4 Community Engagement



Community Participation

Successful plans are partnerships between local agencies, stakeholders, and community members. Engaging the Bryte / Broderick communities and the broader West Sacramento community has been a priority throughout the Sacramento Avenue Complete Street Plan process to ensure the Plan addresses community concerns and priorities. A variety of outreach opportunities, led by GHD's sub consultant, AIM, were used to seek input from West Sacramento's community members, including targeted coordination with key community stakeholder groups, several pop-ups and open-house style community meetings, as well as email and social media blasts, flyers, and lawn signs. Additionally, a project website was developed, which includes a project landing page and corridor use and theme survey, as well as an interactive map and ideas wall that allowed members of the public to provide comments regarding corridor concerns and priorities.

Ongoing outreach ensured a continuous process that informed the final improvement concept and development of the Plan. This Chapter presents an overview of the format and approach for these outreach opportunities, and summarizes the feedback received. This plan reflects the guidance and input gathered through a robust community outreach process, summarized in the timeline below. Additional details about community engagement can be found in the Appendix.

Project Development Team

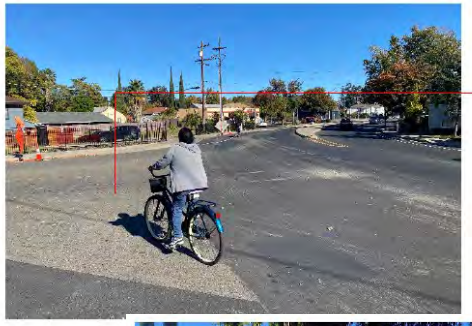
A project development team (PDT) was developed to provide the project team with insight from key interdepartmental representatives from the City of West Sacramento and other relevant government agencies. GHD met with the PDT at key decision points in the development of the Plan, including project kick-off, existing conditions, goals and strategy development, and concept development.

Walk Audit

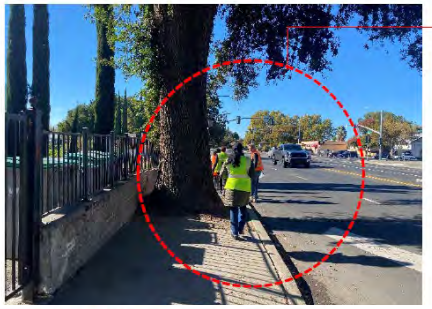
At the start of the project walk audit was performed with the PDT to gather feedback regarding the existing conditions along the corridor. Those in attendance for the walk audit were directed to respond to a questionnaire, which included prompts concerning sidewalk and bicycle lane quality, perceived safety for pedestrians and bicyclists riding or crossing the street, traffic speeds, and more.

Findings from the walk audit included:

- The sidewalk network is disconnected, and sidewalks are narrow and obstructed in many locations.
- The bicycle network is disconnected, and bike lanes are narrow, unprotected, and unsafe for vulnerable road users. Poor bicycle lane quality, lack of bicycle parking, and concerns about interface between bikeways and transit routes were also mentioned.
- Intersections are wide, under-signalized, have large turning radii, making pedestrians and bicyclists crossings unsafe.
- Wide travel lanes, high vehicle speeds, and poor transit facilities.



Lack of pedestrian crossings, bicycle crossings and a large turning radius at the intersection of 6th Street and C street.



Sidewalk on the C street, between 4th and 5th street has a tree as an obstacle that exposes pedestrians on the travel lanes.



Transit stops at the intersection of Bryte Street and Sacramento Avenue



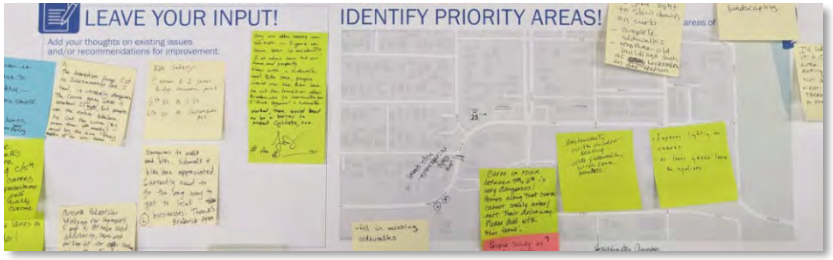
Long pedestrian crossings and large intersection area at the intersection of Sacramento avenue and Kegle Drive

Community Workshop #1

The first community workshop at the West Sacramento City Hall Galleria at 1110 West Capitol Avenue on March 23rd, 2023. Attendees had the opportunity to learn more about the Plan, discuss details of the project with the planning team, and share their feedback on potential improvements to the Sacramento Avenue corridor, including bike and pedestrian safety changes and landscaping design. A total of 66 community members attended the workshop. The purpose of the initial community workshop was to introduce the project to the public and solicit community feedback on ways to make future improvements to Sacramento Avenue.

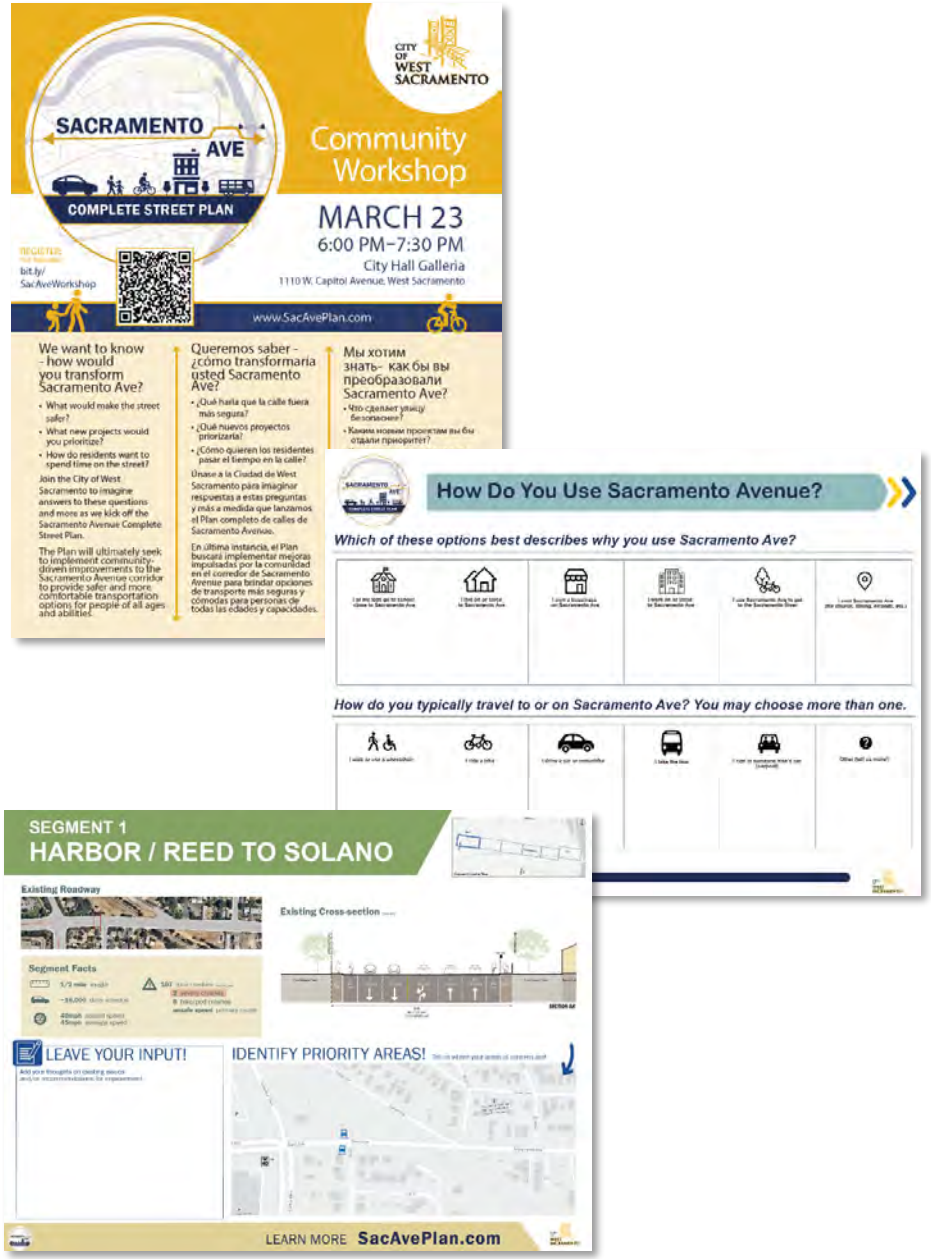
A variety of materials were created for participants to provide comments, including:

- Six segment boards each displaying an arial view of the corridor segment, facts about the area, existing cross sections, and a map for participants to leave location-based comments.
- A complete street design element board with examples like intersection control, shared use paths, and street amenities.



Attendees were also provided sticker dots to indicate their priorities on two additional engagement boards:

- A corridor theme board where participants could prioritize how they want to use and experience Sacramento Avenue. Choices included an accessible green corridor, a multimodal boulevard, a community streetscape, and a regional corridor.
- A corridor use board where participants could describe how they use the corridor (destination, recreation, etc.) and how they travel.



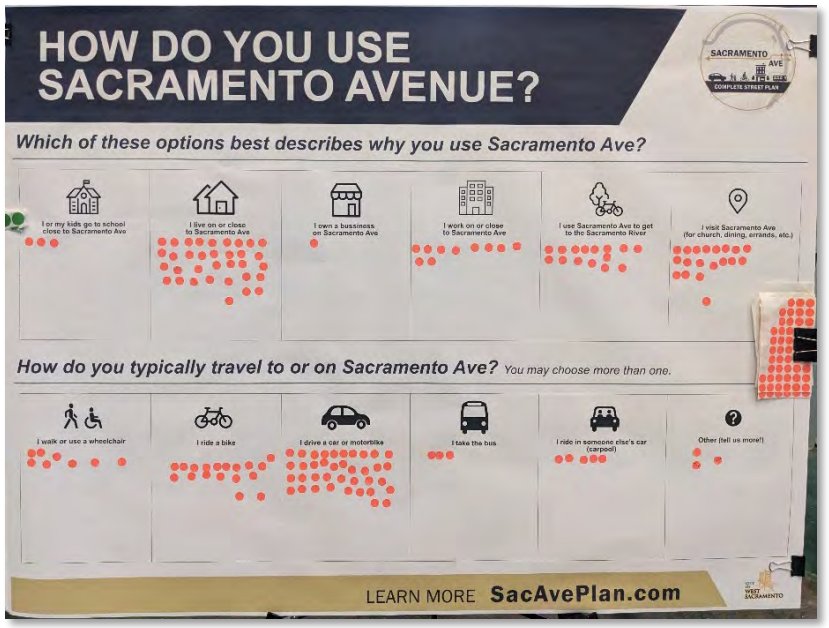
What We Heard

Traffic speeds were identified as high priority concerns, with participants noting a need for traffic calming and slowing throughout the entire study area. The intersection of 6th Street curve was identified as a location for frequent crashes and hazards for pedestrians and bicyclists, including speeding and lack of lighting.

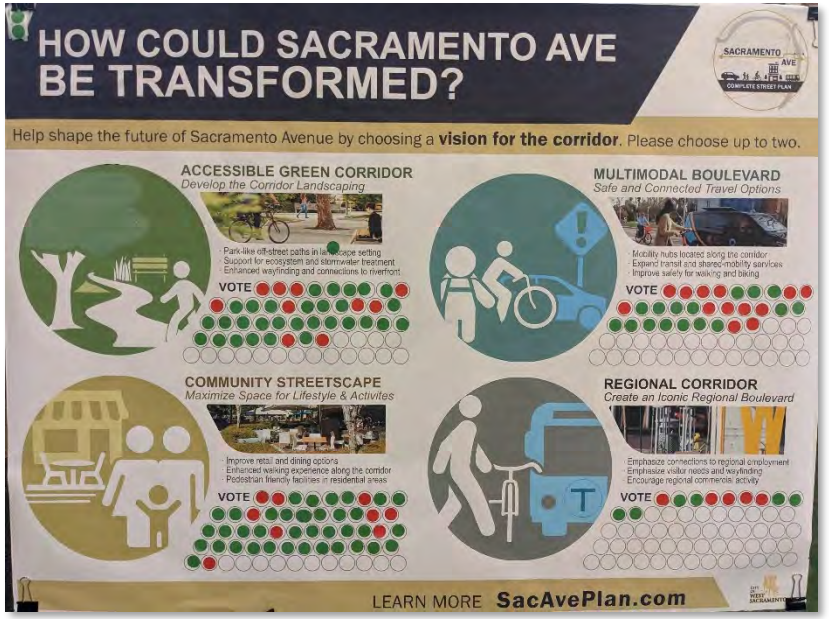
Comments highlighted the need for new and improved crosswalks, specifically to connect pedestrians to the Cornerstone Diner, under the train tracks, at Simon Terrace, Sunset Avenue, Reed Avenue, and Yolo Street, and a decorative crossing at C Street and 5th Street. Participants showed interest in RRFBs.

Participants mentioned closing gaps in the sidewalk network along the entire corridor as a top priority, as well as improved lighting for active transportation users.

Bicycle facility improvements like protected and buffered bicycle lanes, clearing bike lane labels, bicycle racks were mentioned by workshop participants.







Community Workshop # 2

The City of West Sacramento hosted the second community workshop at the West Sacramento City Hall Galleria at 1110 West Capitol Avenue. Attendees had the opportunity to hear a project update, discuss the proposed improvements with the planning team, and share their feedback on potential changes to the Sacramento Avenue corridor, including bike and pedestrian safety changes and landscaping design. A total of 38 community members attended the workshop.

Attendees were invited to provide feedback using a variety of interactive engagement materials provided at the workshop, including:

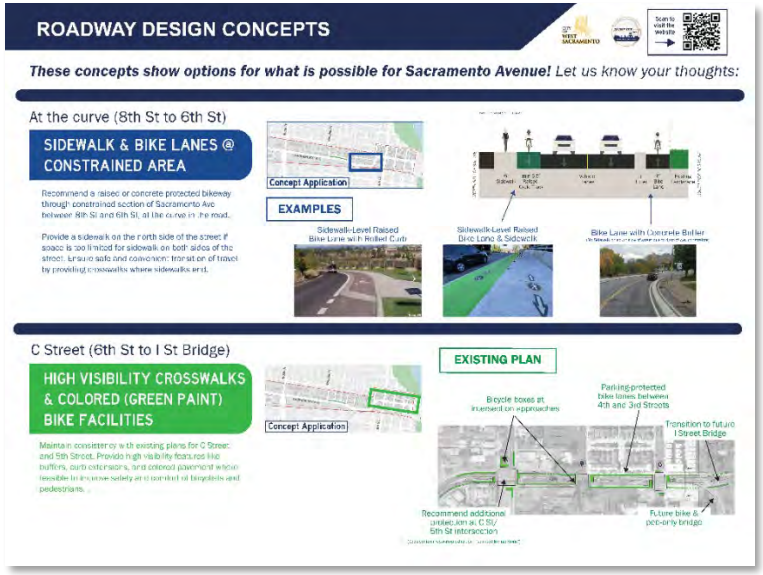
- Design concept boards for various locations throughout the corridor.
- Examples of crossing treatments, protected intersections, and roundabout intersections, and other potential improvements.
- A corridor map where participants could make location-based comments about flooding, power outages, and sewer issues.

Participants were given dots to place on design concepts they wished to prioritize, including the below. Dots noted in parentheses indicate the number of dot votes each concept received.

- A roundabout option (3 dots) and a signalized intersection option (2 dots) at the Jefferson Kegle Social Hub.
- A plan focused on an accessible green corridor (3 dots) as compared to community streetscape and multimodal focuses.
- Elkhorn Plaza concept with on-street bicycle facilities and shared use path (5 dots)
- Protected one-way bikeways and sidewalks on East Jefferson Blvd/Kegle Dr. Concept (2 dots)
- Landscape protected bikeways and sidewalk concept (6 dots) and the two-way neighborhood shared use path concept (6 dots) between Harbor Boulevard and Jefferson Boulevard/Kegle Dr.
- Sidewalk and bike lanes (1 dot) from 8th Street to 6th Street, and high visibility crosswalks and green painted bicycle facilities (2 dots) on C Street.

Comments gathered at Workshop 2 were reviewed and incorporated into the final improvement concepts presented in Chapter 6 of this Plan. A summary of community support for the presented design concepts can be found in Chapter 7.





Website and Survey

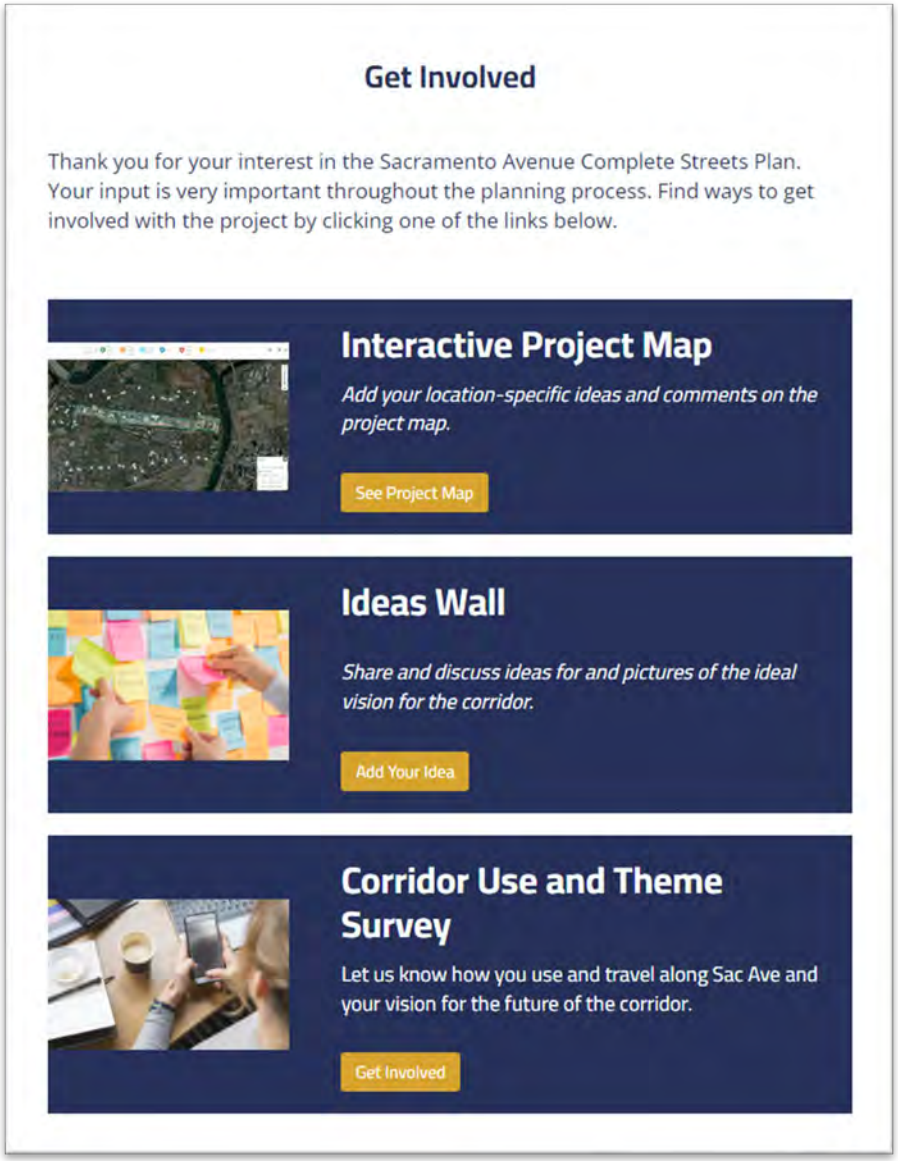
A project website was developed for the Sacramento Avenue Complete Street Plan to share information about the project, update the community regarding engagement events, and gather feedback.

In addition to a project landing page and informational sub-pages, the project website features three primary engagement tools for gathering public input:

- An interactive project map for location specific ideas and comments.
- An ideas wall for community members to discuss ideas, provide images of conceptual ideas, and engage with one another's comments.
- A corridor use and theme survey to gather information about how people use and travel along the Sacramento Avenue corridor, as their preferences for how the corridor could be transformed in the future.

Findings from the three key engagement tools listed above are described in the following sections.





Interactive Project Map

The interactive project map was open for comments between January 2023 and January 2024, during which 159 comments were left. The interactive map gave six comment category options where members of the public could select the comment category and drag it to a location along the corridor to provide their comment. The map also includes the location of existing bus stops and bicycle facilities for reference, and community members could engage with one another's comments by liking, disliking, and responding to comments.

As shown in Figure 33, most comments were related to walking and biking at 44.7 percent of all comments, followed by traffic speed & safety at 28.4 percent of all comments. Common concerns noted in interactive map comments included mentions of overall safety while walking and bicycling, high traffic speeds or vehicles speeding, lighting, and difficulty at intersection crossings.

Figure 33 Distribution of Interactive Map Comments by Category

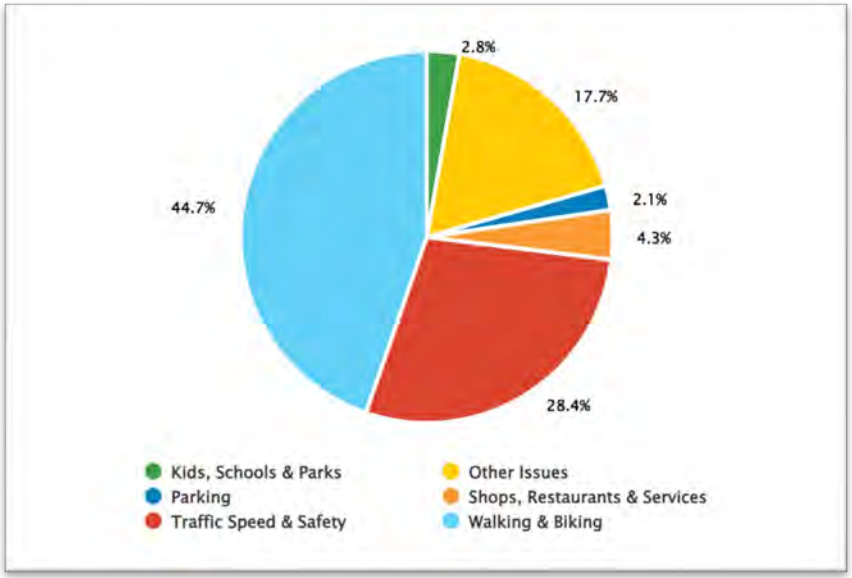
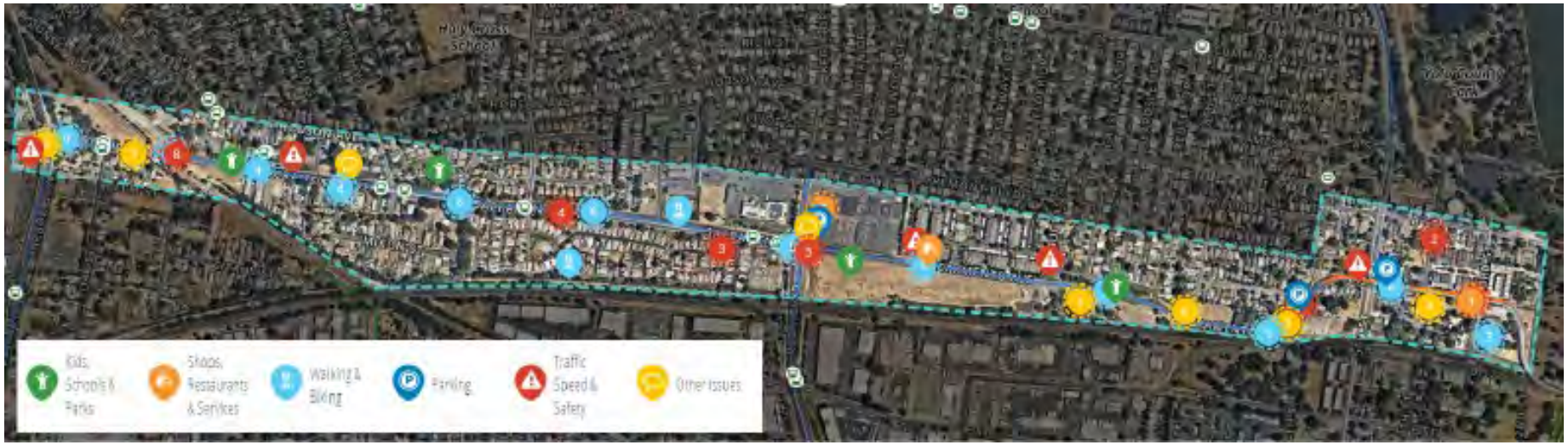


Figure 34 Interactive Map Comments



Ideas Wall

The ideas wall was open to the public from February 2023 to January 2024, during which 29 posts were made to the idea wall. The idea wall allows community members to select one of three categories for posting, including ideas and suggestions, a general comment and something they like. Postings can include text and/or images to allow members of the public to provide examples of images of their ideas and comments. Respondents could also engage with existing postings by liking or disliking an existing post.

Concerns over traffic control and speeding, as well as the need for protected bike facilities were a common theme among idea wall comments.



Corridor Use & Theme Survey

The corridor use and theme survey was open to the public from April 2023 to January 2024, during which between 11 and 18 responses were received on each of the three questions posed. The three questions posed mimicked the corridor use and theme survey boards presented in Workshop 1 to allow for members of the public who could not attend the workshop to participate. The results of the online survey were combined with the workshop results to form the vision, goals, and themes for the corridor.

Survey questions included:

- How do you use Sacramento Avenue?
- How do you typically travel to or on Sacramento Avenue?
- How could Sacramento Avenue be transformed?

How could Sacramento Avenue be transformed?



How do you use Sacramento Avenue?



Pop-Up Events

Over the course of the planning process, the project team held two pop-up events. The goal of these events were to meet community members at spaces where they were already gathering to encourage them to participate in the Sacramento Avenue Complete Street Plan, gather their feedback on potential street improvements, and promote upcoming outreach opportunities. The two pop-up events are described in more detail below.

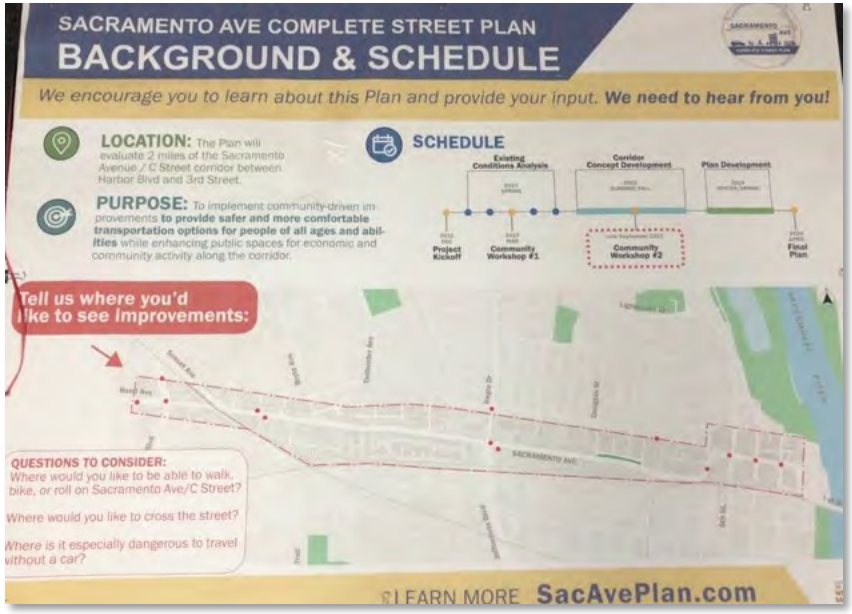
Pop-Up Event # 1

The first pop-up event was hosted by the City of West Sacramento on August 3, 2023, at the Yolo County Children's Alliance's Back-to-School Family Resource Fair, which was held at Bryte Park (425 Todhunter Avenue). The project team engaged approximately thirty community members about the Sacramento Avenue Complete Street Plan, handed out more than 100 flyers with information on the project website, and distributed more than 125 cards promoting the community meeting planned for Fall 2023.



The Sacramento Avenue Complete Street Plan booth was one of many booths available for community members to visit during the Back-to-School Resource Fair. Project team members engaged families and individuals in a conversation about Sacramento Avenue, what is being planned for improvement, and upcoming outreach opportunities for sharing input. The purpose of the pop-up workshop is to spread awareness of the Sacramento Avenue Complete Street Plan, obtain community feedback on how the street can better fit their needs, and encourage people to visit the project website for upcoming engagement opportunities.

In addition to handing out collateral pieces such as project fliers and business cards, the project team also asked pop-up workshop attendees to share their input on the two interactive board displays using dot stickers.



One of the interactive boards included an overview of the project and a map of the project area, where participants were asked to place dots along the corridor at areas of concern where they would like to see improvements. The second board presented complete street infrastructure improvements and asked participants to place dots next to the improvement types they would like to see made along Sacramento Avenue. Improvement types presented included crossing improvement types to improve safety, one-way protected bikeway types, two-way bike facility types, and raised bikeway types.



What We Heard

On each of the interactive boards, the project team received 13 vote dots from members of the public. With regards to areas of concern along the corridor, two locations received two votes each – the intersections of Sacramento Avenue with Kegle Drive / Jefferson Boulevard and Yolo Street. The following locations received one vote each:

- intersection of 3rd Street and Sacramento Avenue
- intersection of 4th Street and Sacramento Avenue
- intersection of 5th Street and Sacramento Avenue
- intersection of California Street and Sacramento Avenue
- intersection of Elizabeth Street and 8th Street
- intersection of Kegle Drive and Fremont Boulevard
- intersection of Harbor Boulevard and Reed Avenue
- west most point of Reed Avenue
- the area slightly north of the Reed Avenue and Harbor Boulevard

Community members also identified improvement types they would like to see implemented along the corridor, with the improvement types below receiving votes:

- Safer Crossings:
  - High-Visibility Crosswalks with Flashing Beacons (3 votes)
- One-Way Protected Facilities:
  - Concrete Protected Bikeways (3 votes)
  - Landscaping Protected Bikeways (1 vote)
- Two-Way Bike Facilities:
  - Shared-Use Path with Landscape (2 votes)
  - Bike-Only Cycle Track (1 vote)
- Raised Bikeways
  - Sidewalk-Level Raised Bikeway (2 votes)
  - Two-Way Raised Bikeway (1 vote)

The following improvement types did not receive any votes:

- Median refuge islands
- Curb extensions (bulb-outs)
- One-way bollard-protected bikeways
- Two-way shared-use paths (without landscaping)
- Rolled-curb raised bikeways

Pop-Up Event # 2

The second pop-up event was held on Sunday April 28, 2024, by featuring a booth at the 2024 Breathe Bike Festival and May is Bike Month Kick Off Event hosted by Sacramento Area Bicycle Advocates (SABA) and Breathe California Sacramento Region.



Five project team members engaged with community members to discuss the complete street improvement concepts for Sacramento Avenue, and the upcoming release of the draft plan. The event provided an opportunity for community members to learn more about the project and the inclusions to the forthcoming draft plan. Over 100 project website cards and stickers were distributed to attendees at the event.



The pop-up format was designed to provide a comprehensive overview of the project. It featured a project map board, two boards showing the draft improvement concepts along the corridor, and a previous outreach board. These boards were instrumental in educating community members about the project's progress, the proposed improvements, and the general project area. Project engineers and managers were on hand to explain the draft plan initiatives and project history. The pop-up event was centered around bicycling and bicycle safety, with project team members engaging with dozens of bicyclists about Sacramento Ave bicycle safety issues and improvements.

Attendees were prompted to visit the website to provide comments on the draft plan and the recommended improvement concepts.

Draft Plan Review

The Draft Plan was available for public review between May 7, 2024, and June 7, 2024. The City of West Sacramento hosted a website that provided links to download the Draft Plan document. Community members were able to provide their comments on the Draft Plan to the City via email, by mail or by phone. These details were also posted to the project website.

Community partners, the Broderick & Bryte Community Action Network and Meals on Wheels, helped distribute flyers to advertise the public review period for the Draft Plan, which included details about the Plan and how to provide comment, in three languages. Also, City staff promoted the public comment period through utility mailer, the City's Sock Station for May is Bike Month, and the Community Senior Resource Fair.

Comments received on the Draft Plan and responses to these comments are summarized in the Appendix.



