

NEAR EASTSIDE QUALITY OF LIFE PLAN

PLACEMAKING AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Lead Agency: Near East Area Renewal

Our Vision: The near Eastside is a place that creates, restores, and preserves a connected and accessible community through a resilient and sustainable built and natural environment

Priority #1: Create stronger commercial corridor connectivity to create a connected and accessible community	
Action 1.1:	Build stronger and safer connections within and to commercial corridors such as 10 th Street, Washington Street, New York Street, and Michigan Street
Performance Measures:	Number of identified north/south neighborhood connections between these corridors for bicycles and pedestrians
	Identify and install wayfinding signage on less traveled, neighborhood streets to facilitate pedestrian and bike connectivity
	Number of modernized crosswalks which gives equitable access to all these areas
	Extend protected bike lanes on either New York Street or Michigan Street (or both) to improve connectivity between downtown and out towards Irvington
Implementation Partner:	DPW
Supporting Partner/s:	Neighborhood Associations, CICF, DMD, BNS, Mayor's Bike Council
Action 1.2:	Advocate for multi-modal transit amenities and space for placemaking activities on commercial corridors such as 10 th , Washington, New York, Michigan, etc. in concert with businesses and community spaces present there
Performance Measures:	Number of multi-modal transit amenities present in new or rehabbed developments on commercial corridors
	Install bike maintenance stations at local parks and along bike trails and paths
	Number of spaces for significant community-led placemaking activities or spaces present in or around new or rehabbed developments on commercial corridors
	Programming identified for semi-permanent placemaking activities

Implementation Partner:	NEAR
Supporting Partner/s:	DPW, Arts Council of Indianapolis, IndyGo, DMD/City Planning, Big Car, State Dept. of Health (Tactical Urbanism Grant), Free Wheelin', NEBA, NESCO

Action 1.3:	Encourage neighborhoods to employ walk audits as a strategy to improve the safety of pedestrians in the neighborhood
Performance Measures:	Number of neighborhoods that complete a walk audit and follow up with findings and solutions from the walk audit
	Implement findings from the walk audit and share solutions within neighborhoods and with City leadership
Implementation Partner:	Health By Design
Supporting Partner/s:	DPW, Neighborhood Associations, Marion County Public Health Department, Community Health Network

Priority #2: Prioritize pedestrian-centered development to improve access to daily needs for all individuals

Action 2.1:	Increase accessibility to corridors in the form of Mobility Hubs [a hyper-local, centralized location for transportation/other services to facilitate easier access around the Near Eastside and the City]
Performance Measures:	Locate current, natural "mobility hubs" in the community as defined above
	Identify number of singular connections to the mobility hubs – by transit, car share, ride share, bike share, scooter service, on-demand bus service, etc.
	Encourage development of creative placemaking/greenspace with mobility hubs where available
	Number of innovative and accessible new connections to mobility hubs
Implementation Partner:	IndyGo
Supporting Partner/s:	DPW, DMD, JBNC, ECDC, Pacers Bikeshare, MPO, Shared Use Mobility Network

Action 2.2:	Determine what pedestrian-centered access to transit (and other forms of transportation) looks like in different corridors present on the near Eastside
Performance Measures:	Perform audits of pedestrian amenities connected to transit stops on the near Eastside

	Number of pedestrian access amenities included in the development of new transit stops or mobility hubs
	Collaborate with the Safety Community Action Team to improve lighting, clean streets and sidewalks, and clean up CSX railroad track areas,
Implementation Partner:	DPW/DMD
Supporting Partner/s:	IndyGo, Health by Design, Mayor's Bike Council, NEAR, IPL

Action 2.3:	Ensure all corridors are safe for residents, including individuals with ADA requirements
Performance Measures:	Number of ADA accessible sidewalks dispersed equitably on the near Eastside
	Number of crosswalks and modernized crosswalks with HAWK signals or other increased accessibility technology
	Collaborate with other accessibility advocates for a list of best practices when designing new infrastructure connection pieces - sidewalks, trails, parks, etc.
Implementation Partner:	IndyGo
Supporting Partner/s:	IndyGo Mobility Access Committee, DMD, Disabled Affairs Department, NSILC, Accessibility, AARP

Action 2.4:	Prioritize nodal development where there is a 10-minute walk to goods and services through a variety of transportation means (public transit, car-sharing, ride-sharing, bicycles, scooters, walking, etc.)
Performance Measures:	Creation of a near Eastside Master Plan that connects near Eastside assets, major transit corridors, trails and parks
	Prioritize new/rehabbed developments which incorporate improved and equitable accessibility solutions
	Prioritize the number of streets which become complete streets
	Increase the number of bike racks or other bike storage options near daily need destinations (i.e. Linwood Kroger)
	Install directional signage in large parking lots to make sure people are safe if they are taking other modes of transit to these places
Implementation Partner:	NEAR
Supporting Partner/s:	DPW, IndyGo, Pacers Bikeshare, DMD, NEBA, Marion County Public Health Department, LISC, Indy Parks

Action 2.5:	Inventory and determine need/desire for potential temporary pedestrian-only zones (such as blocks, parking spaces, or other auto-oriented areas which are shut off to traffic for a short amount of time to program the space)
Performance Measures:	Host community input session on areas to explore the possibilities
	Conduct traffic counts or assessments in determined key areas
Implementation Partner:	Big Car
Supporting Partner/s:	Harrison Center, DPW, IHCDA, BNS, MPO

Priority #3: Maintain and improve transit stop infrastructure to create a connected and accessible community

Action 3.1:	Consider and implement environmental best practices when developing transit stop infrastructure
Performance Measures:	Form a taskforce to identify best practices for transit stop infrastructure from an environmental lens
	Maintain trash receptacles at transit stops – empty more often or increase number of receptacles
Implementation Partner:	IndyGo
Supporting Partner/s:	City of Indianapolis Office of Sustainability, Arts Council of Indianapolis, DPW, Neighborhood Associations, NEBA

Action 3.2:	Prioritize the safety of those who utilize transit
Performance Measures:	Reduced number of pedestrian crashes along key transit corridors
	Increased number of crosswalk/HAWK signals located close to transit stops to allow for safe crossings
	Increased number, efficiency, and reliability of lighting around transit stops
Implementation Partner:	DPW
Supporting Partner/s:	Health By Design, Neighborhood Associations, IndyGo, IPL

Action 3.3:	Encourage the development of placemaking at transit stops
Performance Measures:	Increased number of local art pieces installed on or around the transit stops

	Increase the number of neighborhoods/businesses who adopt a stop as an entrance to a business district/neighborhood/cultural district/etc.
	Produce expanded signage offerings i.e. ones which show distances to other destinations from stops
Implementation Partner:	Arts Council of Indianapolis
Supporting Partner/s:	IndyGo, Big Car, Harrison Center, ISDH, IHCD, Neighborhood Associations, NEBA

Priority #4: Maintain infrastructure to preserve a connected and accessible community

Action 4.1:	Address the capacity, maintenance, and sustainability of infrastructure (alleys, sidewalks, roads, curbs, etc.) that support the development of mixed use and diverse businesses on the near Eastside
Performance Measures:	Perform an audit by neighborhood (separated by streets) of the current sustainable assets related to public infrastructure
	Systematically integrate climate change projections into future capital projects, ensuring new infrastructure can withstand current and projected impacts
	Increase street sweeping operations throughout the county to improve stormwater drainage
	Determine strategies to educate and inform neighbors on what they can do to maintain and improve infrastructure in their neighborhood
Implementation Partner:	DPW
Supporting Partner/s:	Office of Sustainability, IndyGo, NEAR, Neighborhood Associations, NEBA

Action 4.2:	Address the capacity, maintenance, and sustainability of utility infrastructure to serve all residents - water, sewer, gas, lighting
Performance Measures:	Determine strategies to educate and inform neighbors on what they can do to maintain and improve infrastructure in their neighborhood
	Develop and deploy a more robust stormwater and water quality education program, including addressing chemicals in landscaping, by 2025
	Increase green spaces to improve stormwater infiltration and ensure appropriate ongoing maintenance by 2025

Implementation Partner:	DPW
Supporting Partner/s:	Citizen’s Energy, IPL, Office of Sustainability, ROW, Englewood CDC, Jefferson Electric, Marion County Soil and Water

Priority #5: Improve access to natural spaces for people of all abilities

Action 5.1:	Increase efforts to make the near Eastside a walkable, connected and vibrant community with a focus on connected pocket parks and aesthetic streetscape improvements that include lighting, multi-model infrastructure and wayfinding
Performance Measures:	Audit greenspace accessibility within each neighborhood
	Create a heat map of park types and accessibilities for the near eastside [can start with the ParkServe map here]
	Develop and implement a strategy for the creation of a greenspace masterplan with the goal of near Eastside residents living/working more than a 10-minute walk from a pocket park or greenspace
	Implementation of wayfinding throughout the near Eastside that highlights the uniqueness and identity of individual Near Eastside neighborhoods (signage or public art)
Implementation Partner:	NEAR
Supporting Partner/s:	KIB, DMD, Arts Council of Indianapolis, Big Car, DPW

Action 5.2:	Determinine greenspace needs in each neighborhood [i.e. pocket parks, linear parks, community gardens, playgrounds, etc.]
Performance Measures:	Develop a strategy for maintenance of new parks/enhancements on parks/open space
	Determine neighborhood specific strategies for needed parks and open space
	Host discussions or educational sessions about pocket parks held in various interested neighborhoods.
Implementation Partner:	Keep Indianapolis Beautiful
Supporting Partner/s:	Renew Indianapolis, Green Picket Fences, Indiana Forest Alliance

Action 5.3:	Locate natural spaces on corridors which connect to heavily traveled multi-use paths/roads/corridors to create a more enhanced and connected greenspace system
	Additional greenspace improvements

Performance Measures:	Study commissioned to show the need for parks/open space in these areas and the best and highest use for the property
	Increase in concentration of pocket parks/open space on corridors which connect to heavily traveled corridors from 2020-2030
Implementation Partner:	KIB
Supporting Partner/s:	NEAR, ROW, Indy Parks, DPW, DMD

Action 5.4:	Develop parks infrastructure for adults as the end user (adult exercise equipment or senior-specific exercise equipment)
Performance Measures:	Collect input on preferences for parks infrastructure specific to adults or seniors
	Audit parks which are most well-positioned to be utilized by this population
	Increase in number of parks with adult exercise equipment
Implementation Partner:	Indy Parks
Supporting Partner/s:	CICOA, AARP, Indy Parks Foundation, Cummins

Priority #6: Connect people to the built and natural environment

Action 6.1:	Determine a scope of work for trail development for Pogue's Run Trail
Performance Measures:	Cost per segment of the trail development has been determined
	Next steps for the completion of the trail are determined
Implementation Partner:	ECDC
Supporting Partner/s:	DPW, ROW, CHA

Action 6.2:	Improve the connectivity of the community infrastructure by leveraging Indy Connect and other community-based groups
Performance Measures:	Research and define key connectivity focus areas
	Identify key partners to assist in the development of this plan
	Prioritize key areas for infrastructure funding opportunities
Implementation Partner:	NEAR
Supporting Partner/s:	MPO, DPW, INRC, DMD

Priority #7: Maintain existing parks on the near Eastside to sustain the built and natural environment for future generations	
Action 7.1:	Pursue funding for programming or maintenance of current parks
Performance Measures:	Create a list of needs for parks on the near eastside to use to advocate for additional maintenance needs
	Create a desired list of programming for parks on near eastside
	Determine priority of programming and potential partners or providers for programming
Implementation Partner:	Indy Parks Foundation
Supporting Partner/s:	Indy Parks and Recreation Department, Cummins, KIB, ROW
Action 7.2:	Market parks as assets within the community
Performance Measures:	Marketing campaign for ways to use the parks on the near eastside
	Hold activities in parks for various age groups, interest groups, themed activities, etc.
	Higher number of co-located services (transportation, housing, art, retail, etc.) with parks for more pedestrian access
Implementation Partner:	Indy Parks and Recreation
Supporting Partner/s:	ECDC, NEAR, ROW, KIB
Action 7.3:	Expand development opportunities around parks
Performance Measures:	Create a list of marketable opportunities to develop around the parks [a prospectus]
	Track interest for housing, commercial, and retail development around various parks
Implementation Partner:	NEAR
Supporting Partner/s:	NEBA, ROW, ECDC, NEBA, IndyEast Promise Zone