# What is a Pedestrian Plan?

The City of Saint Paul is creating our first-ever plan to support safe walking in our city. The plan will address citywide walking needs like connecting our sidewalk system, safer ways to cross streets, and education and enforcement programs to support safe walking.

# What do we hope to achieve?

- Build capacity to support safe walking everywhere in Saint Paul
- Identify proactive policies for safety improvements
- Develop priorities for investments in walking
- Identify programs to support walking: education, encouragement, enforcement, and evaluation
- Promote and energize a culture of walking



# What does equity mean when we talk about walking in Saint Paul?



Below are some ideas from the plan's Steering Committee:

- All neighborhoods are safe places for walking
- Improvements are made in places with the greatest safety challenges and needs
- People of all abilities can move throughout our city
- Decisions are proactive and transparent
- Invest in areas historically under-served to reduce disparities in access to safe walking.





# What have we heard?

We asked over 1,500 residents to tell us about walking in Saint Paul. Here are some things we've learned:

- Walking helps give us quality of life. Walking is a way people connect to nature, with other people, and to their community.
- The top three reasons people walk in St. Paul are for exercise, to get to social activities, and to get to the bus or light rail.
- Getting across the street is the top challenge to walking for people of all age groups, races, and zip codes.
- Peoples' walking experiences differ by zip code. In some areas of Saint Paul, gaps in our sidewalk network and concerns for personal safety are greater challenges to walking than in others.



Credit: City of Saint Paul



edit: Anna Min of Min Enterprises Photography

# Why walk?

We took all of the 1,500 responses to this question and put them into a "wordle" (see right). A wordle combines all the responses together and then makes each word a certain size based on how many times it was used. The bigger the word, the more times we heard it!







# What do we know so far?

Saint Paul sidewalks need improvements





6-8 miles of sidewalk replaced annually



**394** miles of sidewalk gaps: streets **without** sidewalks

#### There are challenges to safe walking

People walking are at higher risk of traffic injury and death than people bicycling or driving. Many people do not feel safe or comfortable crossing Saint Paul streets.



Paul residents

walk to work

**8.5%** use public **transit**, usually walking to the bus stop or light rail station



28% of traffic injuries and deaths involved a person walking



At some Saint Paul crosswalks, **less than 20% of drivers stop** for people trying to cross the street.

#### Other challenges for walking in Saint Paul:

- **Funding:** Current funding is not enough for sidewalk and crossing needs
- **Equity:** Walking is not and safe for all people, everywhere in Saint Paul
- Winter: Snow, ice, and inconsistent sidewalk shoveling make it challenging to walk in the winter







RAMSEY COUNTY Working with you to enhance our quality of life

# **Project Timeline**



## Where are we going from here?

#### Your ideas are shaping the plan!

We will use input from the public to shape the plan, including:

- A vision and goals for walking in Saint Paul
- Places to focus safety improvements for walking
- Projects and programs to support walking

#### What will be included in the plan?

- What we know about walking in Saint Paul: challenges and opportunities
- Vision and goals
- A map of priority areas for investments in walking: places with the greatest needs and greatest potential benefits
- Clear guidelines and process for crosswalk improvements
- Programs and policies to support a culture of walking in Saint Paul
- Funding and cost estimates to fill sidewalk gaps and improve crossings







### **Enter our Photo Contest!**

Submit your photo(s) of "Walking in Saint Paul" to <u>fay.simer@stpaul.gov</u> by **March 30, 2018**. The winner will be invited on a personal walk with Mayor Melvin Carter, on a route selected by YOU!

By submitting pictures, the photographer gives the City of Saint Paul rights to use photos in any print or digital materials.















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Credit: Amy Sutherla







