

Connecting Clearwater

Active Transportation Plan



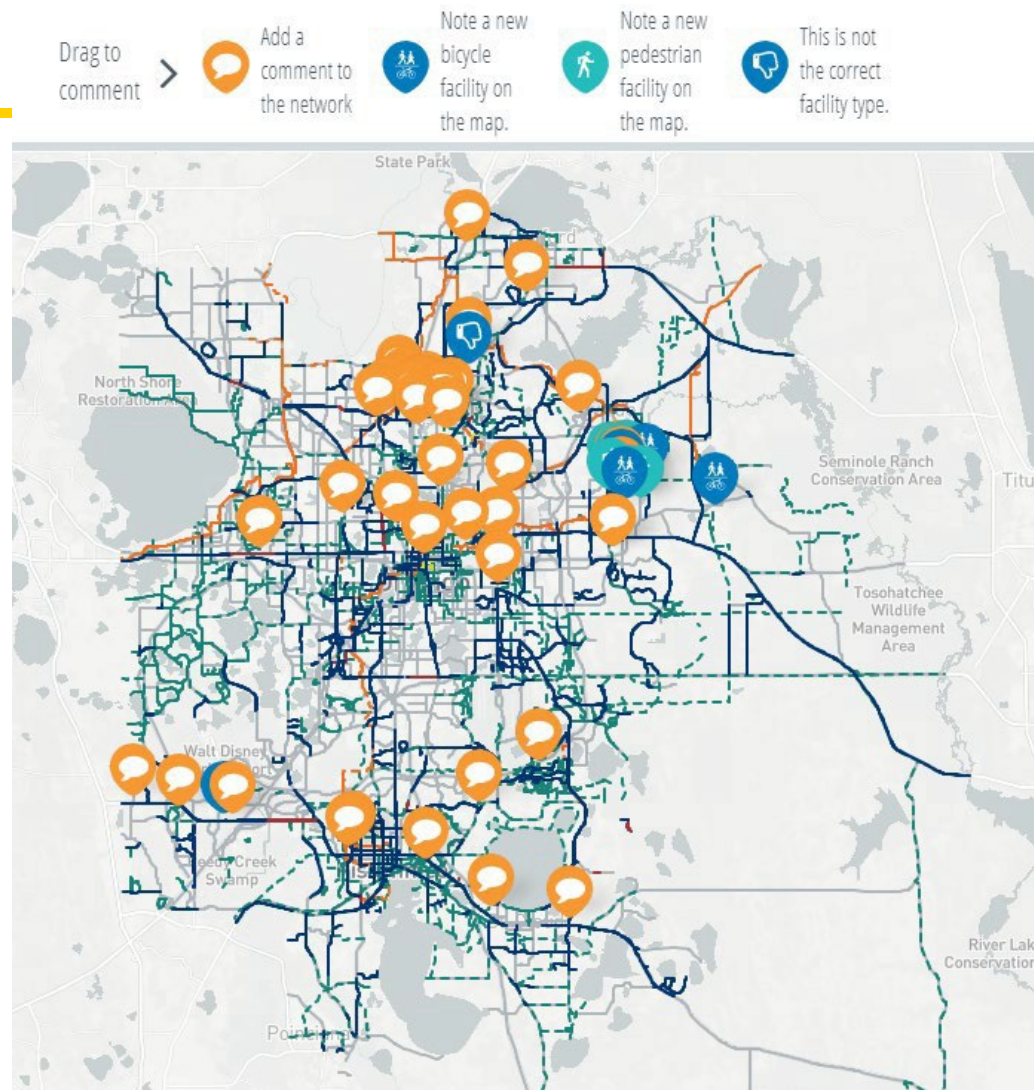
Clearwater Neighborhoods Coalition

October 6, 2025

Ric Hartman, Transportation Planner

What is an Active Transportation Plan?

- A comprehensive set of strategies to provide better options for walking, rolling, and bicycling, including accessing transit
- Active Transportation Plans (ATP) typically identify infrastructure, policies and processes based on public and stakeholder input to achieve the desired goals



Project Overview

Project Goals

Goal 1

Identify a citywide low-stress active transportation network that complements other travel modes, especially transit, supports future land use patterns, and connects to active transportation facilities in other communities.

Goal 2

Improve transportation safety outcomes for pedestrians, bicyclists and other non-auto transportation system users.

Goal 3

Develop a feasible project list that can be implemented as standalone projects, as part of other planned transportation system projects, or as part of the development process.



Key Project Tasks

1. Engagement
2. Data Collection
3. Existing Conditions Analysis
4. System Planning
5. Project Prioritization
6. Concept Plan Development
7. Community Development Code Review
8. Documentation



Engagement

- Technical Committee
- Stakeholder Engagement
- Community Workshops
- City Council Workshop
- Online Outreach and Feedback

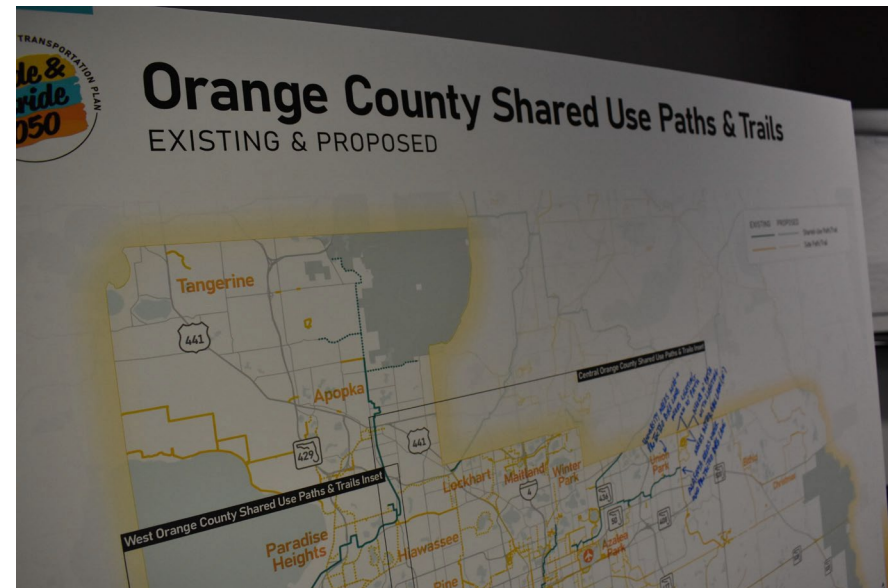


Image of Active Transportation Plan Workshop



Data Collection

- Existing and planned trails, bike facilities, and sidewalks
- Review right-of-way information
- Transit stop location and ridership data

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- Crash data
 - Demographic Data
 - Future land use and roadway network information
 - Policy review



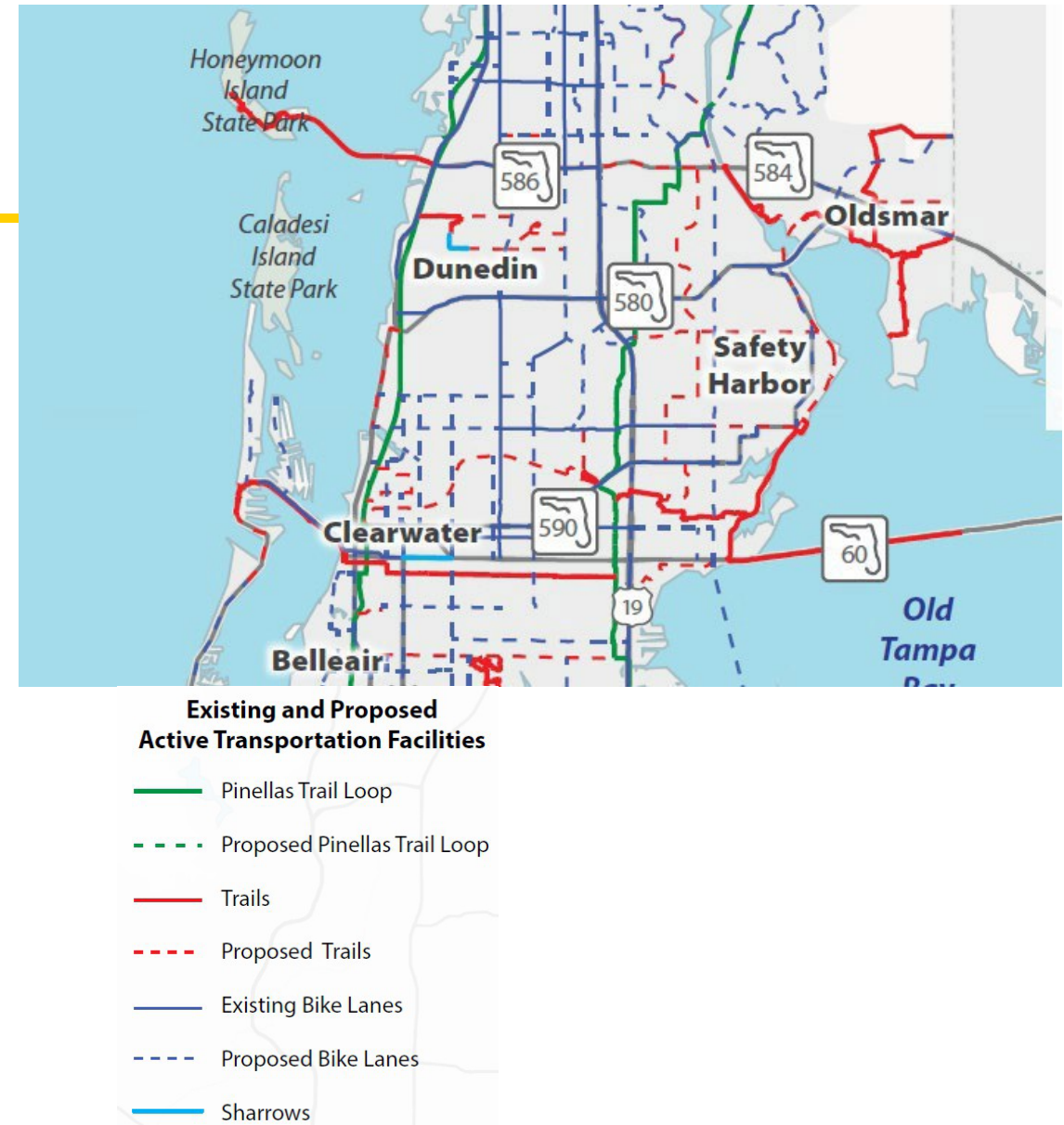
Existing Conditions Analysis

- Accessibility to destination analysis
- Level of traffic stress
- Opportunity areas
- High Injury Network / Crash hotspots



System Planning

- Biking facilities
- Walking facilities
- Shared facilities
- Access to transit
- Crossing improvements
- Safety improvements
- Project opportunities (RRR, utility undergrounding, lane repurposing, developer driven)



PROJECT PRIORITIZATION CATEGORIES

Timeline

**Bicyclist and
Pedestrian
Safety**

**Accessibility
and
Connectivity**

Comfort

Demographics

**Community
Support**



Existing Conditions Analysis Highlights

Safety (2019-2024)

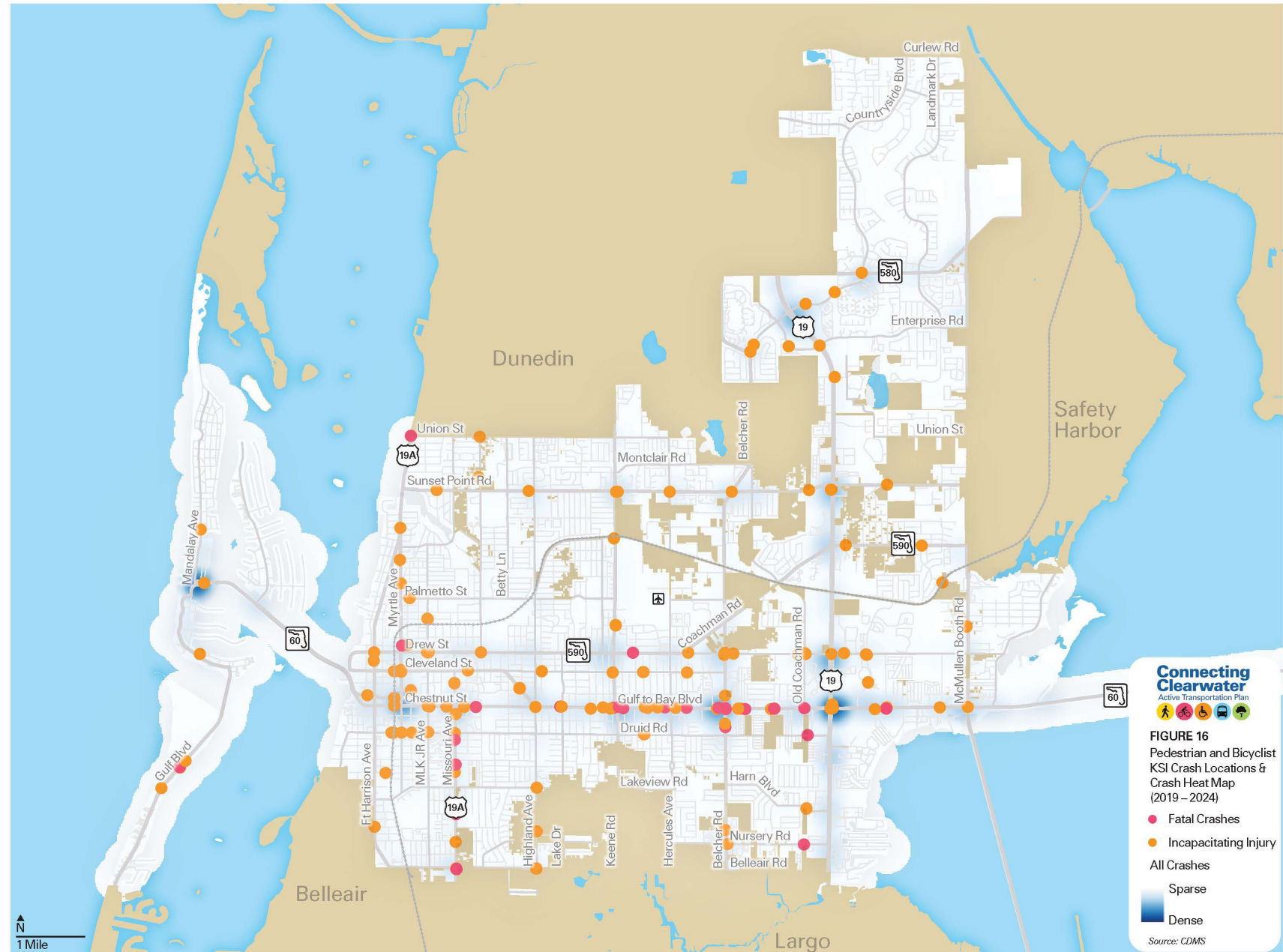
21,241 reported crashes

18% injury, **2.6% serious injury**
and **0.3% fatal**

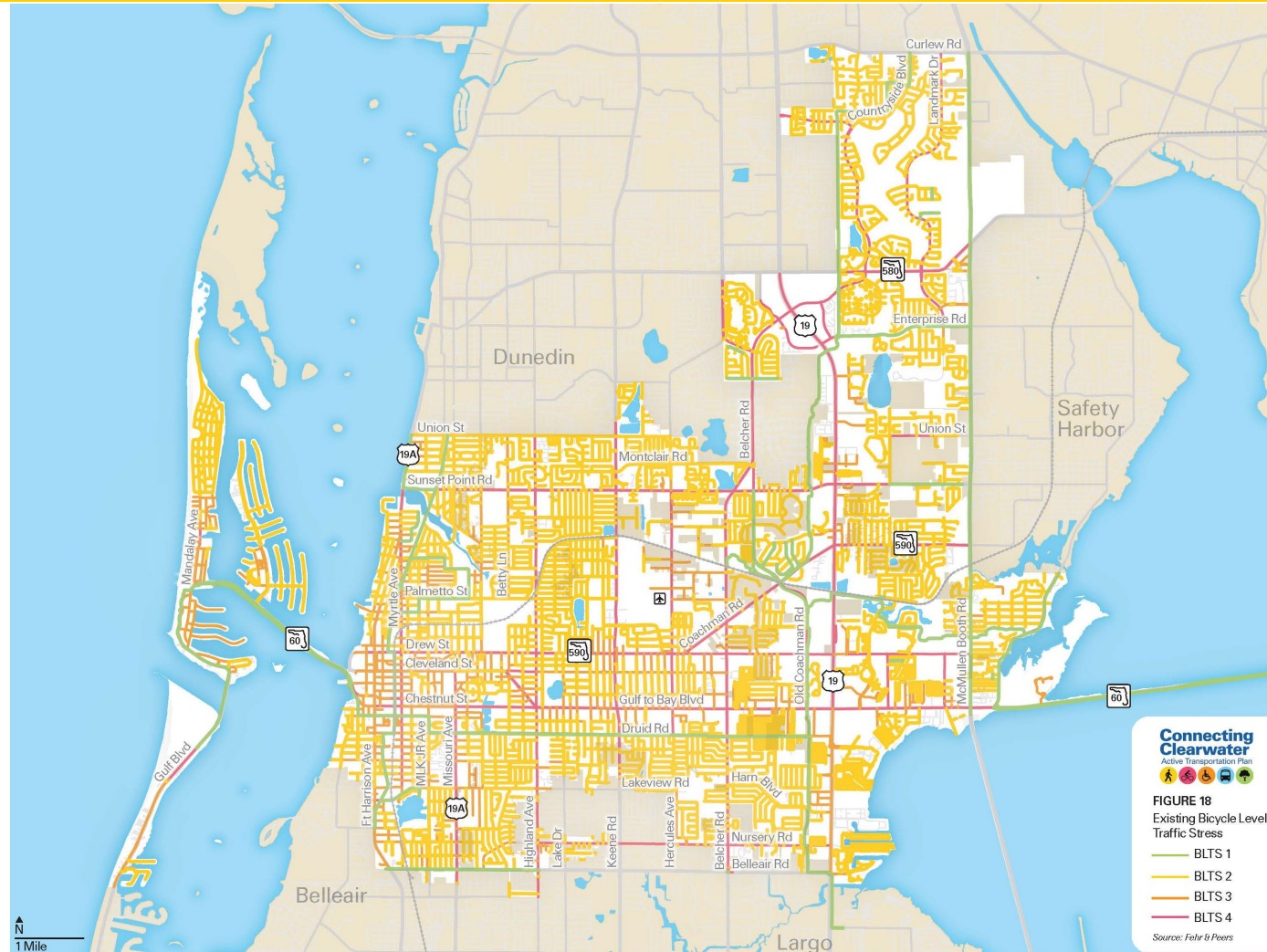
Bicyclists involved in **1.9% of all crashes** and **8.7% of KSI crashes**

Pedestrians involved in **2.7% of all crashes** and **16% of KSI crashes**

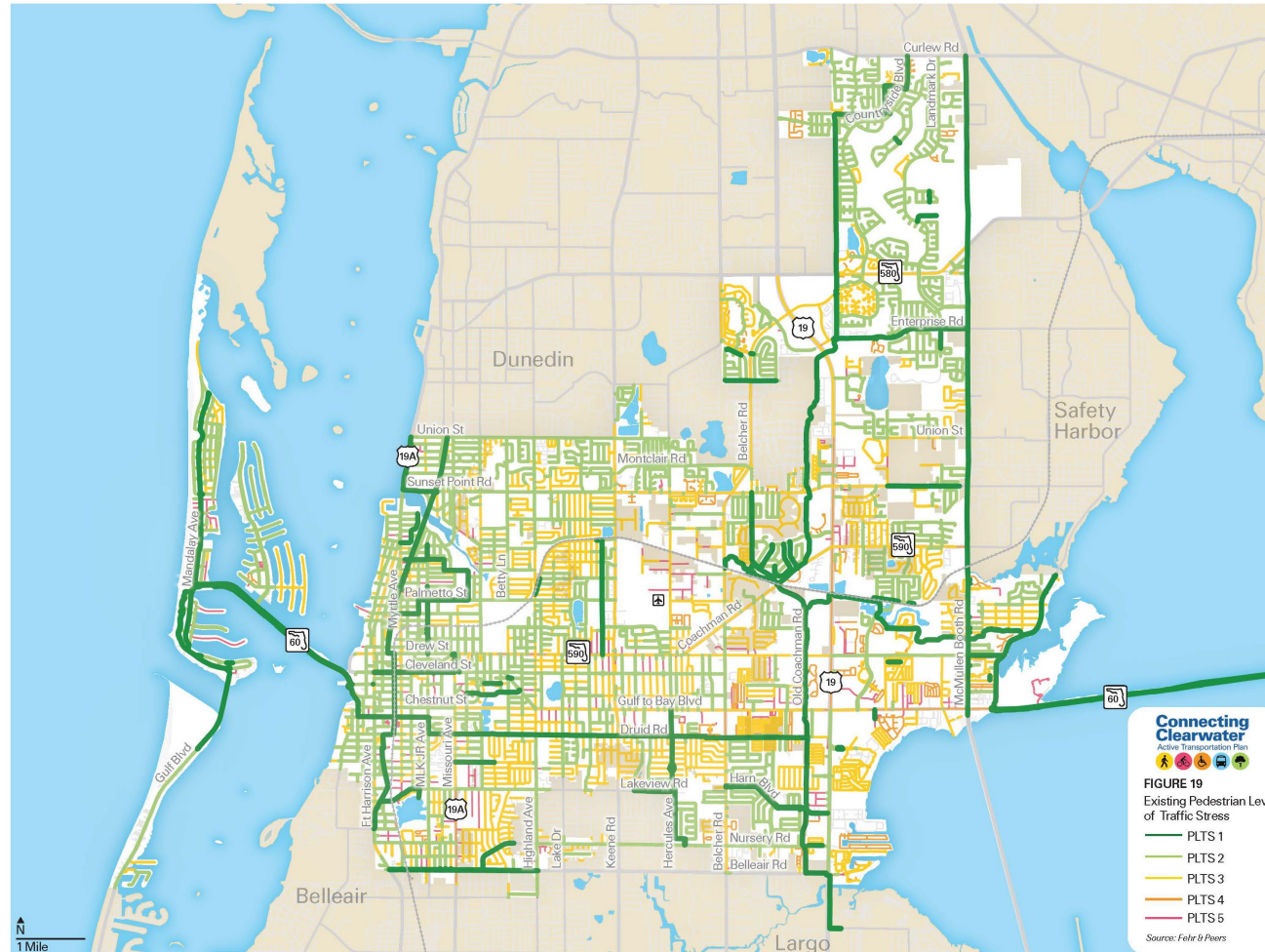
Fatal and severe injury crashes more likely to occur on multilane, high-volume, high-speed roads



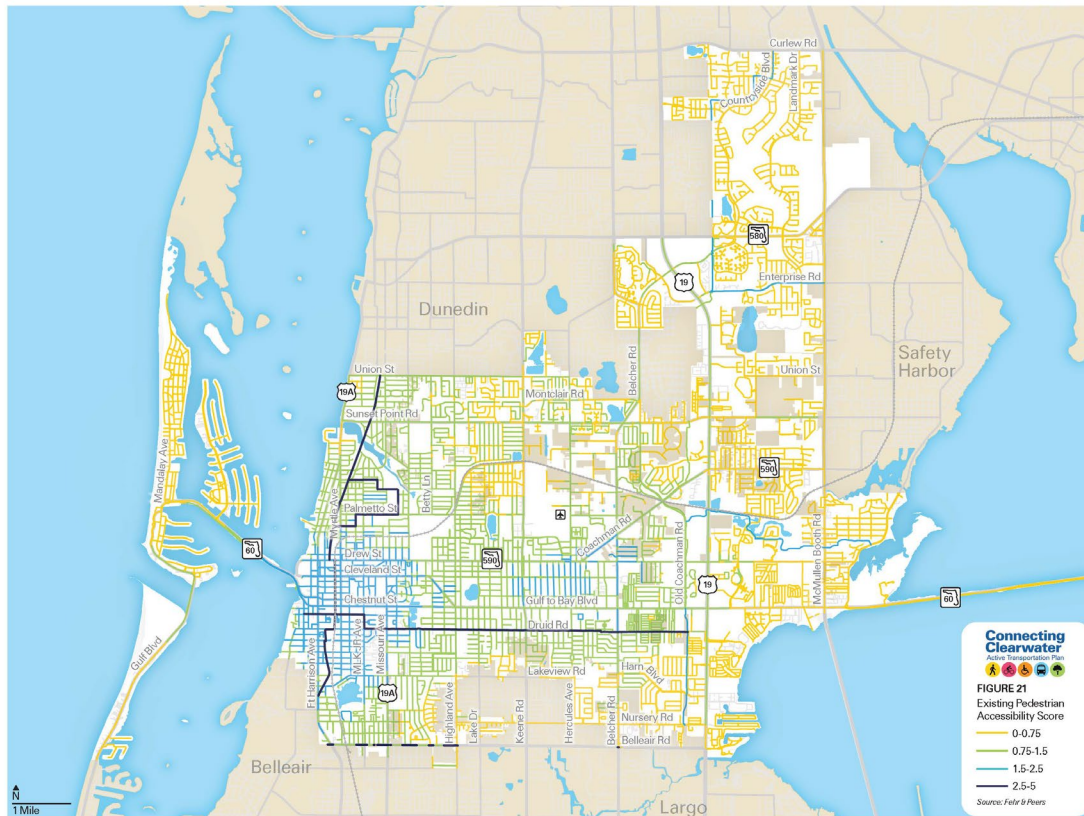
Bicyclist Level of Traffic Stress



Pedestrian Level of Traffic Stress



Travel Access Analysis Approach



Assumptions

Walk and bike sheds of 5 minutes, 15 minutes and 30 minutes

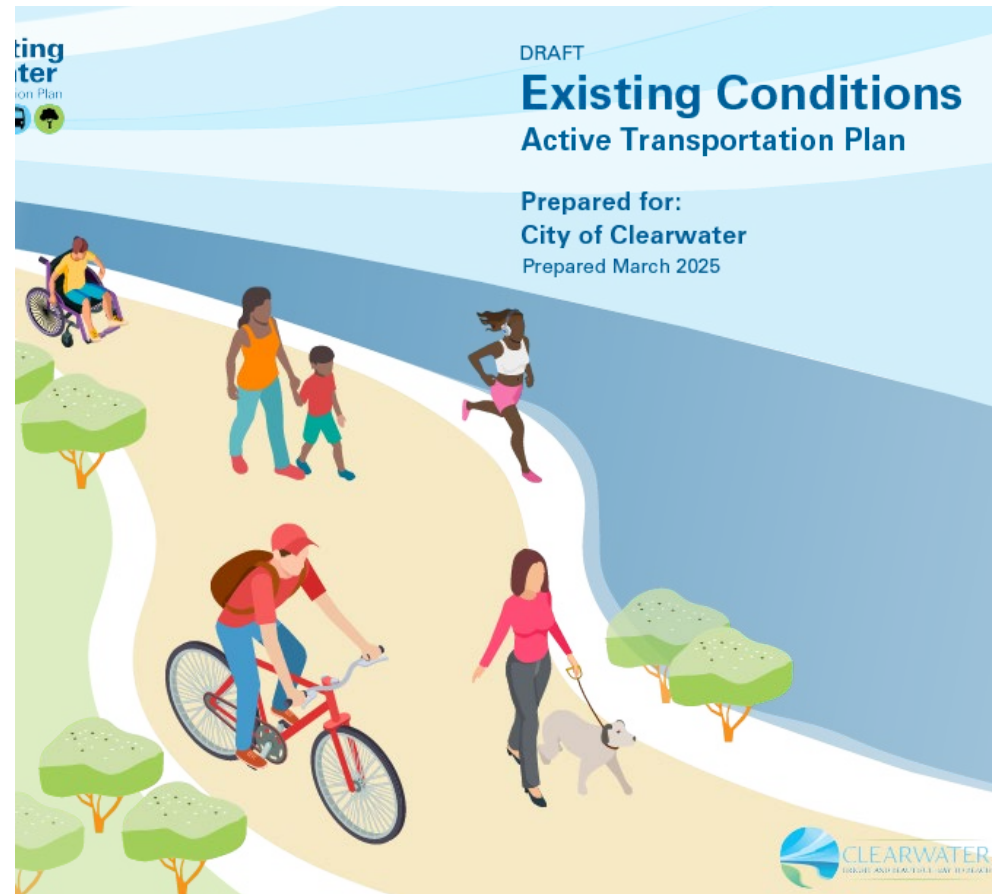
Destinations include public schools, transit facilities, parks, jobs, shopping and health care facilities

Aside from local residential streets, if there was no sidewalk, it was assumed that the route is impassible from a pedestrian perspective



Existing Conditions Analysis Highlights

- Most on-street bike facilities are on high-speed roads
- Many residential streets do not have sidewalks
- With the overall grid network of the city, crossing improvements can connect lower stress neighborhood routes
- People walking and biking are disproportionately killed or injured in traffic crashes



Engagement Activities

Online Engagement

420 unique visitors

233 comments from 112 unique visitors

58% accessed from city's website

Connecting Clearwater – City of Clearwater Active Transportation Plan

Thank you for your interest! Your feedback will help us identify new active transportation facilities as well as upgrades to existing facilities.

Overview	Provide Mapped Feedback	Take the Survey	Facility Preference Survey
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¡Utiliza el icono del mundo en la esquina superior derecha para traducir esta página!

What is an Active Transportation Plan?

Active transportation refers to modes of travel that are powered by human energy, such as **walking, biking, and using non-motorized vehicles**. It emphasizes physical activity as a means of transportation, promoting healthier lifestyles and reducing environmental impact. Active transportation also includes access to transit, making it easier for people to combine walking or biking with public transportation for longer trips.



Key Milestones

-  **February 2025**
Stakeholder Meeting #1
-  **February 2025 to March 2025**
Gathering Community Insights for Walking and Biking Improvements
-  **April 2025**
Community Workshop #1
-  **May 2025**
City Council Workshop
-  **June 2025**
Community Workshop #2
-  **September 2025**
Stakeholder Meeting #2
-  **December 2025**
Draft Plan for Public Review

Contact Us

Have questions or want to learn more about a project, contact us below or visit MyClearwater.com/ActiveTransportationPlan:

-  Name Richard Hartman
-  Email Richard.Hartman@MyClearwater.com

Map Based Feedback

34% bicycle facilities

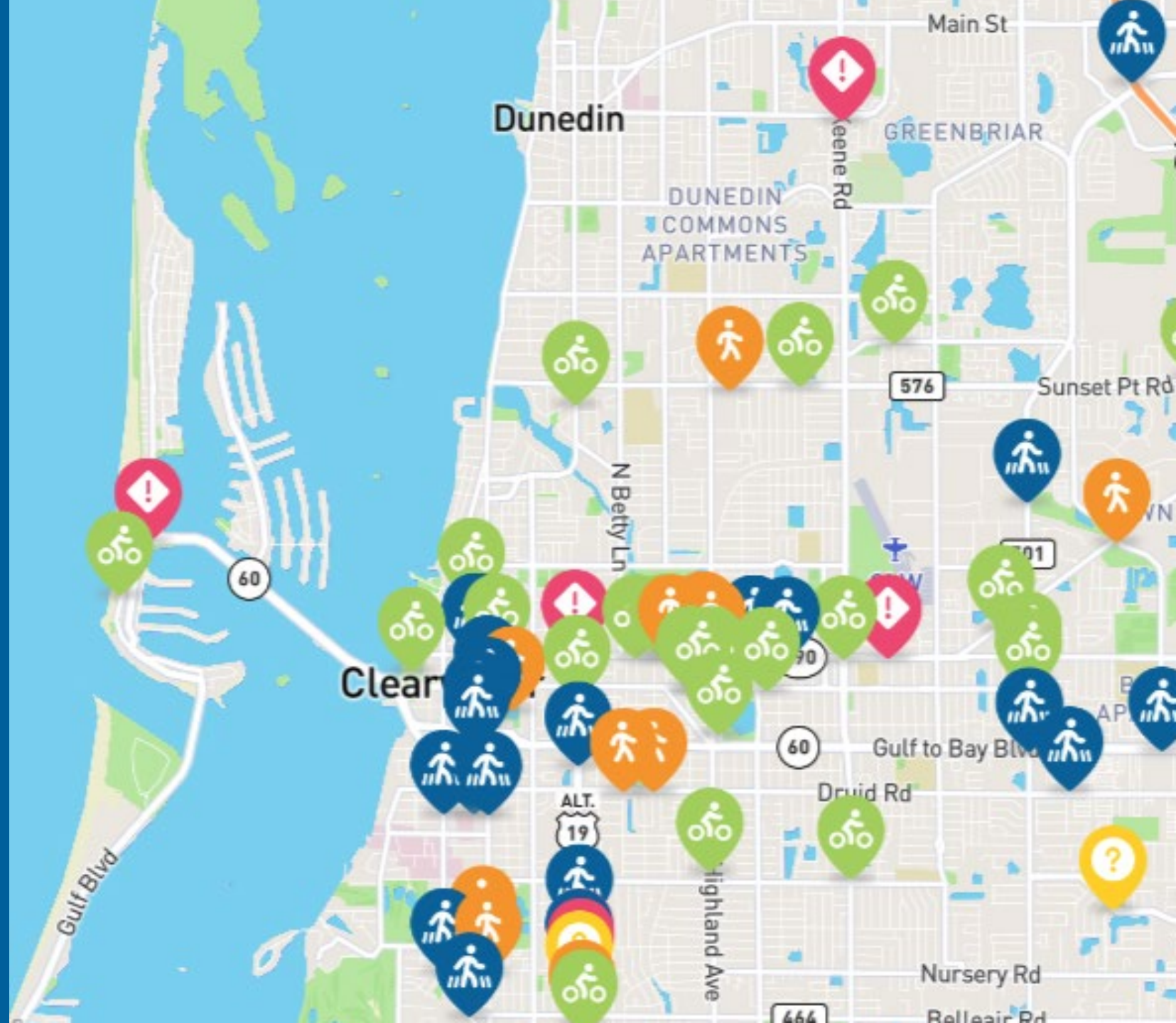
29% crossing improvements

16% walking facilities

11% safety improvements

10% other

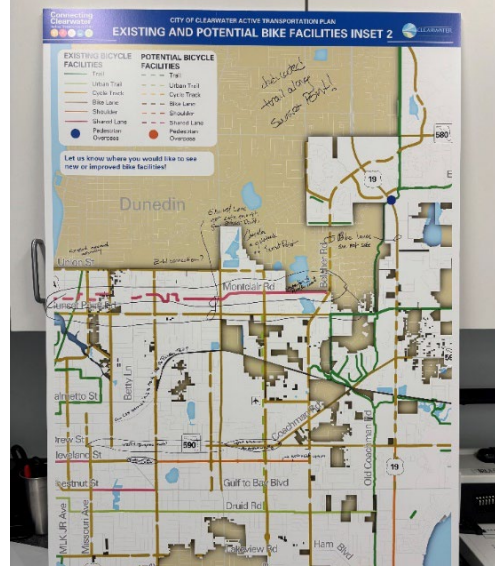
Specific locations identified in addition to more generalized feedback



Rank your Transportation Safety Concerns by Order of Importance

- #1 Lack of bike lanes
- #2 Drivers failing to yield to pedestrians
- #3 Lack of sidewalks
- #4 Dangerous intersections
- #5 Distracted driving
- #6 Drivers speed
- #7 Lack of safe routes to parks and other recreational facilities
- #8 Lack of Crosswalks
- #9 Lack of safe routes to schools
- #10 Lack of street lighting along corridors and at crossings





City Council Feedback

Council Presentation Overview

1. What is an Active Transportation Plan
2. Project Goals
3. Project Overview and Existing Conditions Analysis Highlights
4. Community Engagement Overview
5. Potential Project Prioritization Criteria
6. Project Development Approach



City Council Feedback

1. Prioritize access to trails from neighborhoods
2. Identify opportunities to enhance Pinellas Trail
3. Look to Cleveland to provide key east-west connection
4. RRFBS should be included in plan
5. Connect plan to Safe Streets Pinellas



Project Prioritization Criteria

Corridor Project Types



Trail – plan shows potential for a new trail facility along CSX tracks, consistent with the Forward Pinellas ATP.



Retrofitted Bike Lane – existing bike lanes where we identified the opportunity to narrow the travel lane and add a buffer to the bike lane when the roadway is resurfaced.



Urban Trails/Wide Sidewalks – these are 8-to-10-foot sidewalks along a roadway, appropriate for walking and biking, like the Druid Trail.



Neighborhood Greenway – low volume and slow speed streets that could be designated shared use with bicyclists, with enhanced crossing treatments at major crossings.





Crossing Project Types

Crossing Treatments

- Enhanced crosswalk marking
- Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons
- Pedestrian Hybrid Beacons
- Raised Crosswalks
- Advanced Stop Bars
- Directional curb ramps
- Bus boarding islands
- Curb extensions

Signalized Intersections

- Leading pedestrian intervals
- Lagging left turns
- Extinguishable no right turn on red
- Pedestrian only phase (probably only warranted in downtown)
- Protected left turns (to prohibit left-turns at the same time as pedestrian crossings)
- Bike signals (very select locations)
- Improved traffic signal technologies



Relative Weighting of Different Criteria

Safety of proposed facility – 30%

Stress of proposed facility – 20%

Access and Connectivity – 20%

Project Implementation Timeline / Cost – 20%

Demographics – 10%

Prioritization Criteria

Bicyclist and Pedestrian Safety

If project is on a high crash corridor, it includes elements that separate bicyclists and pedestrians

On low speed / low volume facility

Accessibility and Connectivity

Improves access to a diversity of land uses

Level of Traffic Stress

Reduces the calculated stress level for people walking and biking



Prioritization Criteria

Project Implementation Timeline

Within existing right-of-way

Coordination with other agencies minimal

Low cost / quick build materials (paint/signs)

Cost

Demographic Factors

Neighborhoods with low auto ownership

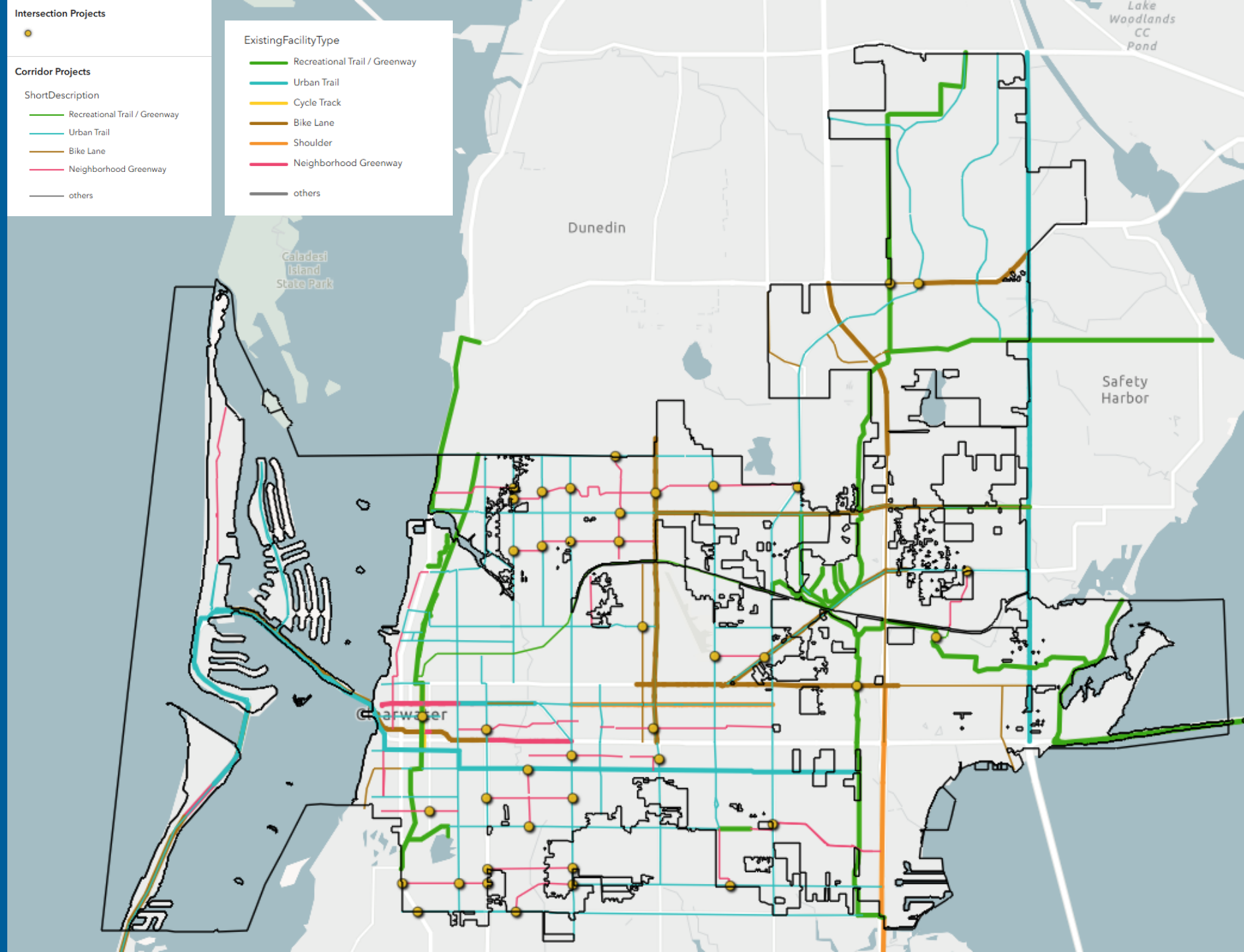
Neighborhoods with high levels of poverty

Total Population



Network Overview

Overall Network



Survey Sign

CONNECTING CLEARWATER



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!



Do you feel safe walking, biking, or rolling along your daily routes?



Are there places you wish had better walking or biking connections?



What improvements would make it easier for you to get around without a car?

CHECK OUT THE PRIORITIES MAP

Take a look at our draft Active Transportation Facilities Map and let us know if we missed anything!

More information can also be found at Connecting Clearwater
(<https://myclearwater.info/connecting>)



Survey – Overview Tab

Connecting Clearwater – City of Clearwater Active Transportation Plan

Thank you for your interest! We took your initial feedback and the results of the existing conditions analysis to identify potential new walking and biking facilities.

Overview

Map your Feedback

Take the Survey

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What is an Active Transportation Plan?

Active transportation refers to modes of travel that are powered by human energy, such as **walking, biking, and using non-motorized vehicles**. It emphasizes physical activity as a means of transportation, promoting healthier lifestyles and reducing environmental impact. Active transportation also includes access to transit, making it easier for people to combine walking or biking with public transportation for longer trips.

An Active Transportation Plan (ATP) aims to develop **comprehensive strategies to enhance walking and bicycling options, including transit access**.

What is the purpose of this project?

The primary purpose of the plan is to identify feasible Active Transportation Projects that can ultimately be constructed throughout the City of Clearwater. The plan will identify facilities on City, County and State roads, that together will form a comprehensive network of walking and bicycling facilities.

What types of active transportation projects were identified?

Different types of potential facilities were identified throughout the city based on initial feedback related to what types of facilities people feel most comfortable walking and biking on, including:

Recreational Trails are facilities that are separated from the vehicular travel way for use by bicyclists, pedestrians, skaters, wheelchair users, joggers, and other users. Conflicts between trail users and people driving exist at crossing locations. The Pinellas Trail is an example of a Recreational Trail.

Urban Trails are facilities that are separated from the vehicular travel way for use by bicyclists, pedestrians, skaters, wheelchair users, joggers, and other users in an urban environment. Urban Trails are also known as Shared Use Paths (SUPs). The Druid Trail is an example of an Urban Trail.

Bike Lanes are dedicated, on-road bicycle facilities separate from a vehicle lane, designated through signage and pavement markings. As bike lanes become wider, there are opportunities to add a physical separation between the bike lane and the vehicular travel lane to improve comfort and safety; these opportunities are shown on the project map as **Protected Bike Lanes**.

Neighborhood Greenways are low-speed low volume roadways where people biking can share the lane with vehicle traffic. These facilities can be designed through pavement markings and signage. Neighborhood traffic calming and crossing treatments need to be considered as part of a neighborhood greenway project.

Crossing Improvements are needed at many locations throughout the city to connect different neighborhoods and provide access across major roads that can be a barrier. Potential crossing treatments to support neighborhood greenway designations, as well as access to existing facilities, are identified in the plan. Implementation of recreational trails, urban trails and bike lanes will require a more extensive planning and design process, and it is expected that every intersection along the corridor would be evaluated for appropriate treatments at the time those projects move forward.

Sidewalk Gaps will be closed on Arterial and Collector roads, either through the construction of sidewalks or urban trails. On local residential streets without sidewalks, a new program where a neighborhood can request sidewalks will be developed. As requests are made, they will be prioritized for implementation based on available funding and other limitations of the program.

For more information, visit the City of Clearwater project site:

MyClearwater.com/ActiveTransportationPlan

Key Milestones

-  **February 2025**
Stakeholder Meeting #1
-  **February 2025 to April 2025**
Gathering Community Insights for Walking and Biking Improvements
-  **April 2025**
Community Workshop #1
-  **July 2025**
City Council Workshop
-  **July 2025**
Stakeholder Meeting #2
-  **September 2025 to October 2025**
Public Feedback on Draft Network
-  **October 2025**
Stakeholder Meeting #3
-  **December 2025**
Draft Plan for Public Review

Contact Us

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 Name: Richard Hartman

 Email: Richard.Hartman@MyClearwater.com



Survey – Map your Feedback

Connecting Clearwater – City of Clearwater Active Transportation Plan

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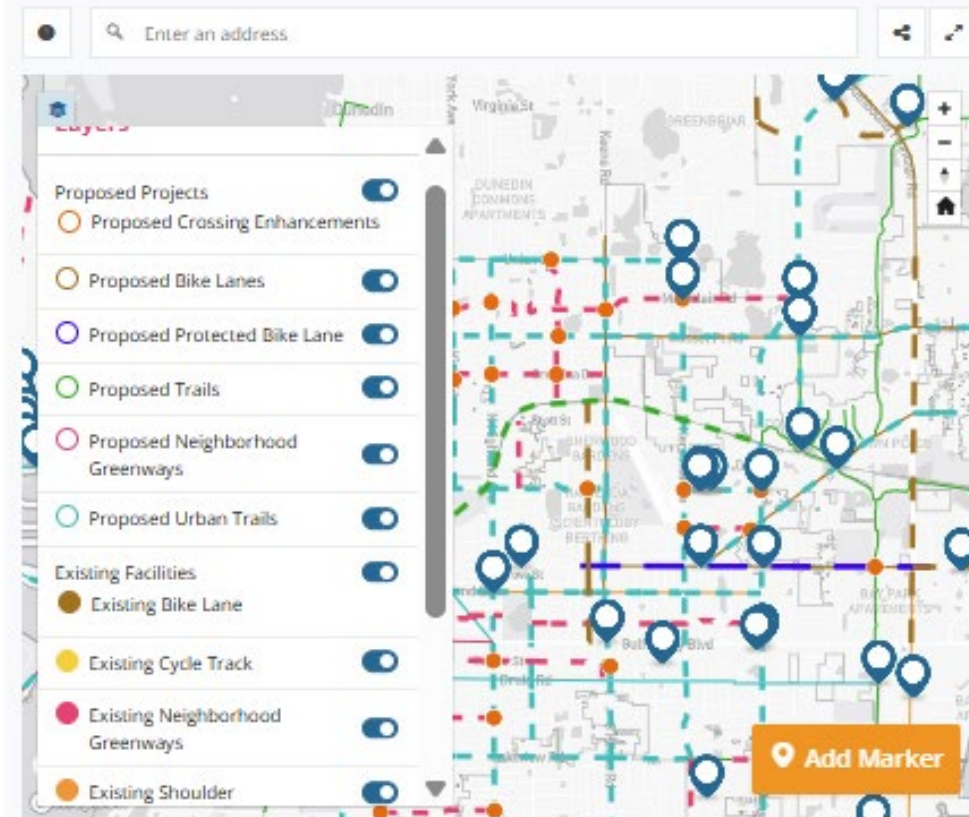
[Overview](#)[Map your Feedback](#)[Take the Survey](#)

Did we miss anything?

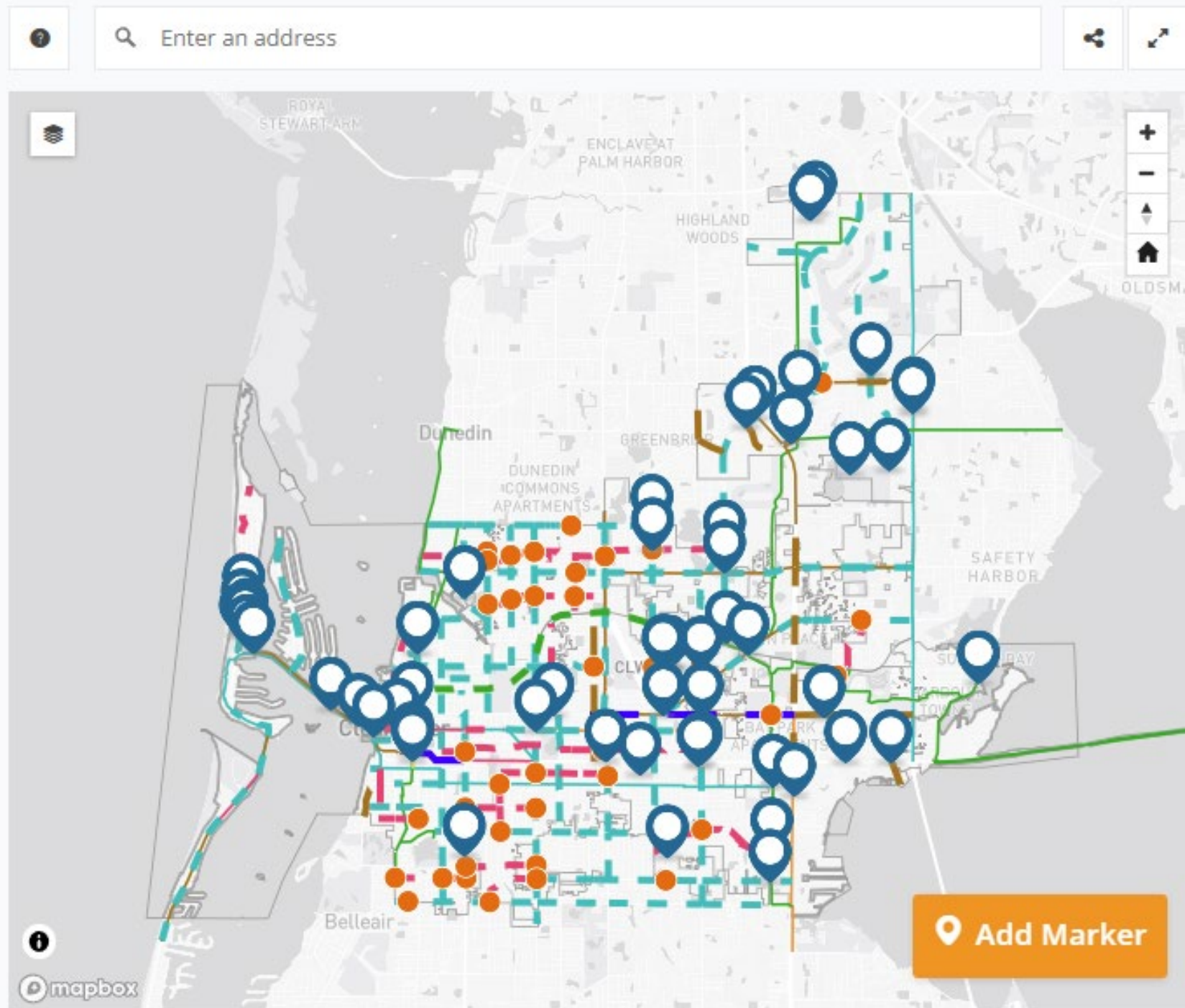
We took your initial feedback to develop a draft network. Take a look at our draft Active Transportation Facilities Map and let us know if we missed anything! For more information about how to turn on and off different map layers and make a comment, please click on the ? icon below.

Enter an address or place a Comment on the Interactive Map

59 contributions so far



Survey – Map your Feedback



Survey – Take the Survey

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Thank you for your interest! We took your initial feedback and the results of the existing conditions analysis to identify potential new walking and biking facilities.

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1) Does the proposed Active Transportation network connect well to the place you travel most, such as work, school, parks, bus stops, or shopping areas?

During the design of each corridor project, care will be taken to identify appropriate crossing treatments at each intersection.

☐ Yes

☐ No

If you answered no to the above question, please provide additional details about where you would like to see facilities, or note on the map.

If yes, tell us why.

2) Resources are limited, and we have to prioritize what we build first. What factors are most important to you? Please rank the choices below from most important to least important.

If you are taking this survey on your mobile device, the first option you touch will be ranked #1, the second #2, etc. If you want to change your selection, you can retouch the option to unselect. If you are taking this on your computer, you can drag the option to the right and place in the order of importance, with the top option being the most important to you.

Demographic Factors - project located in a neighborhood with lots of people who are likely to walk or bike if better facilities are provided, like people without access to a car.



Comfort - project improves the comfort for people walking and bicycling on a corridor, like through physical separation between vehicle traffic.



Implementation Ease - project does not require right-of-way acquisition, utility relocation, tree removal or other elements that take a lot of time to resolve



Safety - project includes safety countermeasures.

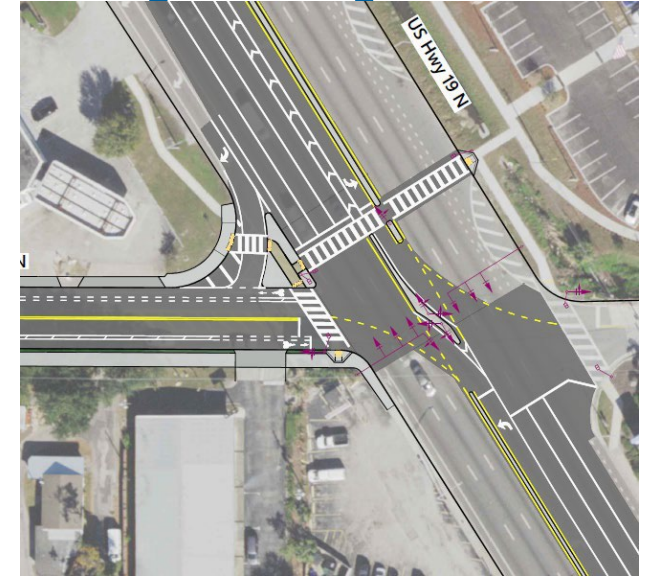
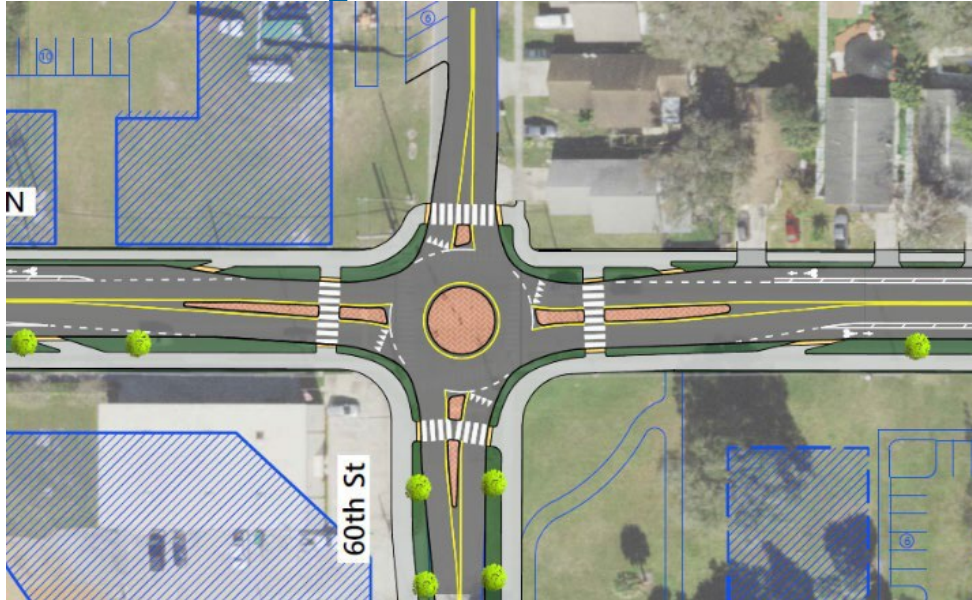


Access and Connectivity - project provides



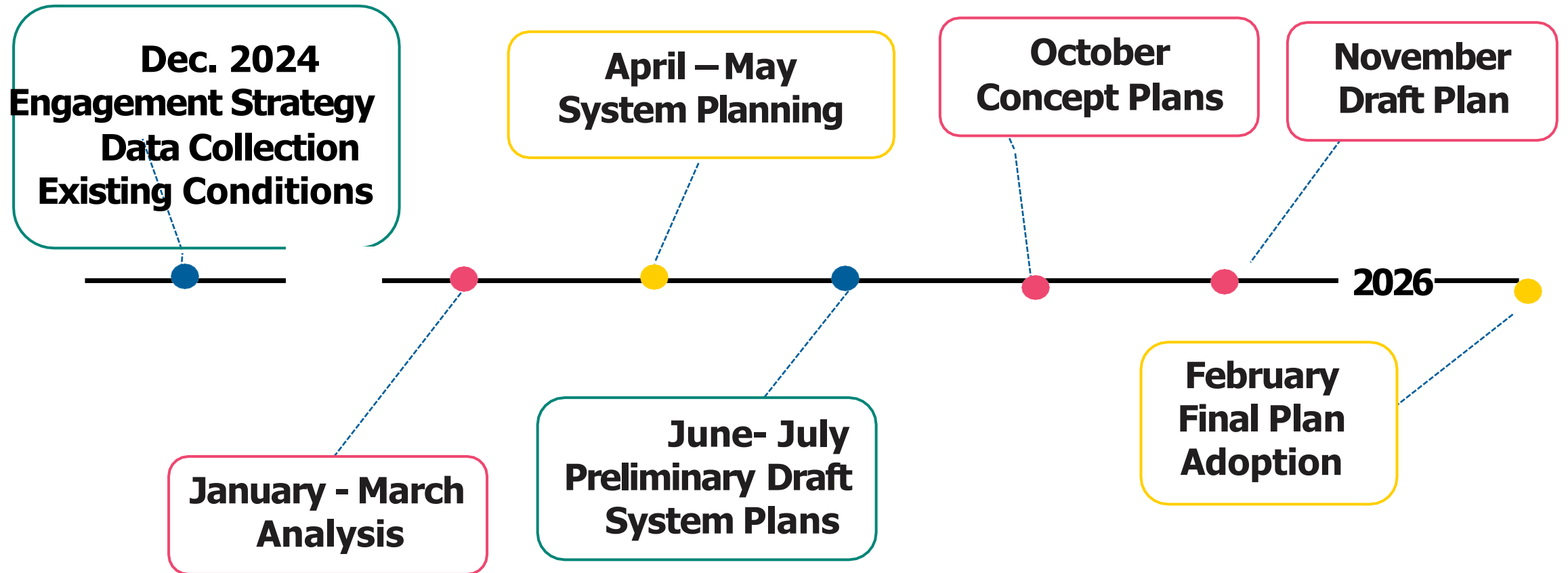
Next Steps

Concept Plan Development (Examples)



- 10 Projects
- Mixture of corridor, intersection, gap closure, crossing treatments
- Cost estimates

Key Task Schedule



What feedback we need:

1. Are there any projects missing?
2. Do you have a suggested refinement to a project description?
3. Do you think the expected timing of a project should be different?
4. Do you think the expected difficulty of a project should be different?
5. Are you ok with the project prioritization criteria?



Next Steps

1. Finalize draft project list
2. Conduct preliminary prioritization
3. Solicit additional feedback from community to finalize project list
4. Prepare concept plans for top ten projects
5. Identify potential policy/code changes
6. Draft ATP Document
7. Next TAC meeting end of September / early October



Connecting Clearwater

Active Transportation Plan



Thank you!