

Healthy Places Walkability Study Driving Park Neighborhood Pride

Columbus Public Health Healthy Places program is conducting walkability studies in the 2007 Neighborhood Pride areas. The goals of the walkability study are to increase neighborhood residents walking in their neighborhood and to identify destination places that are within walking distance. This will be done by walking with neighborhood residents to 1) identify positive places to walk in their neighborhood; 2) inventory barriers to pedestrians and bikers; and 3) identify neighborhood destinations.

Synopsis

Date	Saturday, September 22, 2007
Community Participation	8 community members
City Participation	Councilmember Priscilla Tyson; Transportation Division Terry Stewart
Distance Walked	2.13 miles
Weather	Temperate and sunny

Neighborhood Findings

Surveys completed	Will be done during Pride
Findings of interest	
Most important aspects of walking (ranked in order of priority)	

Two quotes that sum up the heart and vision of the people of Driving Park are from Ms. Bev Bynum. Driving Park is concerned with their overall quality of life and the responsibility of neighborhood residents.

“We need to concentrate on the eyesores then everywhere we walk will be beautiful”

“Property owners need to take responsibility. How can the children be about the right things and have inner pride when their community looks like this.” (on Livingston Ave at a vacant lot that was overgrown and had a lot of litter)

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Overall Comments

- Lilley Ave and Ellsworth Ave are cut through to the freeway from Livingston Ave to Mooberry/I-70
- We need cameras around the Recreation Center and in the neighborhood. During our Driving Park Walking Club meeting cars were broken into.
- Children walk to school on Whittier with no sidewalks.
- The walking path from the Recreation Center to Fairwood is boring
- Vacant housing with absentee landlords is a big problem.
- Property owners need to begin to beautify their property and shame others into doing better. Livingston Ave to begin with and keep going toward downtown.
- I think they look nice and the drivers do notice them more (commenting on the new crosswalks on Livingston Ave).
- This community has fast food, barber shop and churches. We need useful stores like craft stores and continue to bring art and positive activities to the neighborhood.
- The more protection they give us, the smarter the criminal will be.
- The elderly need assistance-paint, trim and window work on their houses and cannot afford it.
- Hidden alleys are gross
- Lockbourne Road the lawns are not kept up.
- I walk with my dogs but not by myself. There is crime, shootings and robberies in the neighborhood. I usually walk at the park at Children's Hospital.
- Our sidewalks are not consistent; they seem to be on main streets.
- I usually walk in the mornings and in a group. I am okay by myself as long as there are no dog problems.
- Most dogs are leashed or fenced in.
- Raised speed tables at intersections are better but not enough.
- If people are going to break the law, they will break the law.

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House proud homeowners



Pedestrian path on Fairwood Ave south of Rainbow Park



Property owners need to be responsible for their property. Here, chronically vacant apartments at the corner of Livingston Ave and Fairwood Ave



Sidewalk in disrepair and impassable at 1616 Whittier Street.



Commercial businesses in Driving Park on Livingston Ave. Many of the businesses have been here for years.

This report will be used to create walking maps through the neighborhood. The mile measured maps will highlight neighborhood features, safe paths and destinations. The report will also be forwarded to City of Columbus departments that can assist neighborhoods in addressing their needs.

The mission of the Healthy Places program is to enhance healthy and active living by establishing development policies and practices to reduce negative health impacts and by creating places that foster physical activity as a part of everyday life. For more information, please contact Christine Godward, Healthy Places Coordinator at 645-5318 or CLGodward@columbus.gov.

Addendum

Site Specific Comments
Routes
All Pictures

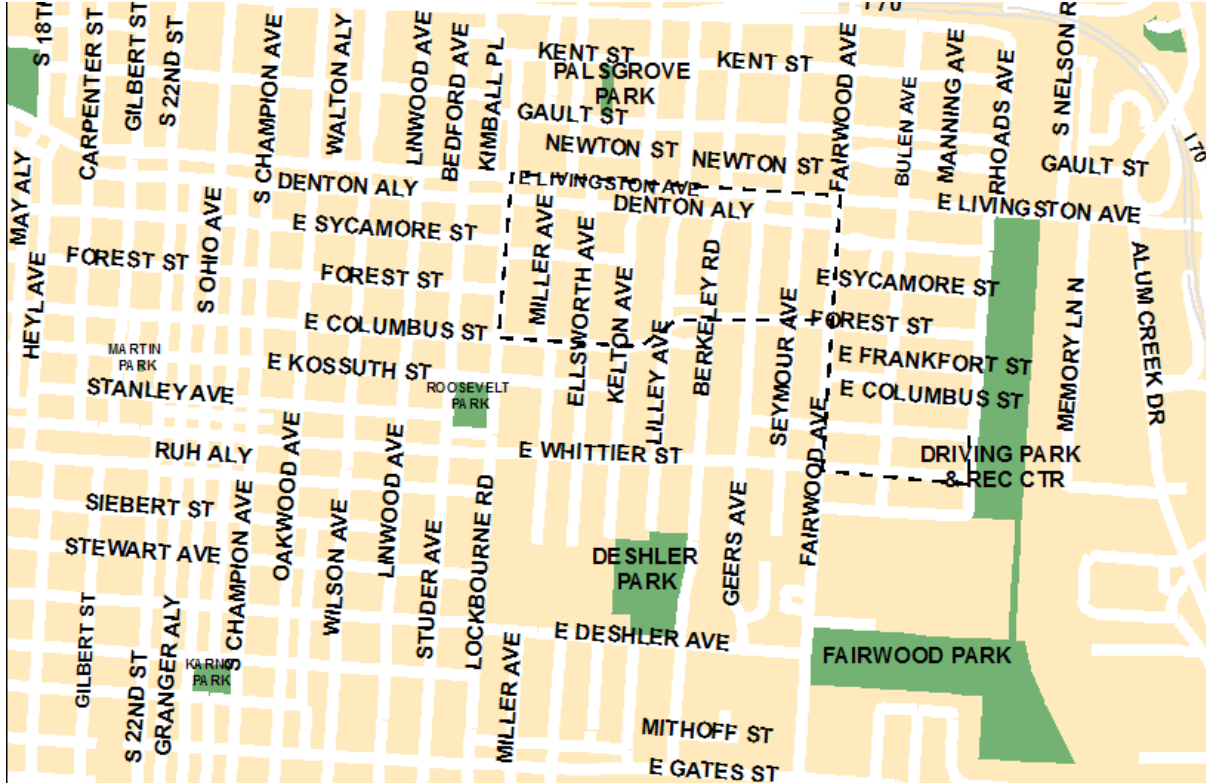
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Site Specific Comments

Specific Street	Comment
Fairwood Avenue	No buffer between sidewalk and street
Lockborn Avenue	No buffer between sidewalk and street
956 Ellsworth	Retaining fence fell down 8-9 years ago. The yard has a slope and the dirt is loose. The dirt, gravel, rocks and boulders now fall onto the sidewalk. When there is snow and when it is cold, the dirt melts and freezes. Fear that a child will get hurt on the rocks. It is ugly too.
Ellsworth Ave and Columbus Street	Scary dog
Kelton Ave and Columbus Street-raised crosswalk	Does not slow traffic enough for kids that are playing
1616 Whittier	Sidewalk is a danger
Fairwood and Whittier	Sidewalk ends one lot before the intersection

No Sidewalks	Sidewalks
Whittier west of Fairwood (stop and start)	Kelton Ave
Rhoades Ave	Fairwood Ave
Columbus Street	Livingston Ave
Fairwood Ave and Forest Street sidewalk stops one lot before the intersection	Lockbourne Road
Ellsworth Ave	Whitter Rhoades to Fairwood
Geers Ave	
Seymour Ave	

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Route



Pictures (explanation of pictures below)



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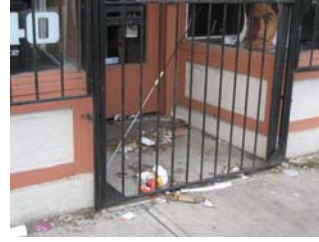
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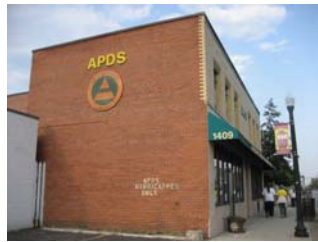
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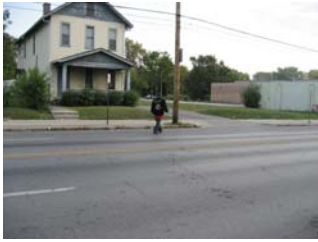


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Picture Explanation

Picture Number	Explanation
1	Walking path from Driving Park Recreation Center that links to Fairwood Blvd
2-3	Whittier Street vacant houses and poor sidewalk maintenance
4	Whittier Street-no sidewalks and kids walk to school on this street
5	Bulen Ave with a grassy median
6	Northwest corner of Whittier and Bulen Street; major renovation
7-8	1616 Whittier Street-vacant house in poor repair, sidewalk is a hazard
9-10	House proud neighbors on Whittier Street
11-15	Whittier Street and Fairwood Ave intersection; sidewalk stops one lot before intersection; walking paths are present where people continue to walk even without sidewalks
16	Fairwood Ave-wide sidewalks but pedestrians are not buffered from traffic
17	1116 Fairwood-house proud neighbor
18	Fairwood Ave-sidewalk discontinues on west side
19	Columbus Street-no sidewalks
20	1046 Fairwood Ave-house proud neighbor
21	1006-996 Fairwood-line of house proud neighbors
22	Sidewalk stops on Fairwood between Columbus and Forest on the west side
23	Fairwood and Forest intersection has ADA ramps
24	980 Fairwood Ave-overgrown landscaping
25-27	Fairwood south of Rainbow Park-sidewalk problems
28	Rainbow Park
29	Houses on Livingston Ave between Fairwood Ave and Seymour Ave are vacant. Livingston Ave is the main street through the neighborhood
30	Fairwood Ave and Livingston Ave-apartments are in the heart of the neighborhood and have been abandoned for years
31-32	1617 Livingston Ave-same property owner for the block-too much trash on the property
33	Looking toward Livingston and Geers-nice streetscape but property owners protect their property with chain linked fence
34	Driving Park Library-a neighborhood asset
35	Houses on Livingston Ave between Geers and Berkeley are not maintained.
36	Livingston between Geers Ave and Berkeley-a tree grate without a tree
37	Berkeley Road
38	Livingston Ave; Driving Park Walking Club mile markers
39-40	Driving Park Commercial Strip-services the neighborhood
41	Livingston and Kelton Ave-pocket park made possible by UIRF funds
42	APDS- a community asset
43	Livingston Ave at Kelton; new bus stop covers that promote the neighborhood
44	Livingston and East Lockbourne-property owner does not maintain the property
45	Livingston Ave-pedestrian crossing in middle of the street.

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46	Livingston and Ellsworth, 1363/1361 Livingston; this house is a constant nuisance and has a lot of trash and is not well maintained.
47	Utility marking indicating electrical lines are underground; marking has been confused as graffiti
48-49	Livingston Ave at Miller Ave; resident stores a lot of stuff in their yard
50	Streetscape of Livingston Ave; Livingston has decorative trash cans, and brick lined sidewalks. The tree in the picture is out growing the grate and in danger of dying.
51-52	Rickenbacker-Woods museum complex
53	Property owners need to maintain their signs and property
54-55	Livingston Ave and Lockbourne Road; crosswalks faded; pedestrian signals present
56	866-868 Lockbourne Road; weeds encroaching on sidewalk
57	932-934 Lockborne Road-vacant home not maintained
58-59	Lockbourne Rd and Sycamore St; Pipe sticking up from sidewalk; neighbor reported it used to hold a stop sign.
60-62	Roosevelt Park
63-64	Lockbourne Rd and Columbus St; vacant lot is not maintained
65-67	Community Garden on Ellsworth Ave just north of Columbus St.
68	Raised speed table
69-72	Driving Park Circle: neighbors report they like to walk here
73	Forest St: no sidewalks but neighbors report feeling safe walking on the street
74-75	Bulen Ave has sidewalks and a median