

Asheville's Neighborhood Sidewalk Policy

Grocery Stores as Destinations

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Barb Mee, AICP
Pedestrian & Bicycle
Coordinator



A Neighborhood Sidewalk Policy?

What are Neighborhood Sidewalks?

- In Asheville, they are sidewalks on collector or local streets that serve residentially-zoned properties

Why a Policy Just for Them?

- Active transportation opportunities are important to residents
- Couldn't compete against larger grant-eligible projects
- Council established a separate budget
- When you have to make choices, plans and policies make your work easier and more effective

Development

A committee of representatives from the city's Multimodal Transportation Commission and Neighborhood Advisory Committee guided policy development

- Much analysis on GIS platform
- Two levels of consideration, theoretical and practical
- Included community input
- Reflects community values

Collecting the Data

- Use what you have or what others produce
 - US Census Bureau has a wealth of data
 - Transportation authority
 - Taxing authority
 - Zoning authority
 - Open Data Sites, Code for _____
- Make it only if you can and will maintain it. For us, it was
 - Grocery stores - Yes
 - Medical care - No

Priorities as Expressed by Policy

- Residential density, expressed by zoning
- Safety, expressed by pedestrian crashes and traffic volume
- Equity, expressed as prevalence of low-income households and zero-vehicle households
- Proximity to:
 - Transit stops
 - City parks and recreation centers
 - Libraries
 - Schools
 - Major grocery stores

At the Intersection of Local Values

- Access to healthy food is a community concern
 - Public health community teaches us health in all policies
 - Multimodal, complete streets approach to transportation
 - Neighborhoods are valued
 - Active transportation is valued
 - Equity is valued
 - Foodie Community with a heart
 - Food policy council
 - Edible garden, edible mile

Contact:

Barb Mee, AICP
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City of Asheville
Transportation Dept.

bmee@ashevillenc.gov,
(828) 232-4540

www.ashevillenc.gov

