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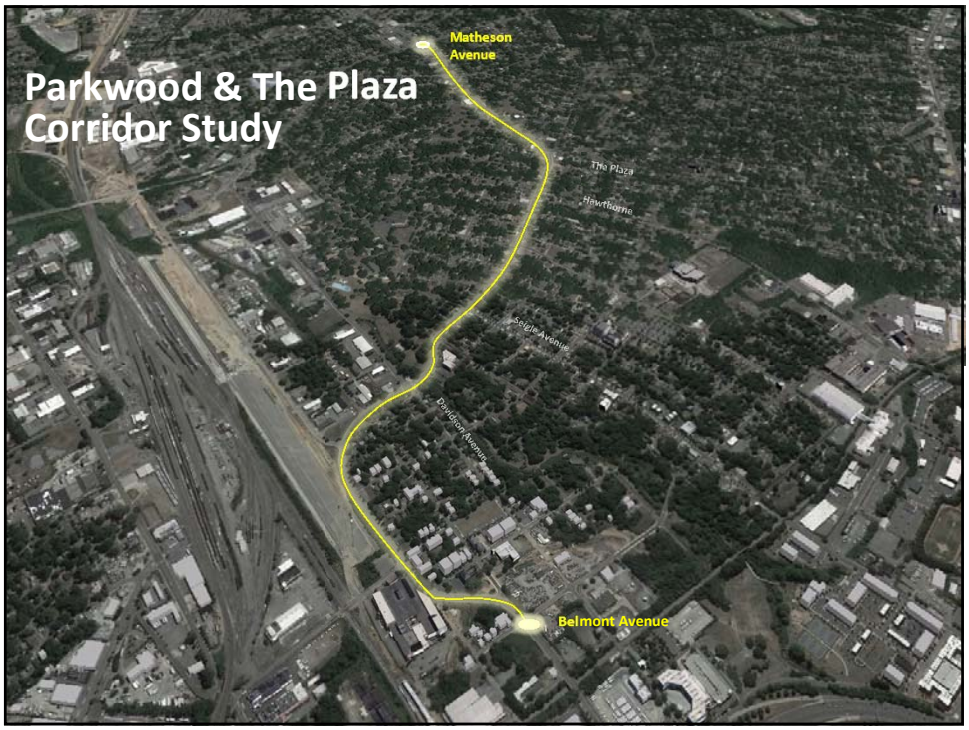
TRANSPORTATION

Parkwood Avenue & The Plaza Corridor Study Status Update

Transportation & Planning Committee

January 9, 2017



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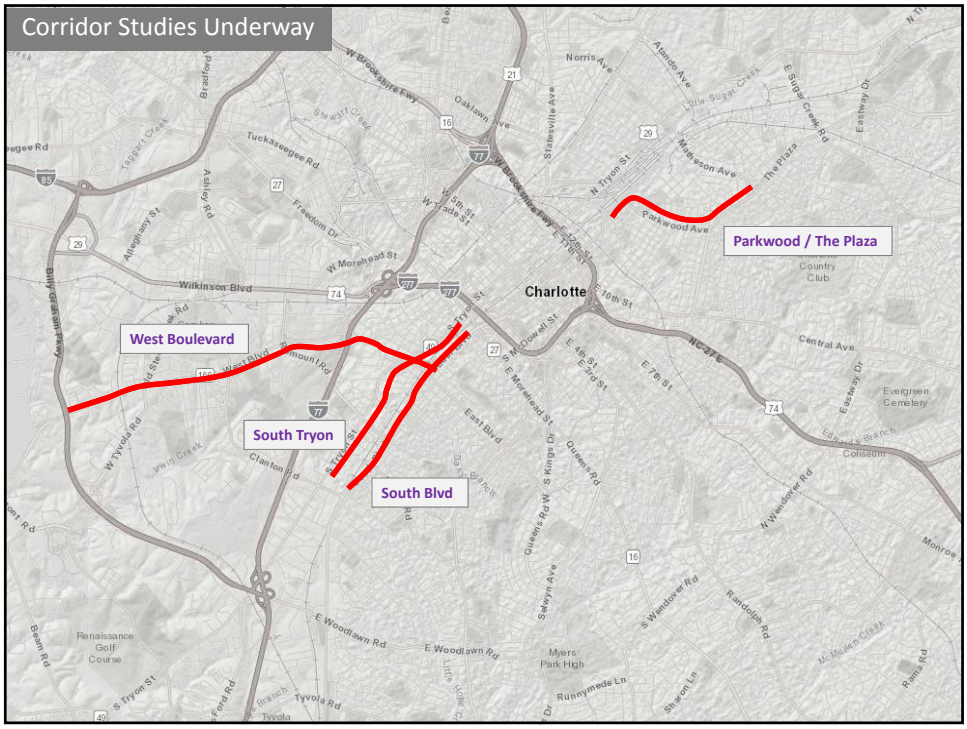
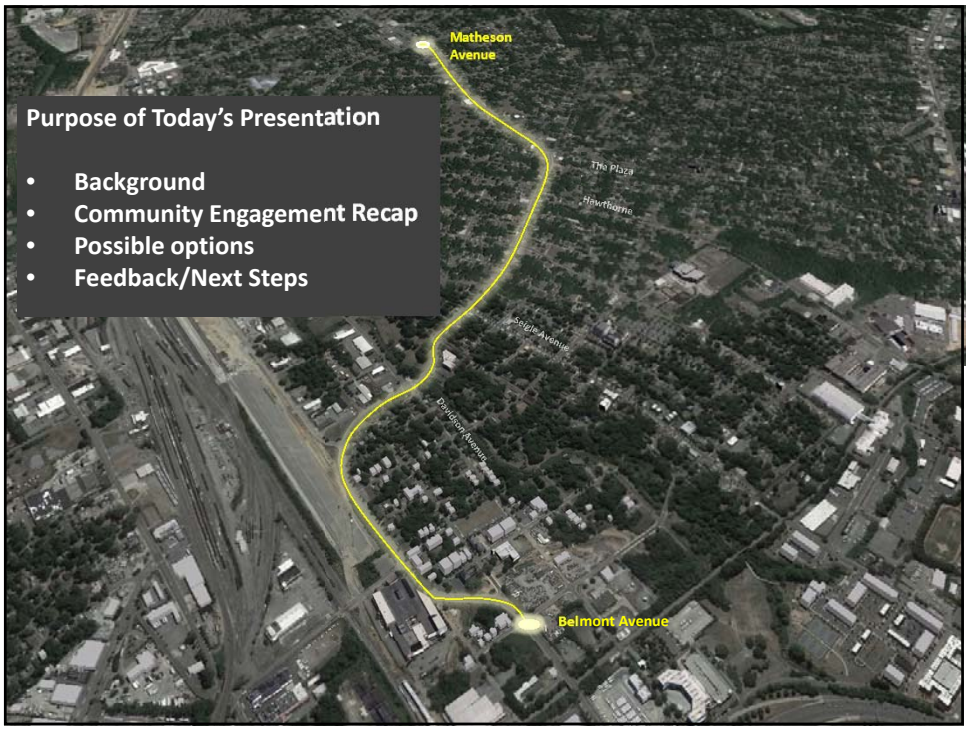

Corridor Studies Underway
Parkwood / The Plaza
West Boulevard
South Tryon
South Blvd
Charlotte


Matheson Avenue
Purpose of Today's Presentation
• Background
• Community Engagement Recap
• Possible options
• Feedback/Next Steps
Belmont Avenue

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Background

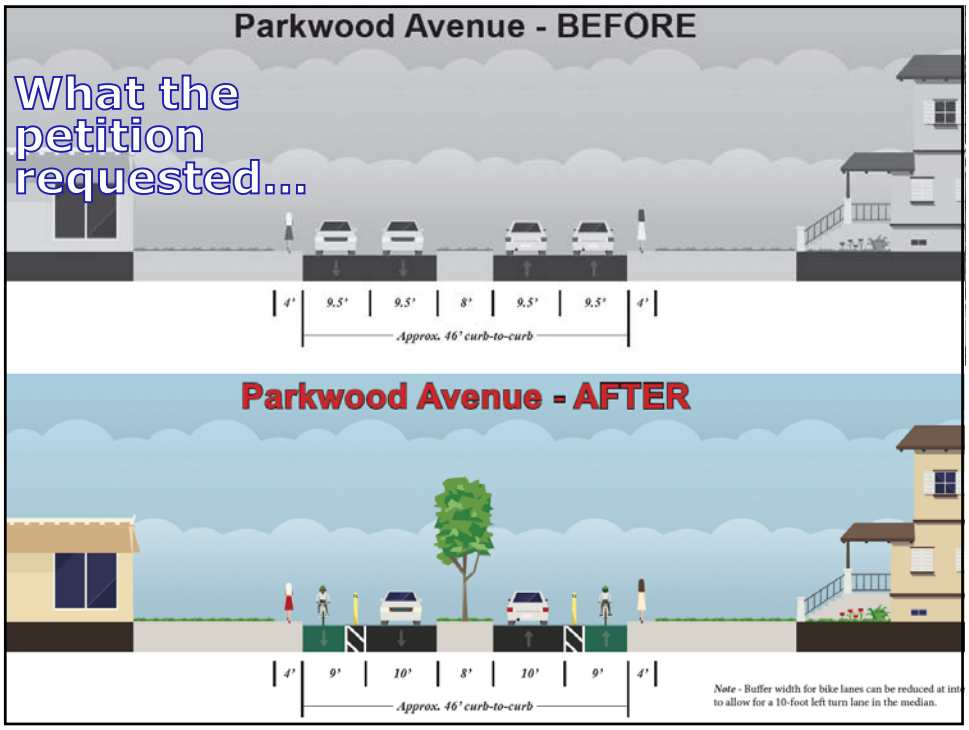
November 2015
- Citizen's Forum – Petition submitted
- Council referred topic to Transportation & Planning Committee

Jan-May 2016
- Council's T&P Committee requested study
- Data collection
- Walking Tours

June – September 2016
- Review & Traffic Analysis

October 2016
- Public Workshops

January 2017
- T&P Committee – Status Update



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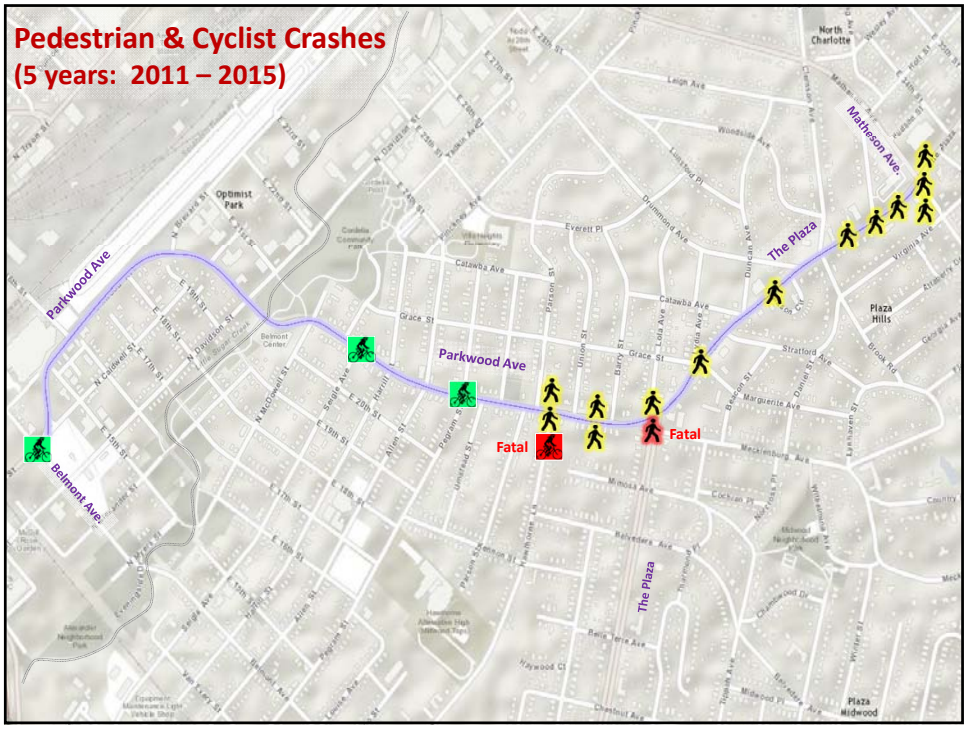
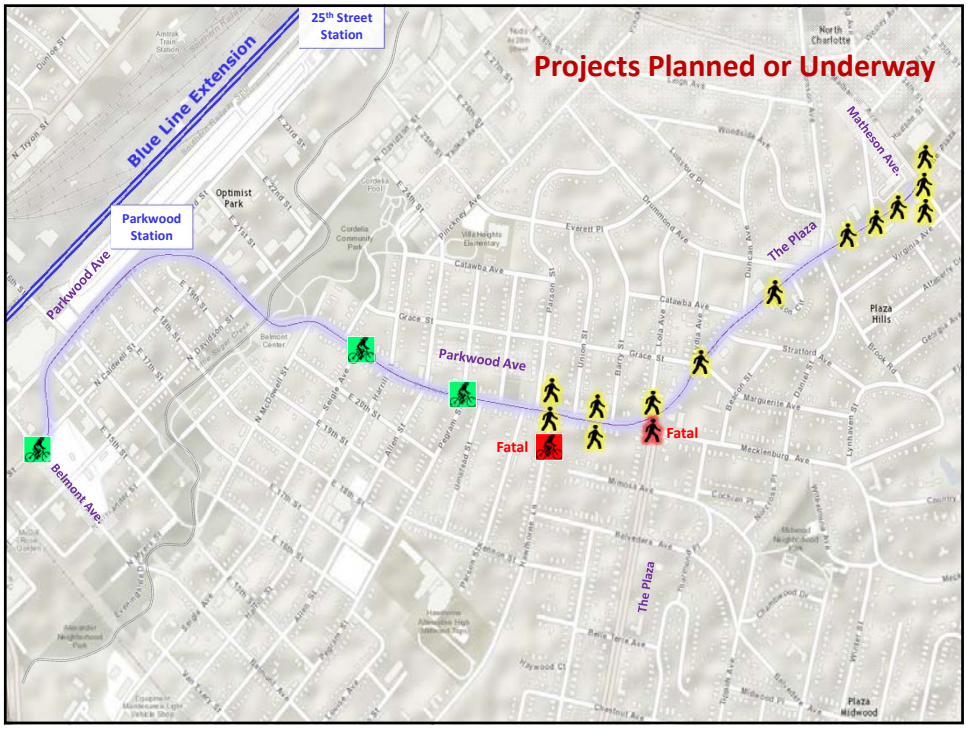

Pedestrian & Cyclist Crashes
(5 years: 2011 – 2015)
Parkwood Ave
Belmont Ave
Parkwood Ave
Fatal
Fatal
The Plaza
Matheson Ave.
The Plaza
Optimist Park
North Charlotte
Plaza Hills
Plaza Midwood


Projects Planned or Underway
Blue Line Extension
25th Street Station
Parkwood Station
Parkwood Ave
Belmont Ave
Parkwood Ave
Fatal
Fatal
The Plaza
Matheson Ave.
The Plaza
Optimist Park
North Charlotte
Plaza Hills
Plaza Midwood

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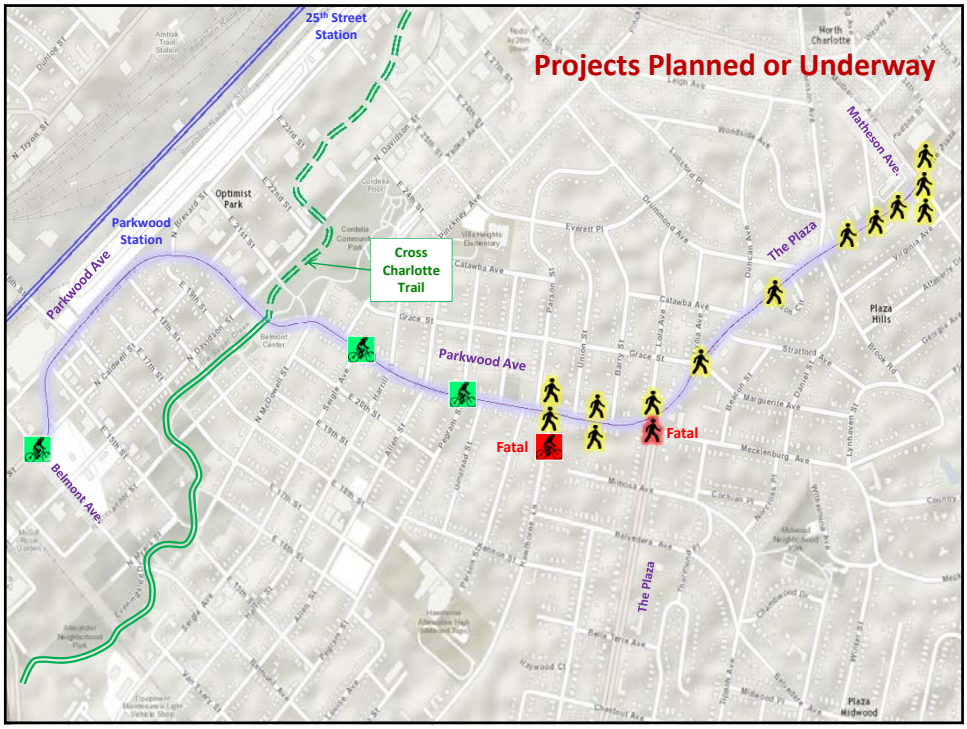
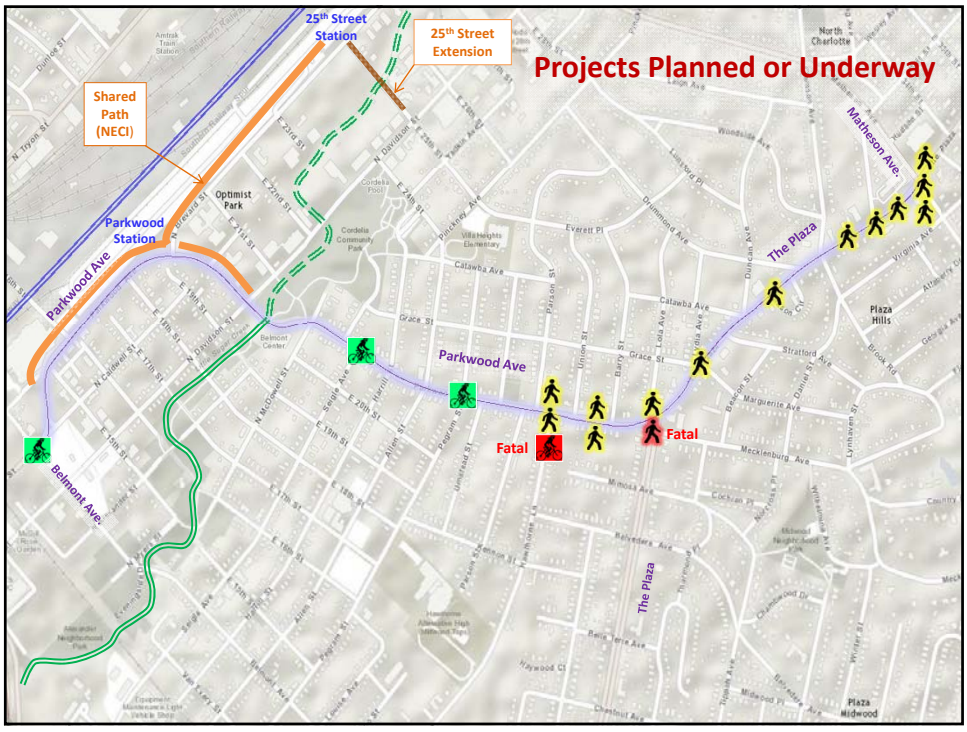

Projects Planned or Underway
25th Street Station
Parkwood Station
Cross Charlotte Trail
Parkwood Ave
Belmont Ave
Matheson Ave
The Plaza
Fatal
Fatal


Projects Planned or Underway
25th Street Station
25th Street Extension
Shared Path (NECI)
Parkwood Station
Parkwood Ave
Belmont Ave
Matheson Ave
The Plaza
Fatal
Fatal

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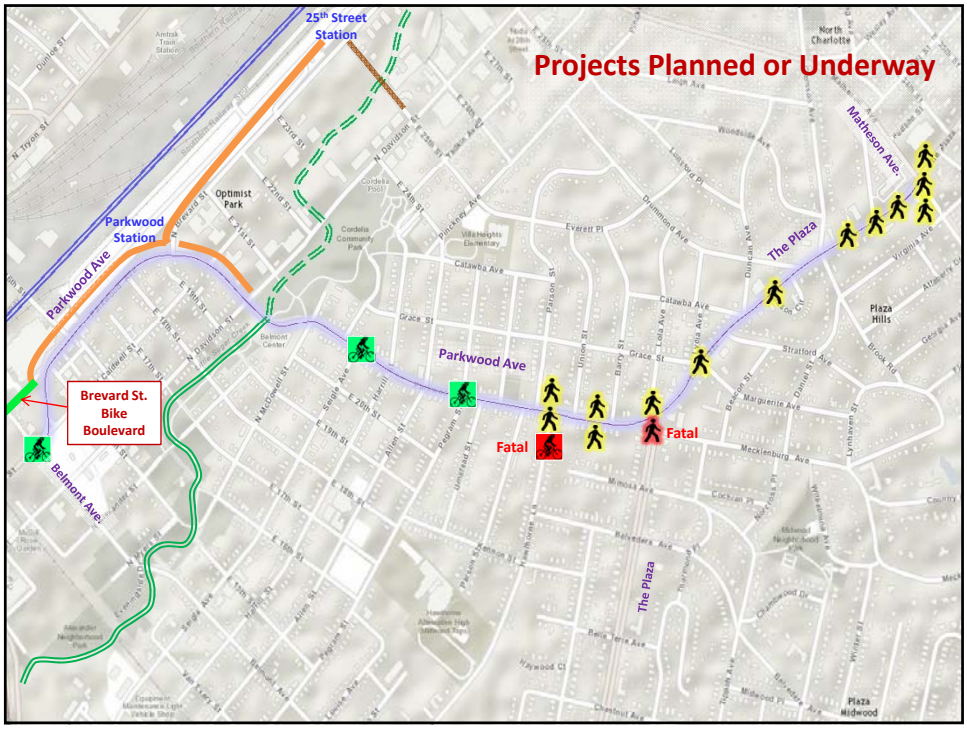
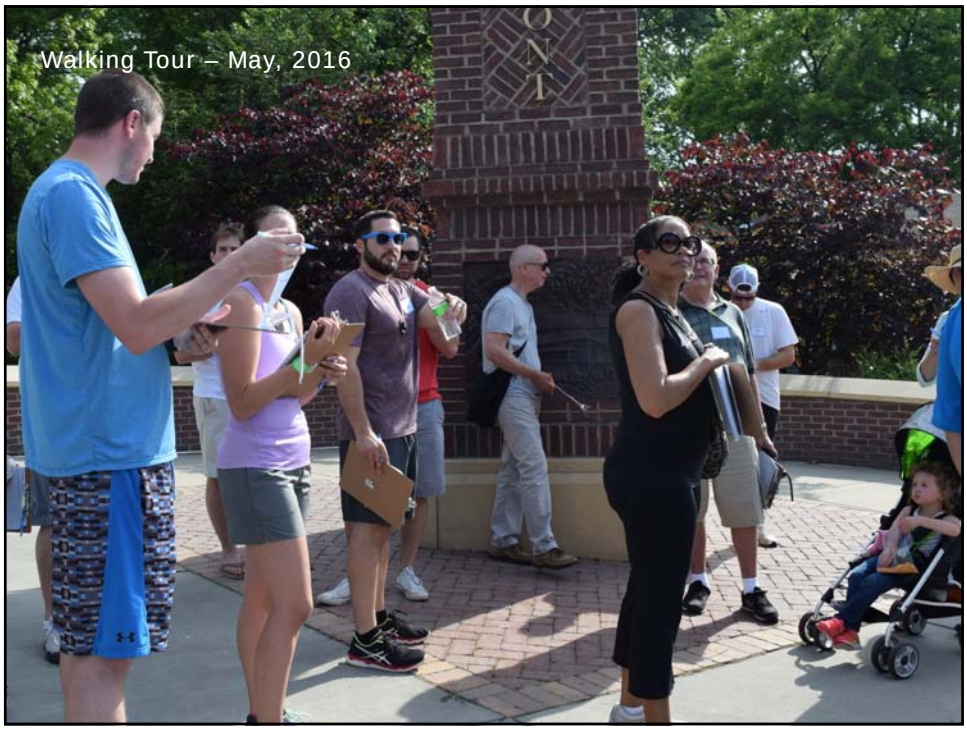

Projects Planned or Underway
25th Street Station
Parkwood Station
Parkwood Ave
Brevard St. Bike Boulevard
Belmont Ave
Parkwood Ave
Fatal
Fatal
The Plaza
Matheson Ave
The Plaza
Plaza Hills
Plaza Midwood
North Charlotte
Optimist Park


Walking Tour – May, 2016

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Parkwood Walking Tour

74% **Crossing is not comfortable for people of all ages and abilities**

80% **Not enough space between pedestrians and traffic**

70% **Bicycling is not comfortable for people of all ages and abilities**

73% **Do not feel comfortable bicycling within the roadway**

- Traffic speed
- Need for additional signals at Seigle and Pegram
- Ability to cross the street (all modes)
- Condition of sidewalks (and aesthetics)
- Concern about ability to access XCLT, LRT

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The Plaza Walking Tour

58% **Crossing is not comfortable for people of all ages and abilities**

61% **Not enough space between pedestrians and traffic**

84% **Bicycling is not comfortable for people of all ages and abilities**

71% **Do not feel comfortable bicycling within the roadway**

- Traffic speed
- Ability to cross the street (all modes)
- Condition of sidewalks (and aesthetics)
- Concern about ability to access XCLT, LRT

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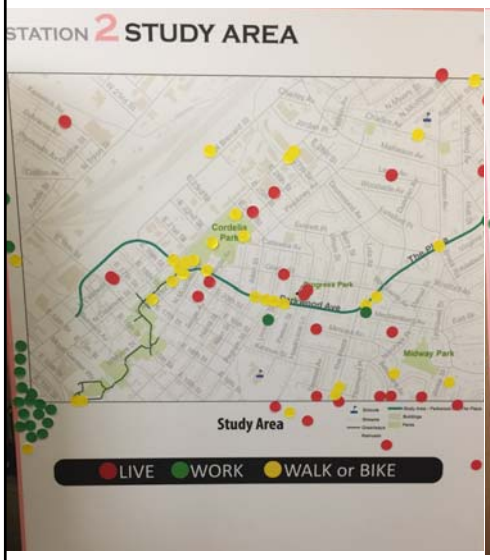
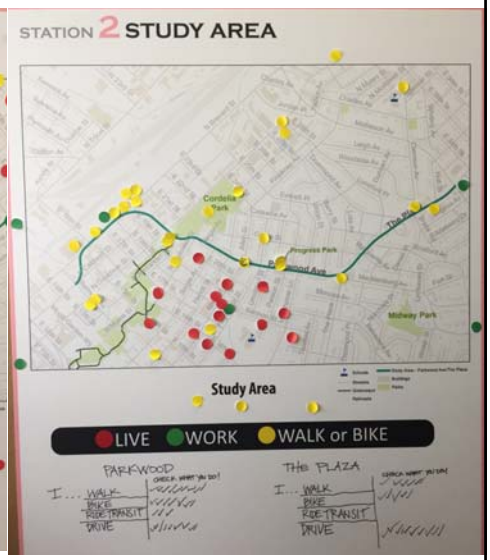
Public Workshops - Feedback





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Public Workshops - Feedback

"My vision for Parkwood is...

...for it to be safer for motorists, bikes and pedestrians. Also to serve as a connector from Belmont, Plaza-Midwood, [Villa] Heights, etc. to the greenway and light rail."

"My vision for The Plaza is...

...much improved sidewalk conditions plus planting strips; protected bike lanes and slowed traffic; better pedestrian crossings. Right now it's terrifying, so I'd love to completely change the feel of this road and be able to use it on a regular basis (not in my car!)."

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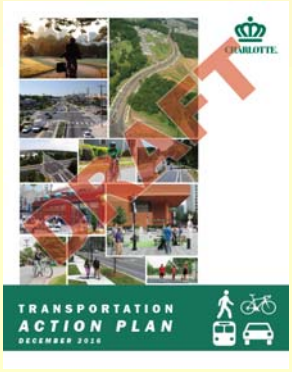
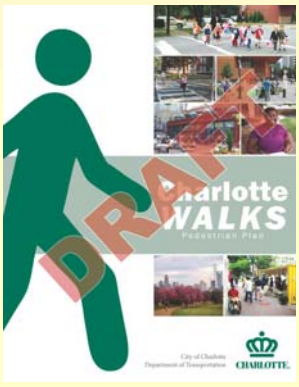
Striking a balance…





Corridor studies are related to the TAP, Charlotte Walks and Charlotte Bikes …mobility, walkability, signals, safety, transportation choices, mode choice, complete streets

How might we balance these different elements?

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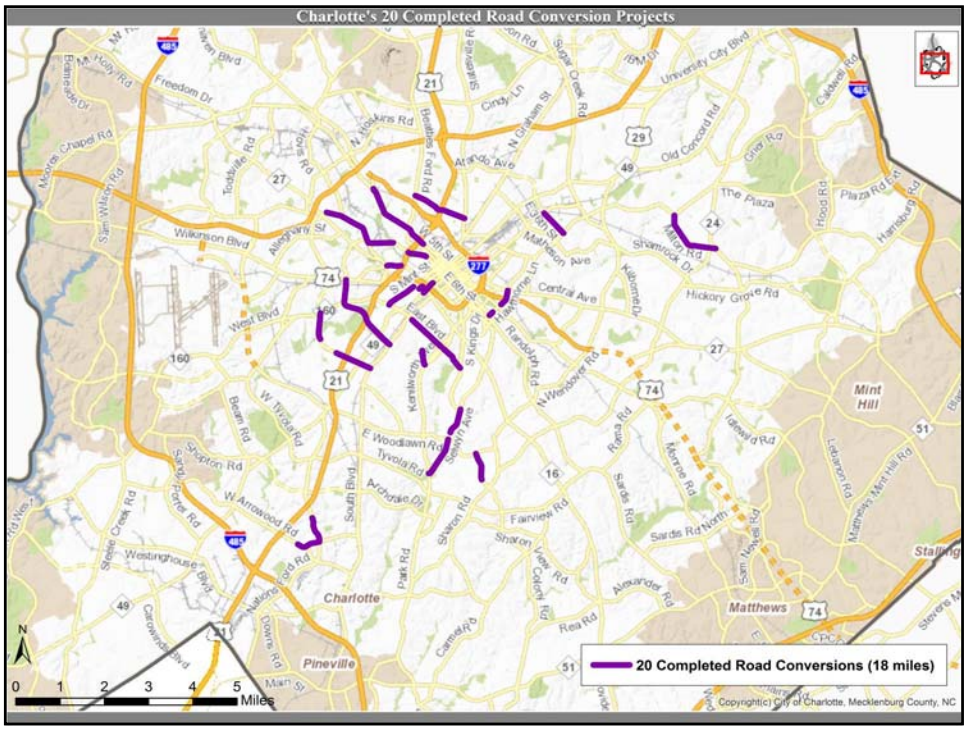
After


Charlotte's 20 Completed Road Conversion Projects
20 Completed Road Conversions (18 miles)
Charlotte
Pineville
Matthews
Mint Hill
0 1 2 3 4 5 Miles
N
Copyright(c) City of Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, NC

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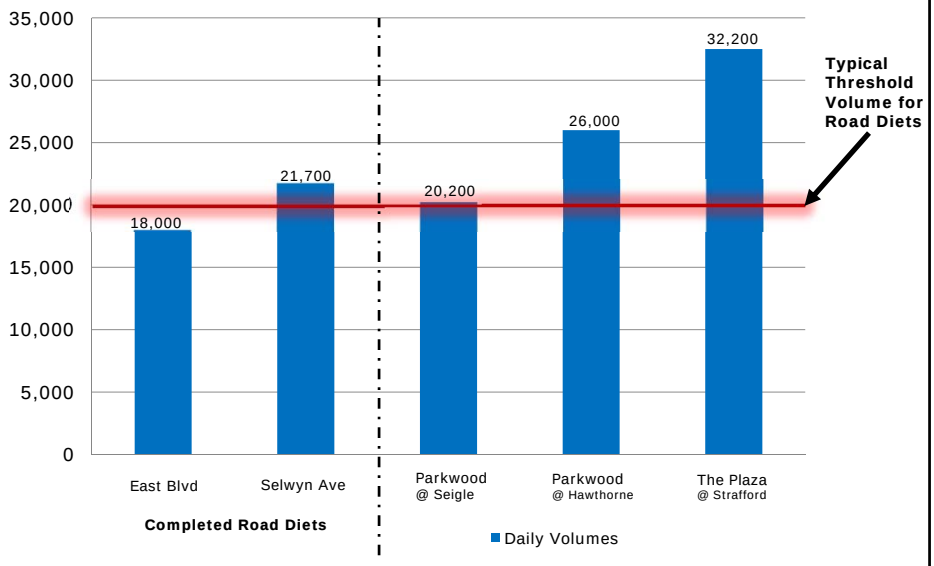
Petition asked for a road diet and protected bike lanes…



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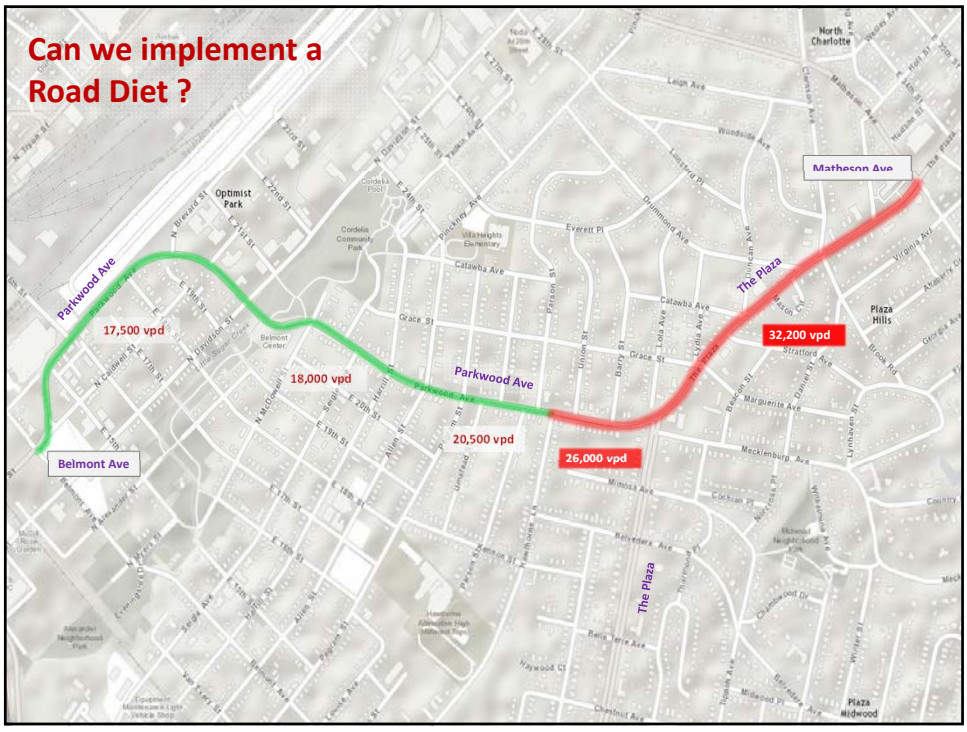
Parkwood Ave


Can we implement a Road Diet ?
Parkwood Ave
17,500 vpd
18,000 vpd
20,500 vpd
26,000 vpd
32,200 vpd
Belmont Ave
The Plaza
Matheson Ave
Optimist Park
Plaza Hills
Plaza Midwood
North Charlotte

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Road Diet Findings

Attendees were very supportive of a road diet on Parkwood

	Parkwood
Accommodates 2016 traffic ?	Yes
+ 10% traffic ?	Yes
+ 20% traffic ?	Noticeable congestion

Parkwood Road Diet - Achieves community goals

- Handles existing traffic
- Moderates speeds
- Improves pedestrian buffers from traffic
- Improves bicycle facilities
- Improves crossing opportunities
- Accommodates bikes/pedestrians to/from BLE and XCLT

Road Diet Findings

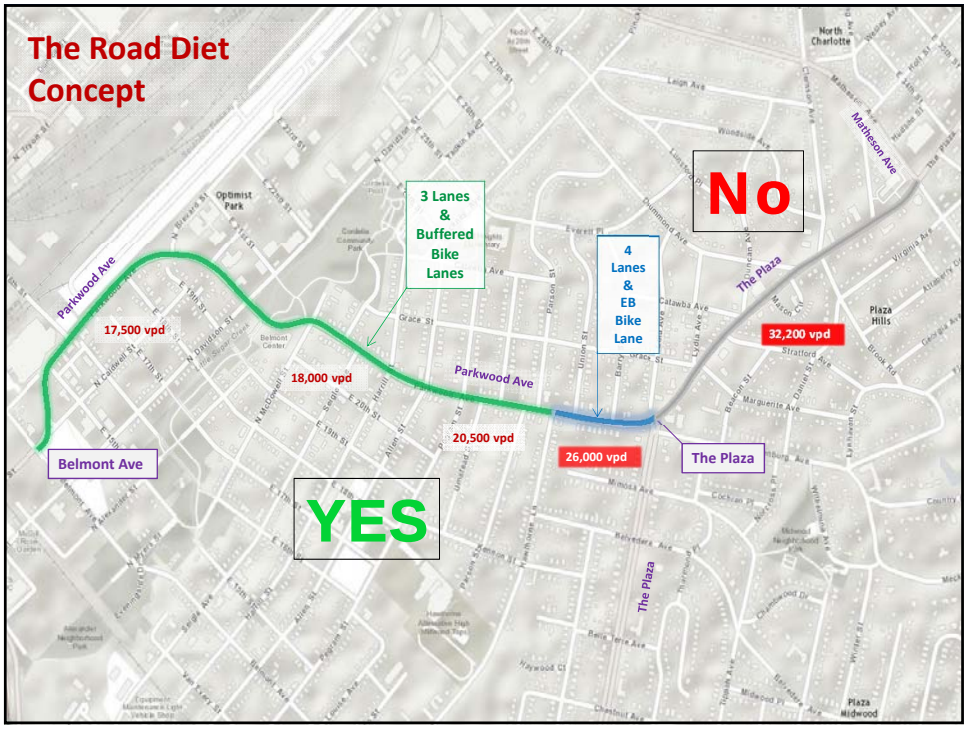
	Parkwood	The Plaza
Accommodates 2016 traffic ?	Yes	No
+ 10% traffic ?	Yes	No
+ 20% traffic ?	Noticeable congestion	No

Parkwood Road Diet - Achieves community goals

- Handles existing traffic
- Moderates speeds
- Improves pedestrian buffers from traffic
- Improves bicycle facilities
- Improves crossing opportunities
- Accommodates bikes/pedestrians to/from BLE and XCLT

The Plaza Road Diet - Achieves many community goals, but can't handle the traffic

- Does not handle existing traffic
- Moderates speeds
- Improves pedestrian buffers from traffic
- Improves bicycle facilities
- Improves crossing opportunities
- Accommodates bikes/pedestrians to/from BLE and XCLT



Preliminary Recommendations: PARKWOOD

- **Road diet for Parkwood**
  - Includes buffered bike lanes
  - Moves motorists away from sidewalks
  - Slows speeds
  - Some increased congestion during peak times
- Add new crossings/signals & enhance existing crossings
- Reaffirm community support on road diet
- Seek funding – estimated cost of $ +/- 2.5 million

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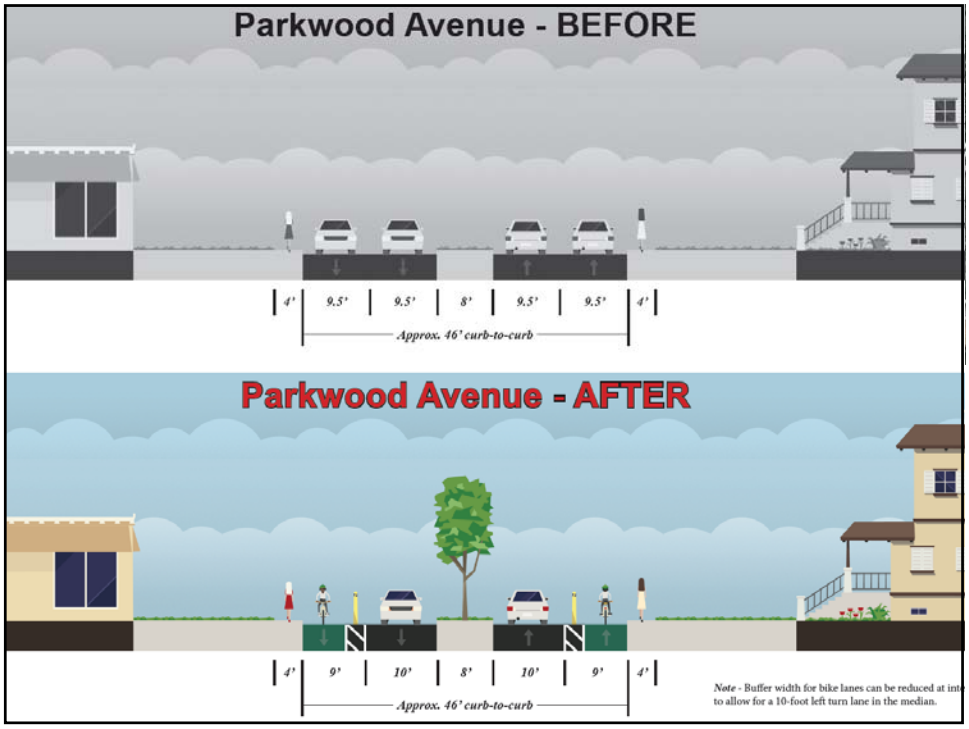

Preliminary Recommendations: THE PLAZA

- **No road diet for The Plaza**
- **Identify crossing opportunity near Stratford Avenue**
- **Leading Pedestrian Intervals at signals (Matheson)**
- **Determine bike/pedestrian friendly cross-section as development occurs**

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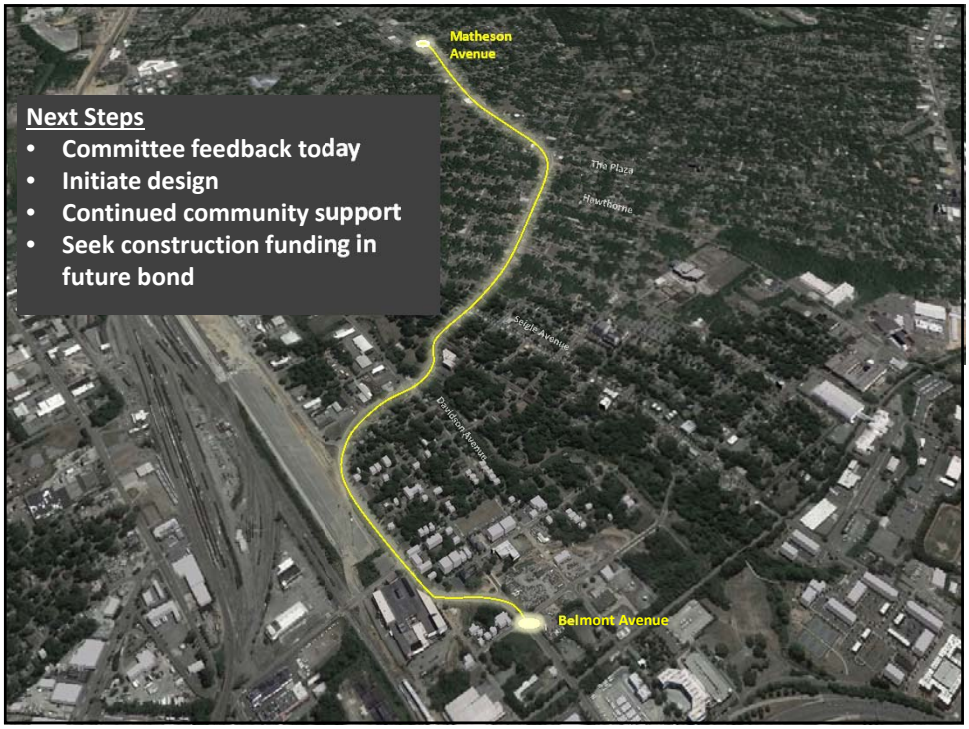

Next Steps

- Committee feedback today
- Initiate design
- Continued community support
- Seek construction funding in future bond

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TRANSPORTATION

Transportation Plan Updates
Next Steps

Transportation and Planning Committee
January 9, 2017

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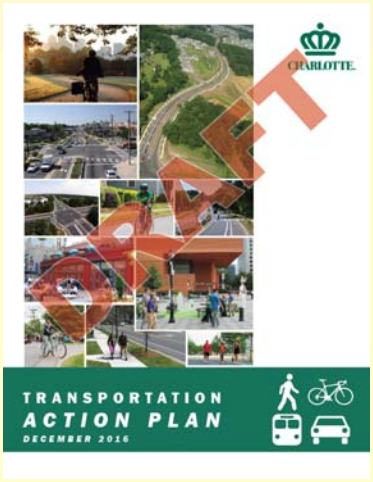
Transportation Action Plan

- Received draft on 11/7/16
- Public comment period open
- Plan is on-line



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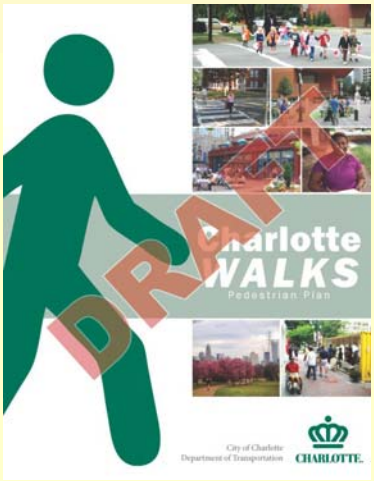
Charlotte WALKS

- Received draft on 11/7/16
- Public comment period open
- Plan is on-line



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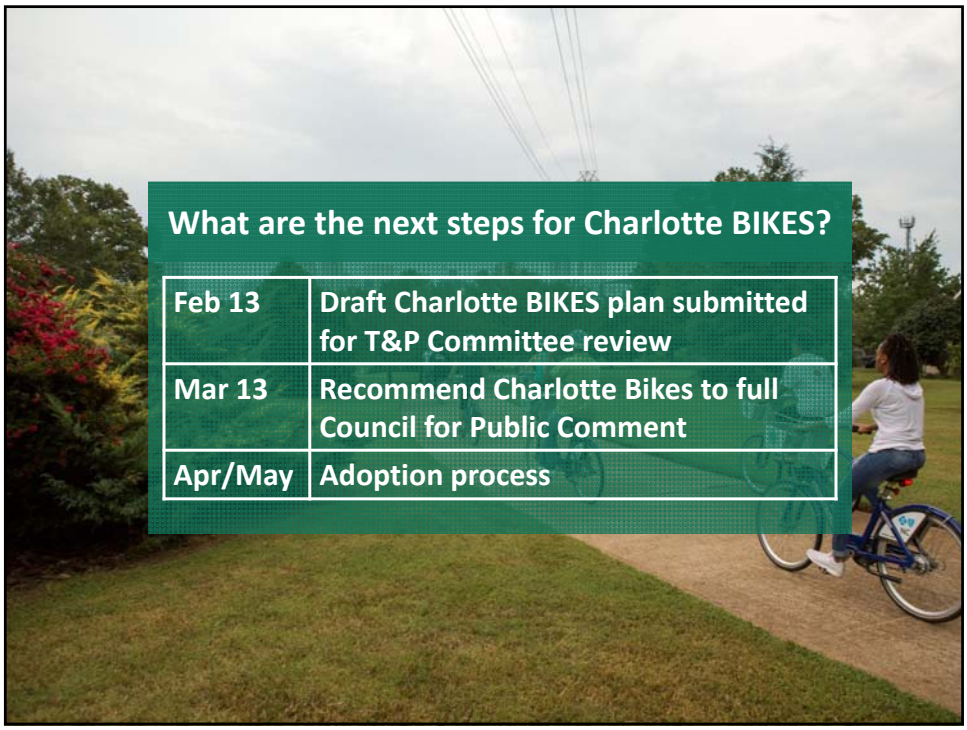
Charlotte BIKES

- Will receive draft on 2/13/17
- BAC is working with Ben Miller on key topics/review
- Plan will be placed on-line in February

The Six "E's" of a Bicycle-Friendly Community
• Engineering
• Equity
• Education
• Encouragement
• Enforcement
• Evaluation & Planning


What are the next steps for Charlotte BIKES?
Feb 13 | Draft Charlotte BIKES plan submitted for T&P Committee review
Mar 13 | Recommend Charlotte Bikes to full Council for Public Comment
Apr/May | Adoption process

Questions?

Transportation and Planning Committee

2016: The Year in Review

Prezi

During 2016
the Committee was in session
10 times=
15.916 hours (955 minutes)

Prezi

The Committee referred to the full Council for adoption/support

Managed Lanes

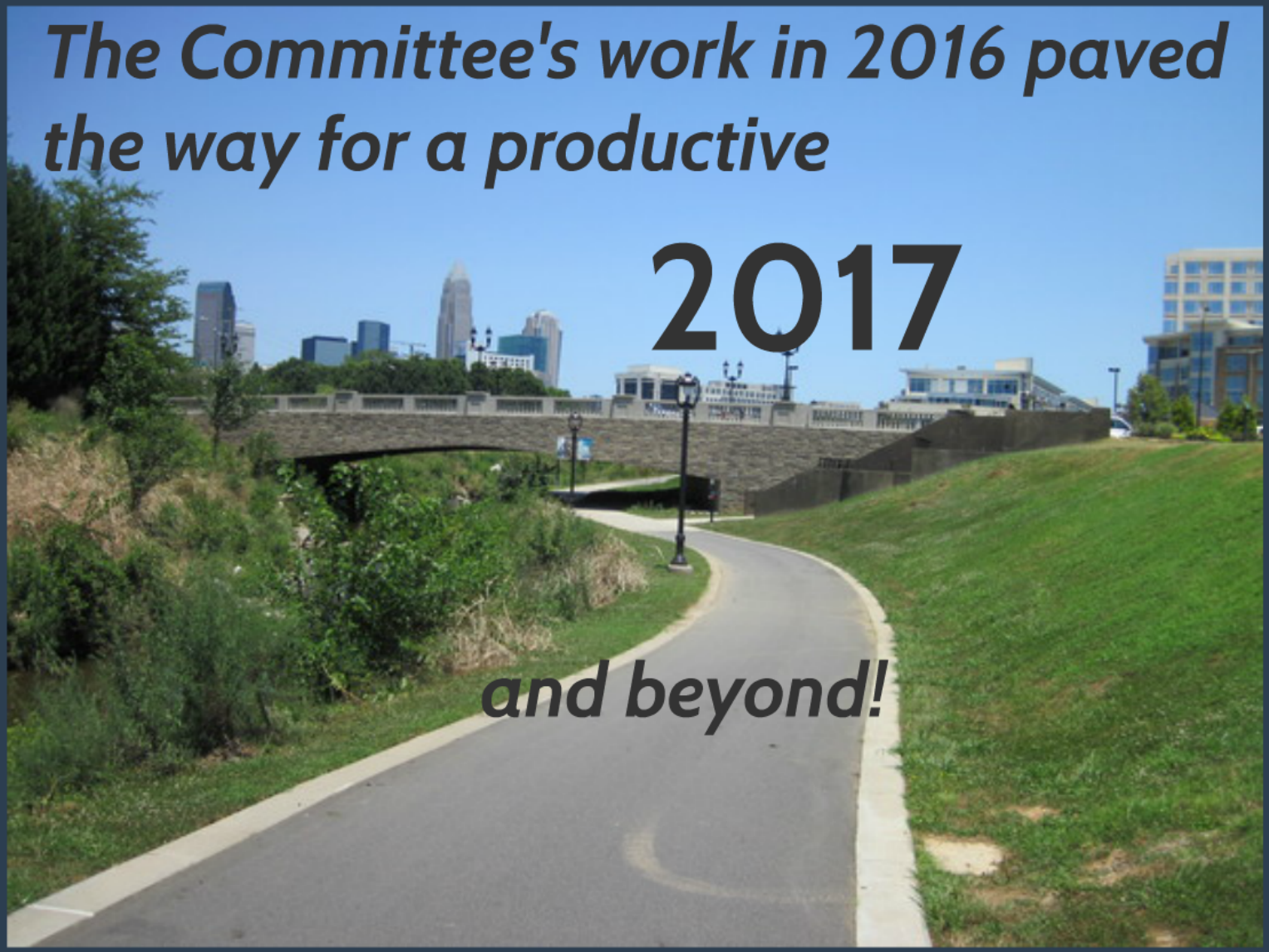
North Tryon Vision Plan

Prezi

The Committee received

- 5 Transportation Action Plan updates
- 5 Charlotte Place Types and Unified Developme Ordinance updates
- 3 Charlotte WALKS updates
- 2 Charlotte BIKES updates
- 2 Focus Area Plan updates
- 2 North Tryon Vision Plan updates

Prezi


The Committee's work in 2016 paved the way for a productive
2017
and beyond!

Prezi