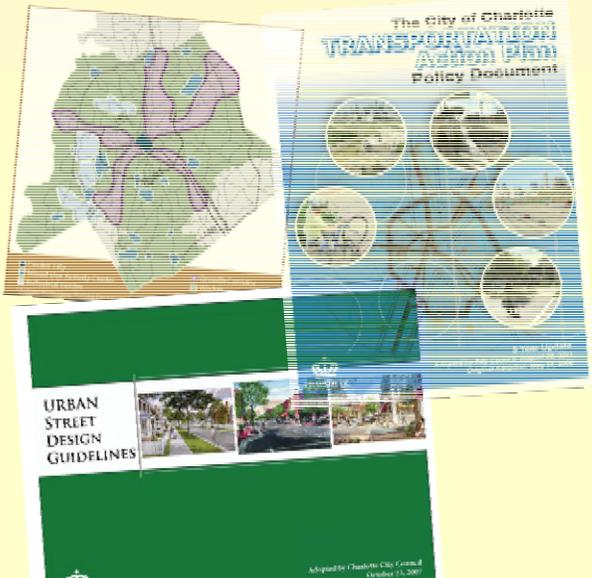


Steps Toward a More Walkable Charlotte

 **Steps Toward a More Walkable Charlotte**

Complete Streets Policies

- Centers, Corridors, and Wedges Growth Framework
- Transportation Action Plan
- Urban Street Design Guidelines
- Capital Investments
- Private Sector Improvements



 **Steps Toward a More Walkable Charlotte**

Better pedestrian environments through capital projects



Before **After**

 Steps Toward a More Walkable Charlotte

Better pedestrian environments through private development



Before After

 Steps Toward a More Walkable Charlotte



We're supporting more transportation choices than we ever have before.



Steps Toward a More Walkable Charlotte



City capital programs
Over 200 miles of new
sidewalks since 2002



Charlotte's Ongoing Challenges



Charlotte's Ongoing Challenges

What do Charlotteans think about walkability?

(National Citizen Survey, 2014.)

- 24% rate the ease of walking as "Poor."
- Peer City Comparison – Charlotte rated lower in
 - Ease of walkability
 - Frequency of walking or biking, instead of driving



Charlotte's Ongoing Challenges

Sustainability Report Card

(Sustain Charlotte, 2014.)

Transportation Evaluation

- Local Trend Grade: B



*Charlotte Department of Transportation
2014 Community Sustainability Award Winner: Transportation*

*We've come a long way,
but we can still do more.*



Charlotte's Ongoing Challenges

Why is Charlotte still such a challenging place for pedestrians?

1950 to 2000

TRANSPORTATION POLICY

Move as many cars as we can as fast as we can.

POPULATION

More than quadrupled from 134,000 to 570,000

AREA

+213 square miles

Growth in Charlotte Following WWII

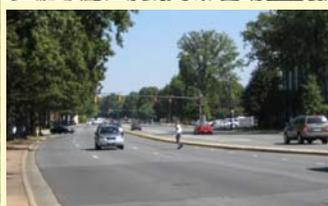


We forgot about walkability.



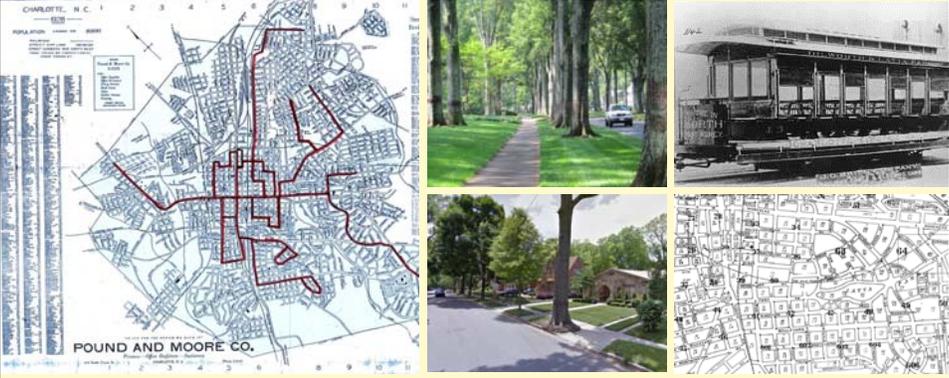
Charlotte's Ongoing Challenges

Our development legacy...



 **Charlotte's Ongoing Challenges**

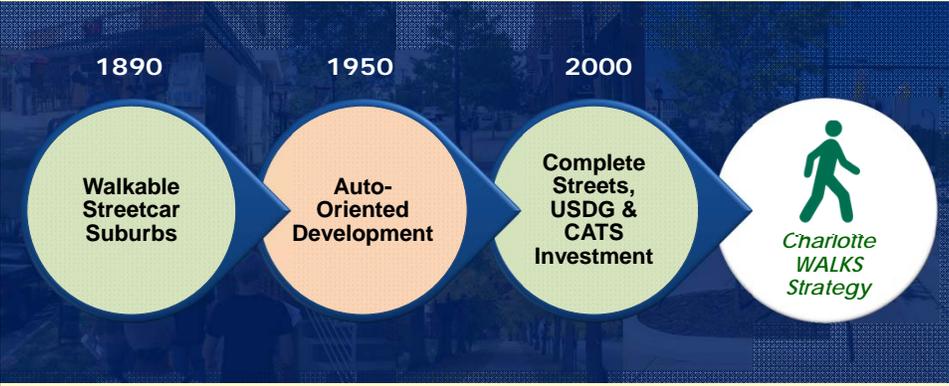
Our development legacy...



...wasn't always like that.

 **Charlotte's Ongoing Challenges**

Our development legacy...



...is getting better.





Charlotte WALKS Strategy



Charlotte WALKS Strategy

It's about more than sidewalks... It's about creating GREAT PLACES



 **Charlotte**

Charlotte WALKS Strategy

What is Walkability?



- USEFUL**
 1. Variety of destinations & land uses
 2. Minimal walking distance
 3. Clear & obvious access to buildings
- SAFE**
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 **Charlotte**

Charlotte WALKS Strategy

✓ **USEFUL**
SAFE
INVITING

Walkability



1 out of 3 isn't good enough



 **Charlotte WALKS Strategy**

USEFUL
✓ **SAFE**
✓ **INVITING**

Walkability



2 out of 3 isn't good enough



 **Charlotte WALKS Strategy**

✓ **USEFUL**
✓ **SAFE**
✓ **INVITING**

Walkability

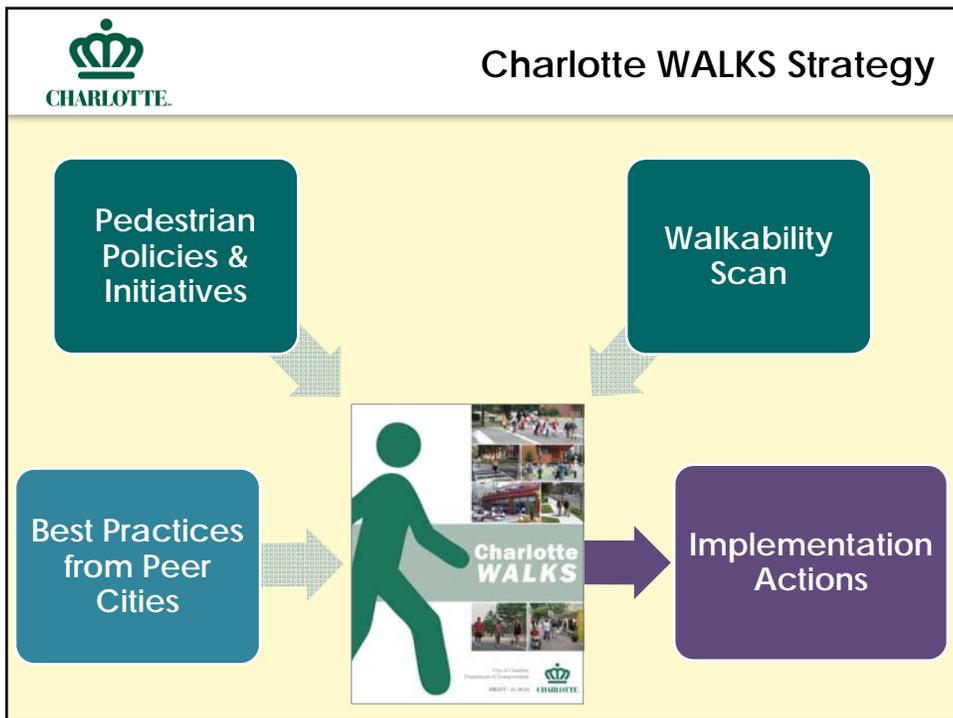




 **Charlotte WALKS Strategy**

- ✓ USEFUL
- ✓ SAFE
- ✓ INVITING

Walkability



 CHARLOTTE.

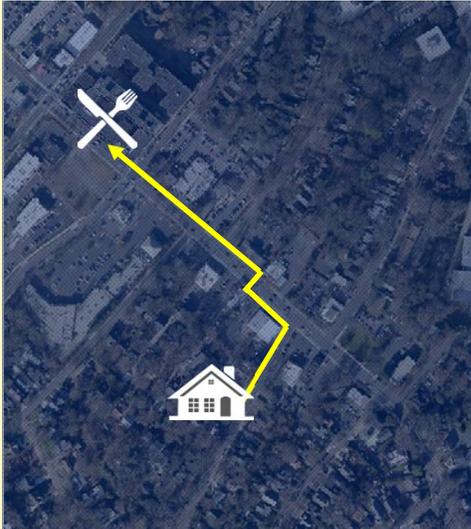


Let's Take a Walk

 CHARLOTTE.

Let's Take a Walk

Walk 1 – Mary **Walk 2 – Samantha**



 **Let's Take a Walk**

Walk 1 – Mary **Walk 2 – Samantha**



 **Let's Take a Walk**

Walk 1 – Mary **Walk 2 – Samantha**



 **Let's Take a Walk**

Walk 1 – Mary **Walk 2 – Samantha**



 **Preliminary Recommendations**



 **Preliminary Recommendations**

1. Safer and more frequent pedestrian crossings
2. Replace back-of-curb sidewalks along busy streets (public & private sector)
3. Review regulations for sidewalk construction in new development







Next Step

- Introduce Charlotte WALKS Strategy at future Council meeting



Questions?



*****DRAFT*****

Transportation & Planning Committee 2015 Meeting Schedule

2nd Monday of each month – 3:30 pm
4th Thursday of each month – 12:00 pm
Room 280
(unless otherwise noted)

January 12 at 3:30
January 22 at 12:00

February 9 at 3:30
February 26 at 1:00
(meeting time changed from 12:00 to 1:00)

March 26 at 12:00
(one meeting/2nd Monday conflicts with NLC Conference)

April 13 at 3:30
April 23 at 12:00

May 11 at 3:30
May 28 at 12:00

June 8 at 3:30
(one meeting/4th Thursday conflicts with Chamber Inter City Visit)

July 13 at 3:30
(one meeting / summer schedule)

August 3 at 3:30
(one meeting / summer schedule)

September 14 at 3:30
September 24 at 12:00

October 22 at 12:00
(one meeting/2nd Monday conflicts with NCLM Conference)

November 9 at 3:30
(one meeting/Thanksgiving holiday)

***No meeting in December pending new Committee assignments.**