

# Pedestrian Investment Plan

2050 Transportation Policy Plan Technical Working Group

**Heidi Schallberg** 



# **Chapter Content Outline**



### **Pedestrians as distinct focus**

- Council's Role
- Existing Conditions
- Relationship to Plan Goals
- Ongoing Issues
  - Better meeting needs of people with disabilities
  - Winter maintenance
  - Safety
- Pedestrian Plan and Investment Direction
  - Planning for pedestrians
  - Project selection
- Funding

## Council's Role



### Local agencies have primary responsibilities

- Assessing trends and needs and providing resources for implementing agencies.
- Investing in walking through different funding sources.
- Planning for continuity and connectivity between jurisdictions.
- o Providing guidance
  - To agencies working to address regional barriers.
  - For facilities that support transit investments, Livable Communities Act investments, and equity.
  - For local comprehensive plans to ensure walking is a key consideration in land use and transportation planning.
- Ensuring safe, accessible, and convenient pedestrian connections to transit service.

# **Existing Conditions**

### **Short overview**

- Primary focus on facility types
- More than just sidewalks
- Other supportive facilities
- Walking still happens where there aren't facilities



# Better Meeting the Needs of People with Disabilities



## 1 in every 11 residents has a disability

- 28 years since the Americans with Disabilities Act became civil rights law – by 2050, that will have been 60 years
- Intersectional equity
  - 1 in 6 Native American residents has a disability
  - 1 in 8 Black residents has a disability
- FHWA emphasis on current ADA transition plans or self-evaluations
- Public Right of Way Access Guidelines final rule adopted this year
- Universal design meeting needs requires more than minimum compliance with the ADA

## Winter Maintenance

# Routinely identified as a critical need and ongoing challenge

- Regional Solicitation qualifying requirement
- ADA requirement
- High priority in region's Public Transit and Human Services Transportation Coordinated Plan



## Safety for Pedestrians

### **Key elements**

- Safe System approach

   will be covered in more depth in Safety chapter
- Key findings from the Pedestrian Safety Action Plan
- Follow up Safety Action
  Plan in development
  now will include some
  additional work with
  pedestrian crashes on
  high injury streets



Figure 2: Impact Speed and a Pedestrian's Risk of Severe Injury or Death, Source: https://aaafoundation.org/impact-speed-pedestrians-risk-severe-injury-death/

## Pedestrian Plan & Investment Direction

- Comprehensive plans need to address pedestrian needs for transportation
- Common elements of pedestrian planning
- Complete Streets
  - Elements of strong policies
  - Future Council work



## **Investment Direction**



### **Guidance and Key Factors**

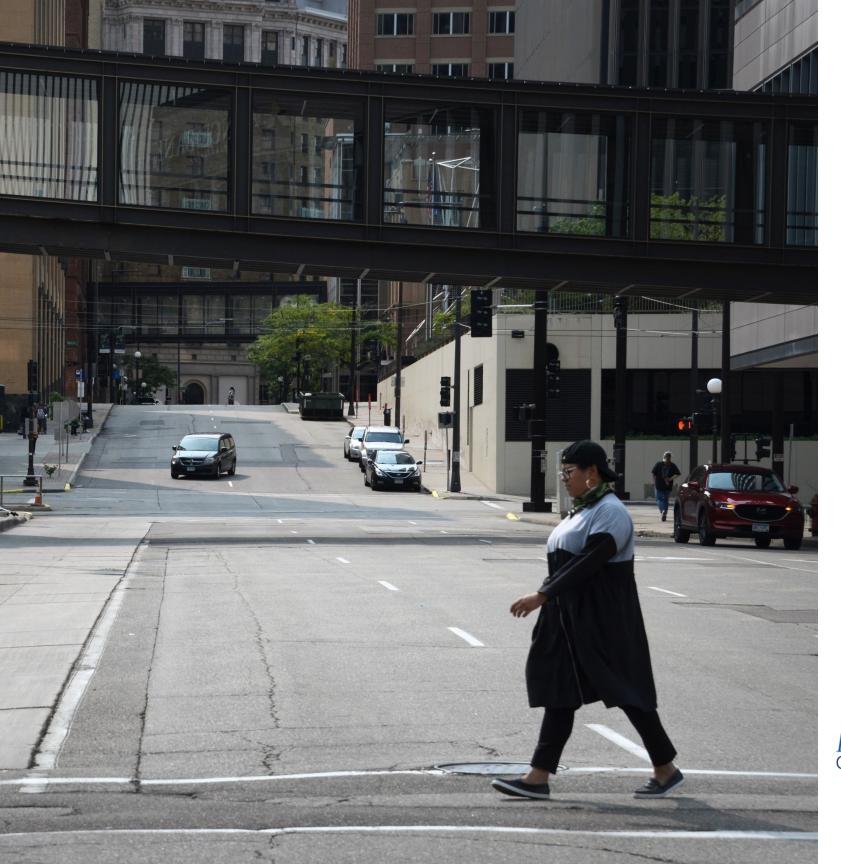
- Baseline requirements for ADA transition plans or self-evaluations and year-round maintenance
- Prioritization factors
  - Safety
  - Connections to transit
  - Connections to destinations
  - Removing barriers
  - Continuity and connections between jurisdictions
  - Multimodal projects
  - Pedestrian demand
  - Equity

# Funding



## Federal, regional, and local funding sources

- Safe Streets and Roads for All
- Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods
- Highway Safety Improvement Program
- Safe Routes to School from state
- Regional Solicitation
- Regional Transportation Sales Tax
  - Council Active Transportation funds
  - Counties



#### **Heidi Schallberg**

Planning Analyst Heidi.Schallberg@metc.state.mn.us

