

# MAYORS' CHALLENGE FOR SAFER PEOPLE & SAFER STREETS

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## SUMMIT WORKSHEET

### Challenge Activity 2: Identify and Address Barriers

Communities should ensure that there are transportation choices for people of all ages and abilities. Transportation facilities should be accessible and provide safe, convenient, and interconnected transportation networks. For example, children should have safe and convenient options for walking or bicycling to school.

An important step to making streets safe for all is to assess the safety and comprehensiveness of biking and walking networks in your community. Assessments help a community define their pedestrian and bicyclist transportation challenges and needs by identifying potential safety issues. This includes addressing the needs of older adults and people with disabilities, who may have unique mobility challenges. Assessments help to foster discussion about pedestrian and bicyclist safety as well create an opportunity to use and support new, existing, and planned efforts and tools.

### How do we know we have taken steps to identify and address barriers?

- Team includes or reaches out to representatives who can help ensure that the needs of all users are addressed, such as older adults, bicyclists, and people with disabilities, transit users, children, and low-income residents
- Evaluated transit stops for safe pedestrian and bicycle access
- Projects are routinely checked for adequacy to meet the needs of all road users and transportation planners and engineers plan and design for the needs of people of different ages and abilities
- Provided ADA-compliant access for persons with disabilities wherever a pedestrian way is newly built or altered

### What is available to help make streets safer?

#### **U.S. DOT Resources**

- FHWA
  - A Resident's Guide for Creating Safer Communities for Walking and Biking
  - Pedestrian Road Safety Audit Guidelines and Prompt Lists
  - Bicycle Road Safety Audit Guidelines and Prompt Lists
- FTA
  - Bicycles and Transit: A Partnership That Works
  - Pedestrian and Transit-Friendly Design: A primer for smart growth
- NHTSA
  - Bikeability Checklist
- Department of Justice/Department of Transportation Joint Technical Assistance on the Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act Requirements

**Stakeholder Organization Resources**

- Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center
  - Audit and Checklist Information
- Easter Seals Project Action
  - Checklist for Assessing the Accessibility of Transportation and Mobility
  - Toolkit for the Assessment of Bus Stop Accessibility and Safety (2014 Update)
  - Bicycle Traffic Safety Fact Sheet (2012)
  - Pedestrian Traffic Safety Fact Sheet (2012)

**What is available to address the needs of people of all ages and abilities?****U.S. DOT Resources**

- FHWA
  - Handbook for Designing Roadways for Aging Population
- FTA
  - Road Safety for Transit Patrons Initiative

## Challenge Activity 2: **Identify and Address Barriers**

### Discussion

#### **1. Planning**

- Is your local transit agency actively engaged in your Federally-required metropolitan transportation planning process? For example: does a transit agency representative attend MPO (Metropolitan Planning Organization) meetings to contribute to discussions and decisions about local transportation issues including safe bike-ped access to transit?

#### **2. Outreach:**

- How are community members' and advocacy groups' voices included in the local transportation planning process? For example, how do you incorporate the needs of pedestrians, cyclists, transit riders, low-income earners, young people, older people and people with disabilities into the planning process to ensure that they can "walk and wheel" safely to and from transit?

#### **3. Assessments:**

- What has your city done to conduct pedestrian or bicycle safety assessments? These events convene a group of professionals and community members to take a walk/bike ride together in a small area (e.g, transit station area, corridor, intersection). Together, they assess the quality of bike-ped infrastructure, identify transportation barriers and possible actions to remove those barriers, and build effective working relationships.

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### 4. **Design:**

- How are you utilizing principles of universal design to ensure that all road users can safely “walk and wheel” to transit? Universal design incorporates ADA requirements and goes beyond them to ensure an aesthetically pleasing transportation environment that is barrier-free and therefore accessible to all users, regardless of age or ability.

### 5. **Mapping:**

- How well have you mapped your entire bike-ped network to assess the current level of connectivity and identify gaps/areas for improvement?
- What have you done to cross-walk your bike-ped network map with Census data and bike-ped crash data to identify zones of concern near environmental justice communities, schools, assisted living facilities, etc.?