



Montgomery Planning Countywide Planning and Policy

9/8/2022

# Draft Policy, Design and Programming Recommendations

## Pedestrian Master Plan



# Presentation Roadmap

- Why a Pedestrian Master Plan?
- What is the Pedestrian Master Plan?
- Plan Goals
- How Far Along are We?
- Types of Recommendations
- Policy, Design and Programming Recommendations
- Pedestrian Prioritization Tool
- Plan Timeline

# Why a Pedestrian Master Plan?

- Specifically called for in the County's first Vision Zero Action Plan in 2017
  - Pedestrians are disproportionately likely to be seriously injured or killed on our roads
- In addition, improving pedestrian conditions (and increasing walking) has public health, economy, climate and equity benefits

# What is the Pedestrian Master Plan?

The county's first Pedestrian Master Plan will make walking and rolling safer, more comfortable, more convenient and more accessible for pedestrians of all ages and abilities in all parts of the county.

All trips within a short distance should be realistic pedestrian trips.

# What is the Pedestrian Master Plan?

“The plan will strengthen the existing culture of walking and expand it in the years ahead by prioritizing pedestrian infrastructure and recommending updates to County policies, operational practices, and design standards.”

# Pedestrian Plan Goals

1. Increase Walking Rates and Pedestrian Satisfaction
2. Create a Comfortable, Connected, Convenient Pedestrian Network
3. Enhance Pedestrian Safety
4. Build an Equitable and Just Pedestrian Network

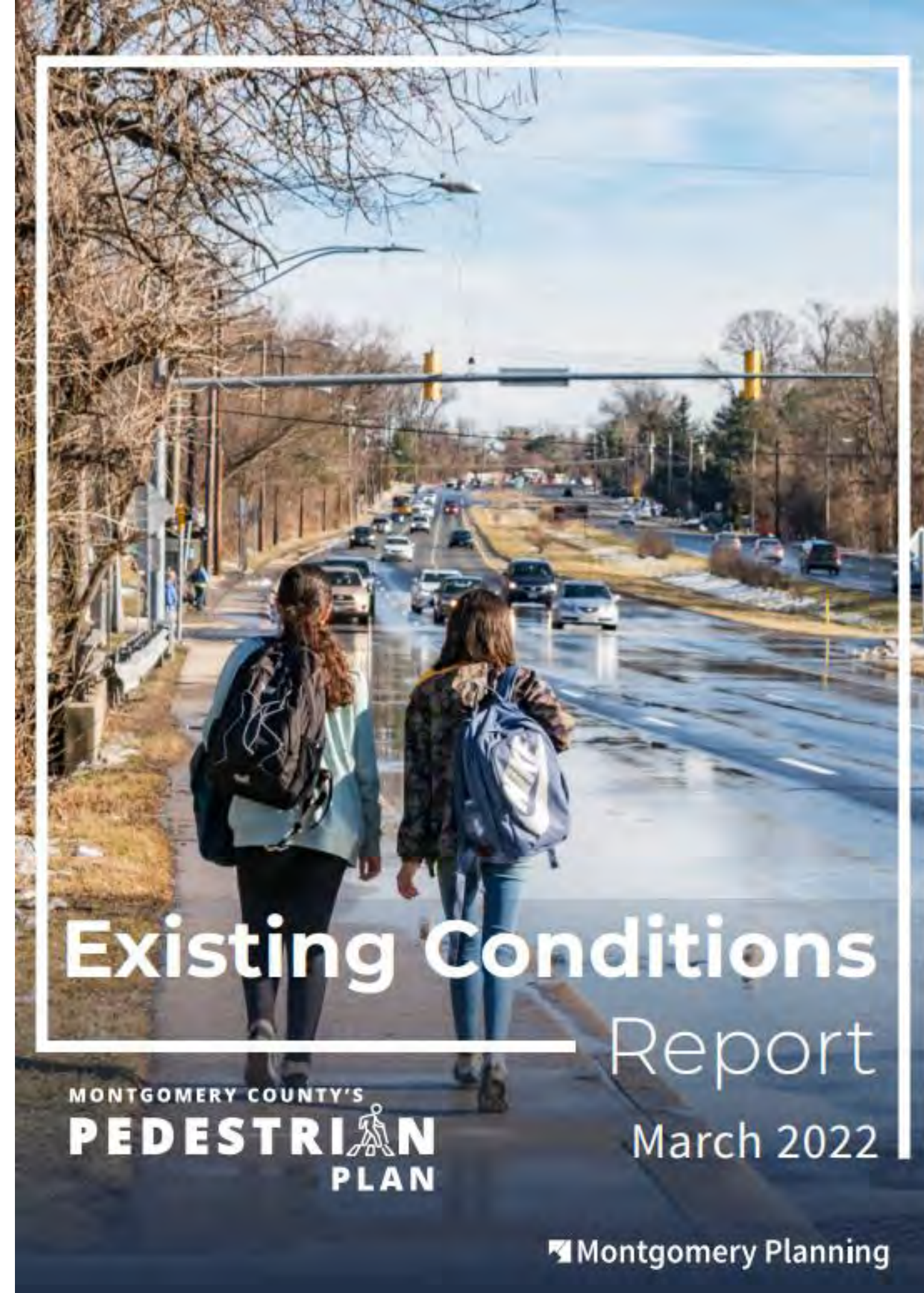


# How Far Along are We?

- Began Public Engagement: September 2019
- Existing Conditions Report: March 2022
  - Countywide Pedestrian Level of Comfort Analysis
  - MCPS Student Travel Tally
  - 2015-2020 Pedestrian Crash Analysis
  - Countywide Pedestrian Survey

See the full report/appendices on our project website:  
[www.montgomeryplanning.org/walkinghere](http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/walkinghere)

- Recommendation Development: Ongoing



# Recommendations Included in Plan

- Design, Policy, and Programming
- Prioritize Locations for Capital Projects
- Pedestrian Shortcut Locations
- Country Sidepaths
- Complete Streets Design Guide Area Technical Translation



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# Design, Policy, and Programming

- 34 Recommendations across 6 Themes
  - Build
  - Maintain
  - Protect
  - Expand Access
  - Monitor
  - Fund
- 94 Key Actions across 34 Recommendations



# Build Recommendations

**B-1:** Build more sidewalks faster

**B-2:** Pedestrians should not have to press a button to cross the street

**B-3:** Create direct and accessible street crossings

**B-4:** Build more walkable places

**B-5:** Light pathways and crossings

**B-6:** Shade pedestrian pathways

**B-7:** Create more pedestrian connections and formalize pedestrian shortcuts

**B-8:** Reduce natural barriers to walking and rolling

**B-9:** Make traffic calming easier to implement

**B-10:** Assume county control of state highways

**B-11:** Make more restrooms available to all

**B-12:** Address curbside management



# Maintain Recommendations

[MA-1: Fix sidewalks proactively](#)

[MA-2: Keep sidewalks and curb ramps clear](#)

[MA-3: Incorporate roadway maintenance into utility projects](#)



# Protect Recommendations

**P-1:** Disincentivize dangerous vehicles

**P-2:** Improve and expand protected crossings

**P-3:** Design pedestrian-safe parking lots

**P-4:** Prioritize data-driven roadway safety projects

**P-5:** Educate and encourage pedestrians of all ages to walk safely

**P-6:** Make the walk to school safer and more direct

**P-7:** Address access management





# Expand Access Recommendations

**EA-1:** Reduce tripping hazards

**EA-2:** Remove sidewalk obstructions

**EA-3:** Provide pedestrians more time to cross the street

**EA-4:** Make pedestrian signals more accessible

**EA-5:** Improve guidance for pedestrians with low or no vision

**EA-6:** Provide more opportunities for accessible park experiences

**EA-7:** Exceed existing accessibility requirements

**EA-8:** Regulate shared spaces

**EA-9:** Make work zones more accessible



# Monitor Recommendations

**MO-1:** Track implementation of the  
Pedestrian Master Plan

**MO-2:** Conduct a pedestrian 311 equity  
review

# Fund Recommendations

**F-1:** Identify new revenue sources to fund pedestrian improvements





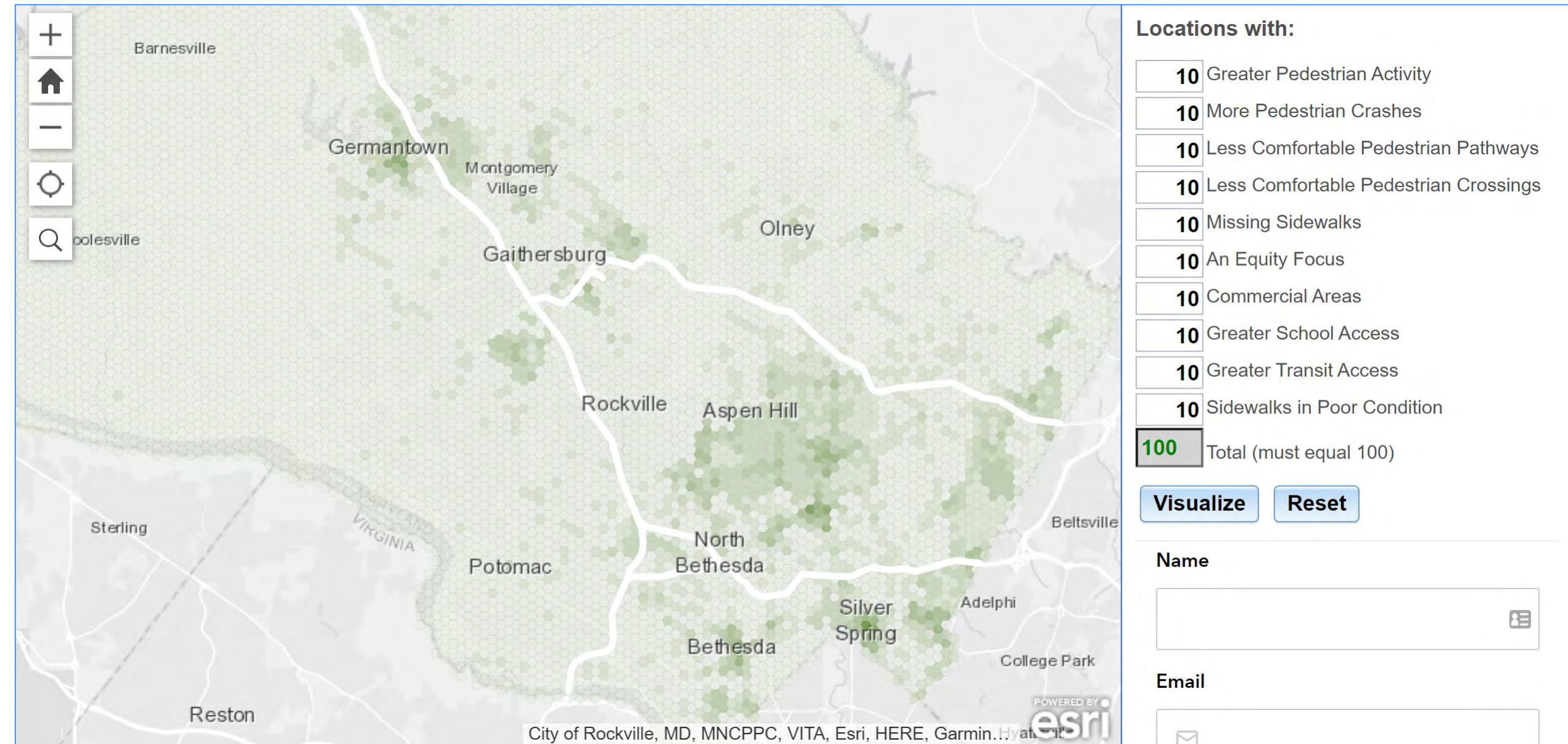
# Recommendations Included in Plan

- Design, Policy, and Programming
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# Pedestrian Prioritization Tool

- Create a data-driven approach to prioritizing where pedestrian pathways and improved crossings are constructed





# Pedestrian Prioritization Tool

1. Review the prioritization factors
2. Assign points to each factor
3. Click “Visualize”
4. Click “Submit Prioritization”

**Locations with:**

<input type="text" value="10"/>	Greater Pedestrian Activity
<input type="text" value="10"/>	More Pedestrian Crashes
<input type="text" value="10"/>	Less Comfortable Pedestrian Pathways
<input type="text" value="10"/>	Less Comfortable Pedestrian Crossings
<input type="text" value="10"/>	Missing Sidewalks
<input type="text" value="10"/>	An Equity Focus
<input type="text" value="10"/>	Commercial Areas
<input type="text" value="10"/>	Greater School Access
<input type="text" value="10"/>	Greater Transit Access
<input type="text" value="10"/>	Sidewalks in Poor Condition
<input type="text" value="100"/>	Total (must equal 100)

**Visualize** **Reset**

Name

Email

City of Rockville, MD, MNCPPC, VITA, Esri, HERE, Garmin. . .

# Weigh In!

## **Access the project website:**

**[montgomeryplanning.org/walkinghere](https://montgomeryplanning.org/walkinghere)**

- Review all Design, Policy and Programming recommendations and key actions
  - Provide your perspective: Let us know what works, what's missing and what can be improved!
- Share your priorities for funding pedestrian improvements using the Pedestrian Prioritization Tool.



# Plan Timeline

Task	Date
Community engagement about draft recommendations	July/August 2022
Present draft recommendations to Planning Board	September 2022
Continue community engagement	September – December 2022
Write draft plan	September – December 2022
Work sessions with Planning Board begin	2023

## BUILD

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## FUND

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# Index of Recommendations





# Thank You!

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montgomeryplanning.org

MONTGOMERY COUNTY'S  
**PEDESTRIAN**   
**PLAN**



# Equity Focus

- Design, Policy and Programming recommendations are holistic, systemic and countywide.
  - Some (like prioritizing locations for increased shade and a data-driven approach to installing new sidewalks) have a specific equity element.
- A separate data-driven prioritization approach in this plan will guide where pedestrian capital projects are targeted
  - Anticipate a strong emphasis on Equity Focus Areas for implementation