



Map Source: Google Maps, accessed May 2015.

Context

Transportation behavior—how and why people drive, walk, and bike where they do—is different in each community. These behaviors are influenced by regional and local elements such as highways, topography, sidewalk conditions, and destination. People have destinations in mind when they set out to go somewhere, but barriers such as difficult intersections, broken sidewalks, and lack of shade or visibility create negative experiences residents want to avoid. By talking to small groups of people and mapping destinations and desired connections, as well as barriers and other problems, we can get a good sense for what works well and what should be changed.

A total of 34 people attended the Nashua focus groups, including 7 seniors, 9 active recreationists, 6 steering committee members, 6 parents, and 6 youth. Participants took photographs of 47 assets and 142 barriers in the community, for a total of 189 images.

“Sidewalks [are] missing on Charles City Road north to the campground and park; we have to walk in the street.”

“People coming off Highway 218/27 onto 346 speed down 346, and it is dangerous for walkers trying to cross 346.”

“Residents would like a bike trail that connects from the Little Brown Church and museum on 270th (Cheyenne Ave) to the campground and park area and to town, maybe north of the fairgrounds. There used to be a trail there and a bridge over the river.”



Cedar View Park

“People run and bike on old 218 (old Highway Road) [because there is] less traffic, pretty wide shoulder, not crossing a major road.”

“Lakeshore Park Trail is pleasant to walk; it goes through trees and along the water biking.”

Nashua

Transportation Assets and Barriers | 1. Overview