General Plan Advisory Committee: Meeting #14

July 19, 2022



Meeting Agenda

- General Plan Reminders/Staff Updates
 - Land Use Alternatives
- Active Transportation Plan Presentation
- Q&A/Discussion





General Plan Reminders/Staff Updates



Staff Updates

- General Plan Progress Report
 - City Council July 11
- Climate Action and Resilience Plan
 - Open House/Workshop July 20 & 21
 - Virtual Event August 11
 - Survey July 20-August 15



GPAC Purpose

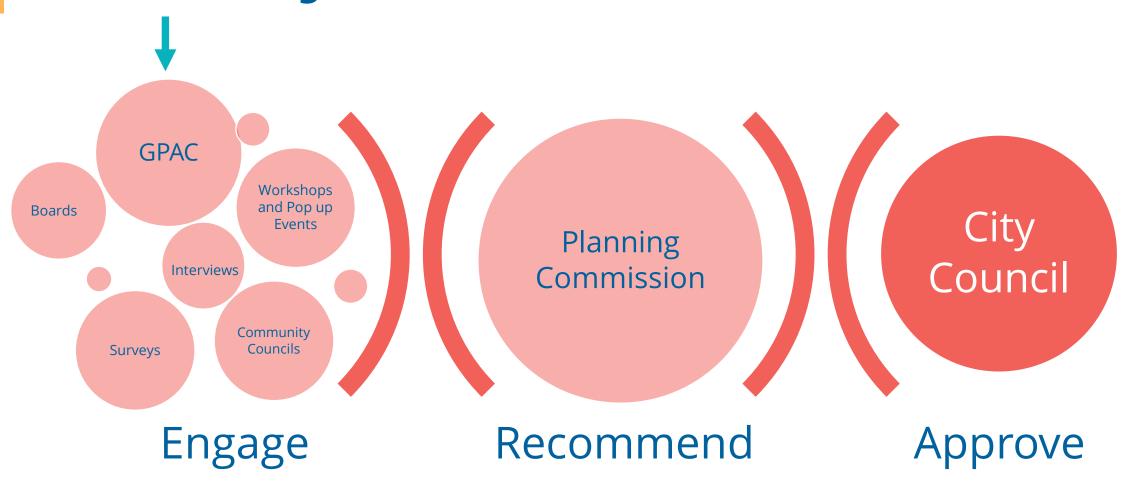
- Guide the General Plan Update process
- Help develop vision, guiding principles, goals, and policies
- Assist with public outreach and participation (as needed)
- Serve as a champion and ambassador for the project







Decision-Making Structure





Outreach Efforts To Date

- Project website: contains detailed project information
- **Newsletters:** shared and cross-marketed to more than **20,000** subscribers
- Social Media: City and GPU platforms reached more than 60,000 friends and followers and garnered over 200,000 impressions
- Videos: GPU videos on YouTube have over 2,000 total impressions
- Advertising
 - Parks and Recreation Activity Guide: mailed to 42,000 residents
 - **Digital Screens** inside City Hall
 - Auto Center Billboard Signs
 - Ventura Breeze Ads: 11,000 copies circulated in over 600 locations
 - Water bill mailer insert: mailed to 32,000 residents in both English/Spanish
 - Flyers/ Posters: 15,000 distributed to local businesses and community partners
 - Coasters: 10,000 distributed to local businesses and community partners
 - **Stickers:** 25,000 distributed to local businesses and community partners

Help shape the future of Ventura!

Ventura is embarking on a new long-term vision for the City. This exciting initiative, Ventura General Plan: Our Vision, Our Future will result in a comprehensive update to the City's General Plan along with an updated Local Coastal Plan and a new Climate Action Plan.



Don't miss out on an opportunity to share your ideas for the next 20 years! Let your voice be heard an help us build the future of Ventura. Take our survey ...

Please join other Ventura residents and help plan Ventura for the next generation.

Your voice is critical to the success of the Plan.

Join the Project Mailing List



Engagement Efforts To Date

- 13 GPAC meetings
- 5 educational forums
- 1 Community Workshop
- 12 Community Council meetings (2 rounds)
- 7 Pop-up events
- 23 Stakeholder interviews
- Meeting with Environmental Justice groups
- 3 City Council meetings
- Presentations to 5 Boards and Commissions
- 3 Community Surveys:
 - Issues & Opportunities (Nov 2020 Jan 2021): 2,425 responses
 - **Visioning** (Aug Oct 2021): **1,505** responses
 - Vision Statement Review (Mar 2022): 341 responses



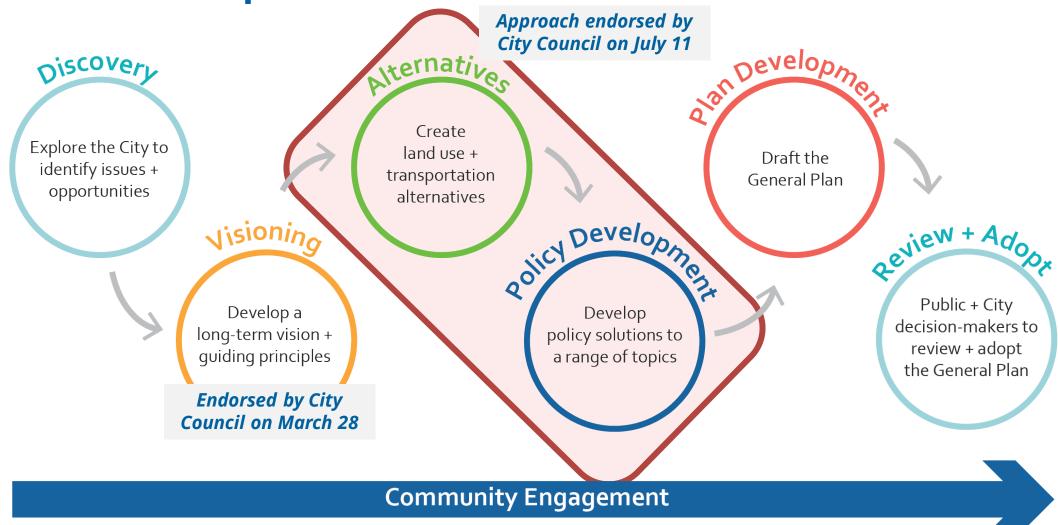






Land Use Alternatives

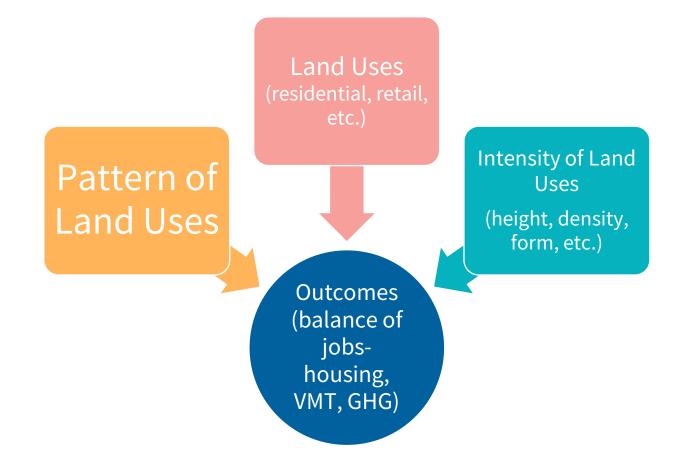
General Plan Update Process





Land Use Alternatives

- Purpose
 - Ensure that there is sufficient capacity for growth
 - Discuss how the physical form of the City will evolve in 20-30 years
- Test different land use and urban design patterns
- Understand the trade-offs between the alternatives
 - Jobs
 - VMT
 - GHG emissions
- Make informed choices about the future
- Implement the Vision and Guiding Principles





Path to Land Use Alternatives

GPAC Meetings
Public Engagement
Consultant Work

CC/PC Action



Visioning Survey: Where should development go?
(Fall 2021)

GPAC finalized "Areas of Discussion" and reviewed Citywide Framework

(Nov/Dec 2021)

GPAC generated ideas for alternatives (April and May 2022)

Develop and Review Land Use Alternatives Engagement (Community
Workshop on
Alternatives, Community
Councils, survey, pop-up
workshops)

GPAC Meeting - Review Alternatives

Recommend preferred land use. City Council/ Planning Commission review and select preferred land use





Input for Alternatives

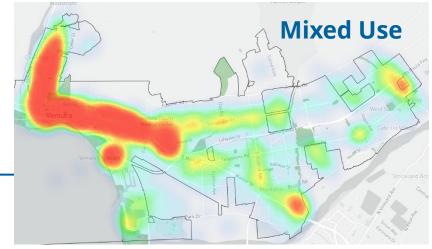
- GPAC Meetings April 19 and May 16 and 17
- Public input at GPAC meetings
- Map-based vision survey
- Other community input











Next Steps: Community Engagement (late summer/fall)

- Alternatives "workbook"
- Public workshop/open house
- Pop-up workshops
- Online survey
- Community Council meetings
- Meetings with other stakeholder groups

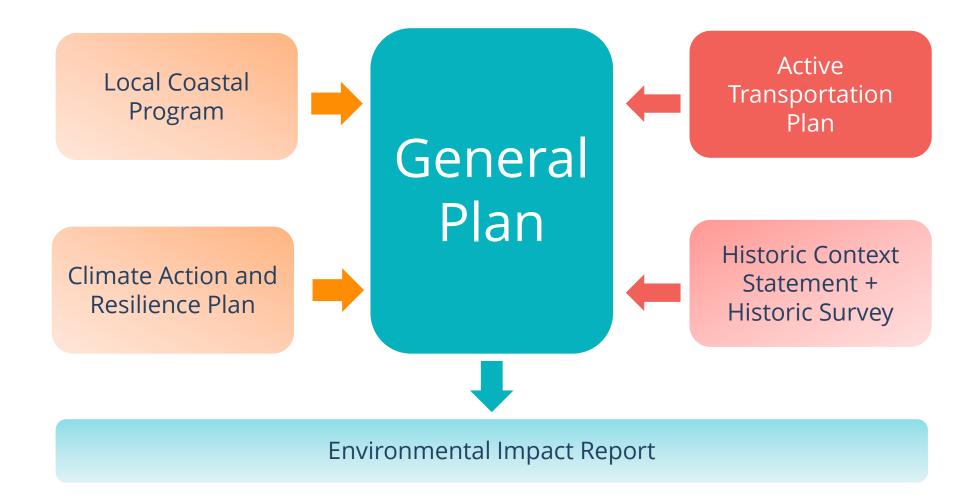








Ongoing Projects





Active Transportation Plan



Active Transportation Plan

- City's first-ever Active
 Transportation Plan (ATP)
- Spring '21 Fall '22
- Creating a roadmap for priority projects and programs that will make walking, bicycling, and taking transit great choices for people living, working, and visiting Ventura



http://www.ActivePlanVentura.com/



Meeting Agenda

- General Plan Reminders/Staff Updates
- ATP Presentation
 - About the Active Transportation Plan (ATP)
 - Engagement Overview
 - ATP Goals and Objectives
 - Safe Routes to School
 - Complete Streets
 - Policy Opportunities
- Q&A/Discussion





Who is the Active Transportation Plan for?







Transit Tanya



Emerging Evan

Did you know? 6.5 percent of households in Ventura do not have access to a vehicle.



Active Transportation Plan Contract Components



Plan for People **Biking**

- 2011 Plan
- Network
- Priority Projects and **Programs**



Plan for People Walking

- Ventura's First Pedestrian Plan
- **Network & Districts**
- Priority Projects and Programs



Safe Routes to **Schools Plan**

- Existing Guide
- New Suggested **Route Maps**
- Projects and programs to support walking and biking to all schools



Complete **Streets**

- New standards
- Support safe streets and Vision Zero



Ventura's Active Transportation Plan will...

Create connected bikeways and walkways that safely get you where you want to go.

Such as:











Project and Stakeholder Engagement Timeline

Citywide Survey & Focus Groups

Citywide Workshop

Pop-Up Projects

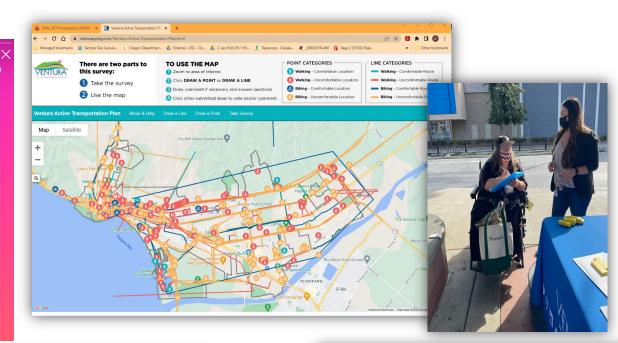
Public Comment on Draft Plan

Existing Conditions Report Code and Policy Review Develop Draft Networks Develop Evaluation Criteria Select and Prioritize Projects and Programs Draft Plan for Adoption

Final Plan for Adoption







G Select Language ✓







Any thoughts/comments on the project or its stakeholder engagement?

Goals and Objectives of the ATP

The draft Ventura ATP goals and objectives are based upon:

- The General Plan Vision
- The 2011 Bicycle Master Plan
- Themes from Phase 1 of public engagement.





Goals are general statements of desired outcomes of the community. What does Ventura hope to achieve with the ATP?

Objectives help document steps needed to realize goals. What will Ventura need to do to meet its goals?





Connectivity

Create walking and bicycling networks that allow people to get where they need to go with comfort and ease.

- Form connected networks of trails, sidewalks, and bikeways
- Create comfortable connections to train station and public transit
- Provide bicycle parking facilities and pedestrian amenities along networks and at destinations
- Connect across and within neighborhoods to parks, natural areas, schools, commercial districts, and other destinations



Education and Encouragement

Give Venturans opportunities to learn skills, build confidence, and have fun walking and bicycling.

- Expand school-based bike education programs
- Host events to build community and normalize walking and biking (e.g., rodeos, slow-rolls, Open Streets, bicycle trains, Chariot rides)
- Create Safe Routes to School programs (walking school bus, Bike to School Day, Safety Patrol, etc.)
- Use signage to educate road users about traffic laws and how to use new infrastructure (e.g., give 3-feet, sharrows, Rectangular-Rapid-Flashing Beacons)



Equity

Everyone has the right to travel safely on City of Ventura roadways – regardless of race, socioeconomic status, gender identity, age, and ability.

- Provide excellent options for people who do not drive or have access to a vehicle, and depend on walking, biking or transit
- Provide excellent infrastructure for people using mobility devices such as wheelchairs
- Create connections to transit stops, schools, senior housing, and neighborhoods with low income and car-free households
- Integrate equity into all aspects of the development and implementation of projects and programs.



Maintenance

Keep Ventura's walking and bicycling facilities clean and in a good state of repair.

- Repair and maintain existing sidewalks, trails, and wayfinding signs citywide
- Keep walkways and bikeways, both on- and off-street, free of trash, graffiti, and debris
- Document ongoing maintenance needs, both by proactively inspecting and streamlining a process for maintenance requests, and prioritize them equitably



Project Delivery

Standardize processes within the City and for developers or jurisdictional partners to integrate walking and bicycling into planning and project development.

- Integrate Complete Streets elements at all stages of project development
- Standardize approach to design review and requirements
- Connect new developments to walking and biking networks
- Systematize public communications about project timelines, updates, and outcomes



Safety

Keep everyone on streets and paths safe through engineering design and supportive amenities.

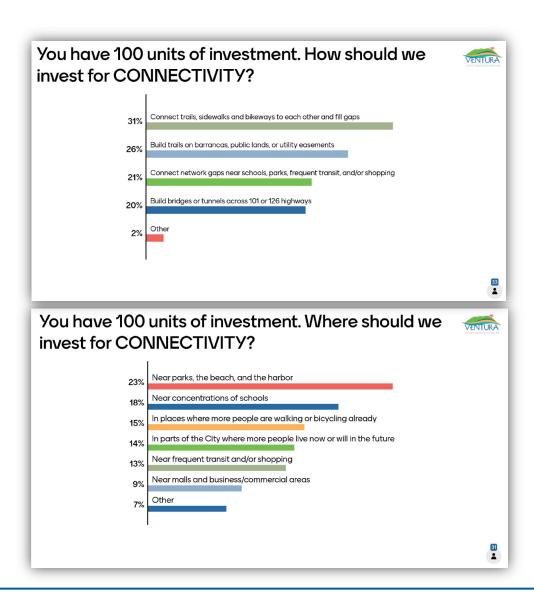
- Keep people walking and biking safe through street and multiuse path design that prioritizes slow speeds
- Separate people walking, biking, and driving with increasing levels of separation as volumes of pedestrians, bicyclists, and/or automobiles increase
- Provide sufficient dedicated space for people moving at different speeds, particularly paths where pedestrians and electric devices share the same space
- Provide pedestrian-scale lighting where people walk
- Provide secure bicycle parking



Citywide Workshop

 Workshop participants confirmed that these are the right goals

- We got input on:
 - Objectives for each goal
 - Where and how to prioritize investments to achieve each goal





Prioritization Process

- Proposes how to prioritize active transportation projects in relationship to each of the goals
- Informs a weighted values-based evaluation framework to score project and program potential to achieve goals

Developed based upon input from the ATFG and citywide workshop



Introduction

Participants in the Active Transportation Plan citywide and how to prioritize active transportation investments in goals. This informs a weighted values-based evaluation program potential to achieve stated goals.

Where to prioritize investments:

- · Fills gaps in networks, connecting existing sidew
- · Proximity to priority locations
- Waterfront
- Frequent transit
- Shopping
- May be completed as component of upcoming p team)

- In neighborhoods with higher concentration of
- Low-income households
- Younger people
- Older adults
- People living with disabilities

Where people are already walking and biking in recommend this)

706 SOUTH HILL STREET, SUITE 1200 LOS ANGELES, CA 90014

- · Where walking and bicycling demand is high, based on desktop analysis (added
- · Streets with excessive speeding or high traffic volumes
- · Places where crashes involving people walking or bicycling have happened
- . High population density or growth areas streets with high levels of traffic stress

How to prioritize investments:

- . Build trails on barrancas, public lands, or utility easements
- Protected bike lanes
- · Open streets to people walking and bicycling
- Maintenance activities
- Streetscaping and street furnishings

The project team used this input to draft a scoring matrix for projects and programs, for consideration by staff and the ATFG, in preparing to rank projects.

Criteria	Scoring for Projects		Scoring for Programs	
	Points	Threshold	Points	Threshold
Connectivity				
Fills a gap	2	Yes – the project fills a sidewalk or bikeway gap of not more than 500' in an otherwise continuous facility		
	1	Yes – the project fills a sidewalk or bikeway gap of more than 500' in an otherwise continuous facility		
	0	No		
Opportunity to install as part of upcoming pavement maintenance	2	Location identified in <u>6.year</u> paving program		
Provides access to waterfront, school, library, park, frequent transit, shopping (separately for each)	2	Within 0.25 miles	2	Primary goal/effect of program
	1	Within 0.5 miles	1	Secondary goal/effect of program
	0	More than 0.5 miles	0	Not achieved through program

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Prioritization Process

Where to prioritize investments: Based upon connectivity, equity, and safety

Connectivity

- Fills gaps in networks, connecting existing sidewalks and bikeways
- Proximity to priority locations
- -Waterfront
- -Schools
- -Parks
- -Frequent transit
- -Shopping
- May be completed as component of upcoming pavement maintenance (added by team)

Equity

- In neighborhoods with higher concentration of
- -Low-income households
- -Younger people
- -Older adults
- -People living with disabilities

Safety

- Where people are already walking and biking in high volumes (team does not recommend this)
- Where walking and bicycling demand is high, based on desktop analysis (added by team)
- Streets with excessive speeding or high traffic volumes
- Places where crashes involving people walking or bicycling have happened
- High population density or growth areas streets with high levels of traffic stress



Prioritization Process

How to prioritize investments:

- Build trails on barrancas, public lands, or utility easements
- Protected bike lanes
- Open streets to people walking and bicycling
- Maintenance activities
- Streetscaping and street furnishings

<u>When</u> to make investments: The following criteria are suggested in order to decide which projects and programs to launch first:

- Cost
- Feasibility
- Level of community support
- Time since neighborhood was last invested in
- Funding availability
- Pavement maintenance concurrency
- Fills a LTS 1 gap



Any thoughts/comments on the goals and how they inform the prioritization process?

Safe Routes to School (SRTS)

Ventura Safe Routes to School will...

 Increase the number of students biking, walking, and rolling to school



 Produce new maps that show the best routes to walk to your school



Propose new school travel safety programs





Create a list of street improvements near schools









Safe Routes to School Workshops



Poinsettia ES



ATLAS ES

- Workshop purpose: Understand what programs, engagement, and/or education campaigns can build a culture of safe active transportation to school
- We invited 9 elementary and middle schools to participate based on administrator interest and support for Safe Routes to School programming during Fall 2021 walk audit outreach



Districtwide Takeaways

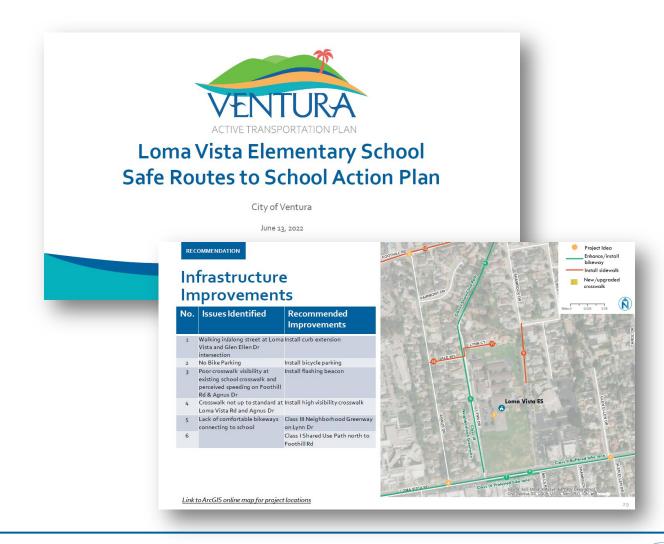
- Most students are dropped off by car
- Most students desire to walk, bike, or ride the bus
- Top stated reasons students would rather walk, bike, or take the bus include poor pickup and drop-off experiences, the enjoyment of bicycling, and wanting to exercise
- Traffic Gardens, and Walking School Bus and Bicycle Trains are popular ideas





Safe Routes to School Action Plans

- 25 schools:
 - 15 Elementary Schools
 - 4 Middle Schools
 - 5 High Schools
 - 1 K-8 school
- Includes:
 - Citywide school findings
 - Existing conditions from questionnaires and site visits
 - Program and policy recommendations
 - Suggested infrastructure improvements





Any thoughts/comments on Safe Routes to School?

Complete Streets

What are Complete Streets?

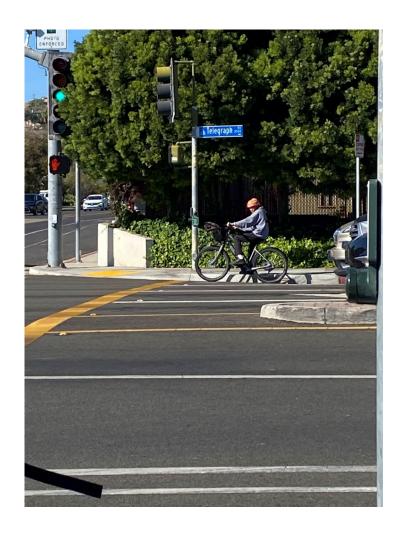
- Complete Streets prioritize safety, comfort, and access to destinations for the most vulnerable of road users.
- A complete streets network makes it easy for people to cross the street, walk or bike to where they need to go, and move easily with assistive devices, no matter their age or ability.
- Features may include frequent crossings, multi-use trails, accessible pedestrian signals, accessible transit stops, and narrower travel lanes.





How have streets been designed historically?

- Maintain automobile level of service (LOS)
 - LOS is a measure of how freely car traffic flows through intersections and street segments
 - Maintaining LOS is a requirement for some federal funding
- LOS for other modes is not considered, which can result in:
 - Streets where bike lanes drop at intersections
 - Wide multi-lane intersections/long crossing distances
 - Lack of dedicated signal phases and midblock crossings





What has changed?

- As of July 2021, all local agencies in California are required to use vehicle miles traveled (VMT) as the metric for assessing transportation impacts of transportation and land use projects, instead of LOS
- The goal is to reduce vehicle miles traveled and the associated environmental impacts





Components of Complete Streets

Policies and Ordinances

- Language adopted by City Council that commits city to consider all modes
- Additional recommended policies, tools and ordinances that support Complete Streets

Project Delivery Process

- Internal process for City departments
- Helps make sure Complete
 Streets elements are
 effectively incorporated at all
 stages of planning,
 budgeting, and design for
 both capital and private
 development projects

Street Design Standards & Guidance

- Guides design of new and retrofitted streets
- Defines street typology based on how the street is used and the places it serves



Developing a Complete Street Typology







Street Function

• What type of travel does the street serve?

Modal Priorities

Is the street part of an existing or planned network for walking, biking, transit, emergency vehicles?

Place Types

What are the land uses and destinations along the street?



Ventura's Complete Street Typology





- Link: lowest number of trips, access focus
- Connector: medium number of trips, balances access and throughput
- Thoroughfare: highest number of trips, throughput focus



Modal Priorities

- Transit
- Pedestrian
- Bicycle
- Freight
- Emergency Response
- Evacuation



Place Types

- Retail/ Mixed Use
- Destination and recreation
- Neighborhood/Community
- Industrial/Commercial
- Rural



User Experience

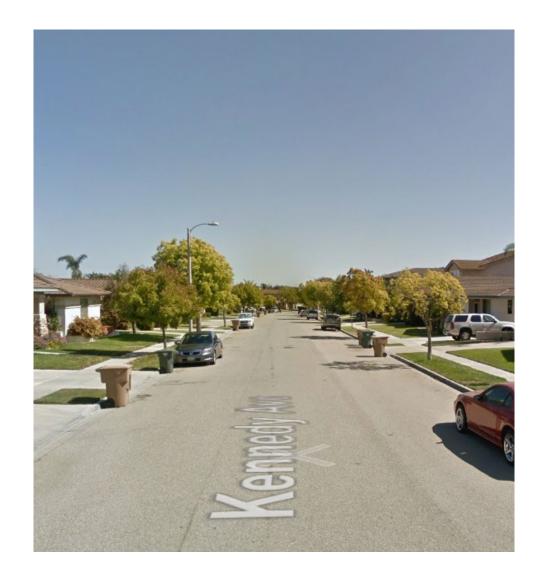
 Street typologies create a shared expectation of the user experience on different streets.

- For example:
 - Place for kids to play/scoot/ride bikes
 - Many safe places to cross the street
 - A park-like experience with shade trees and benches
 - Outdoor dining
 - Enjoyable and interesting walking experience
 - Ability to drive across town quickly
 - Reliable and frequent transit
 - Low stress bicycling experience



Design: Neighborhood Link

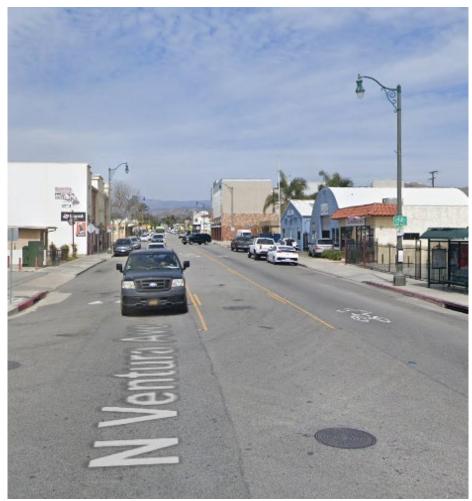
- A minor street providing access to homes
- What type of experience should people have here?
- What should this street feel like?





Design: Retail/Mixed Use Connector

- A medium-sized street where people visit restaurants and shops and travel through and between neighborhoods
- What type of experience should people have here?
- What should this street feel like?





Any questions/comments on Complete Streets and street typologies?

Active Transportation Policy Opportunities

Active Transportation Targets

STATEWIDE

Double walking, triple bicycling, and double transit use

Reduce bicycle and pedestrian fatalities by 10% per year

Increase the number of Complete Streets projects by 20%

 Caltrans Strategic Management Plan 2015-2020/ 2017 Statewide Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan

REGIONAL

Increase active transportation mode share from 9.2% to 12.5% by 2045

Double future investment in active transportation

Reduce vehicle miles traveled per capita by 5% and vehicle hours traveled by 9%

2020-2045 Regional Transportation
 Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy of SCAG



Best Practice Policy Areas



Connectivity and Convenience



Emerging Mobility



Safety and Comfort



Climate Action



Equity and Accessibility



Social Acceptance



Complete Streets



Implementation



Connectivity Opportunities

- Define a network of streets where facilities for people walking are prioritized
- Establish a marked pedestrian crossing policy that allows for mid-block crossings in appropriate circumstances
 - Include a decision-making rubric, design guidance, and crossing spacing maximums for major streets





Safety Opportunities

- Revive the Neighborhood Traffic Management Program
- Establish local Vision Zero policy or language establishing reducing traffic fatalities and serious injury crashes as a major priority





Equity and Accessibility Opportunities

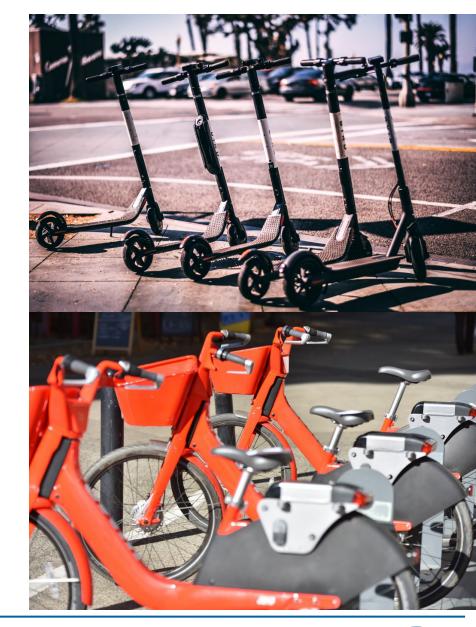
- Identify objectives and policies to improve air quality and reduce health risks in disadvantaged communities by investing in public facilities and promoting physical activity
- Commit to equitable engagement that includes people of all races, incomes, ages, and abilities; consider an equity task force





Emerging Mobility Opportunities

- Establish policies to increase transportation options through emerging mobility offerings
- Establish equity policies that guide the system to serve residents equitably, including making the system accessible to traditionally underserved communities





Climate Opportunities

- Adopt transportation-specific goals and policies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, such as reduction in vehicle miles traveled, reduction in drive-alone trips, or mode shift to bicycling, walking, and transit.
 - Integrate with Climate Action Plan and General Plan update





Social Acceptance Opportunities

- Adapt current bike programming to also include pedestrian education
- Develop a Safe Routes to School Program





Implementation Opportunities

 Create and consult a pedestrian advisory committee, coordinated with bicycle advisory committee and ADA Transition Plan





Complete Streets Policy Opportunities

- Adopt pedestrian crossing guidelines
- Establish desired crossing spacing
- Create bicycle facility selection guidance and supportive engineering design standards
- Adopt a Multi-Modal Level of Service (LoS) Analysis
- Assess posted speed reduction opportunities
- Lower thresholds for a Transportation Impact Analysis and Fee Program
- Codify a voluntary development incentive program
- Develop Street Concept Plans process





Any questions/comments on policy opportunities?

Thank you!

Open to Questions

Ventura Active Transportation Plan



Public Comments



Next Steps

Upcoming Meetings and Engagement

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

- ATP Pop-ups and Surveys
- City Council confirmation of planned networks
- Community Council Meetings
- Winter 2022 Draft Plan for public review

GENERAL PLAN LAND USE ALTERNATIVES

- Alternatives "workbook"
- Public workshop/open house
- Pop-up workshops
- Online survey
- Community Council meetings
- Meetings with other stakeholder groups

