

# **Pedestrian, Bicycle and Traffic Calming Strategic Implementation Plan**

**March 3, 2011**



# Tonight's Agenda

- Receive project update from staff
- Hear from Pedestrian Bicycle Advisory Committee
- Hear from Safe Routes to School Advisory Committee representatives
- Review routes to schools, parks, commercial corridor, Metro
- Ask questions about the project

# Pedestrian, Bicycle and Traffic Calming Advisory Committee

- Paul Baldino
  - Patrick Fry
  - Anne Rhodes–Kline
  - Lynn Rothman
  - Charley O'Hara – Recreation and Parks Advisory Board
  - Walt Wurfel – Citizens Advisory Committee on Transportation
  - David Tarter – Economic Development Authority
  - Russ Wodiska – Planning Commission
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# Project Team

- Staff team of Planning, Engineering, Parks and Recreation
- Pedestrian, Bicycle and Traffic Calming Advisory Committee
- Safe Routes to School Advisory Committee
- KLS Engineering



# Project Overview

- Assessment of pedestrian and bicycle network throughout the City
- Evaluating overall network connectivity and ADA compliance issues
- Identifying routes to school, parks, library, bus stops, transit, W&OD trail, commercial corridors
- Evaluating every City street for opportunities for improvement and deficiencies

# Project Deliverables

- Pedestrian, Bicycle and Traffic Calming Strategic Implementation Plan
- ADA Compliance Plan
- Safe Routes to School Plan



# Public Involvement

- Three public meetings and 6 walk/bike thru (s)
- Interactive web tool
- Emails / phone calls
- Pedestrian, Bicycle and Traffic Calming Advisory Committee (3 Meetings)
- Safe Routes to School Committee (4 Meetings)

# Public Meetings

- 60 people attended
- Held walk/bike tours
- Noted obstacles, areas for improved connections



# Interactive Web Tool

The screenshot displays the City of Falls Church's interactive map tool. At the top, the city logo and the title "CITY OF FALLS CHURCH Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan" are visible, along with the KLS Engineering logo. The page includes navigation links for "Home", "Welcome to City of Falls Church Pedestrian and Bicycle Interactive Map", "Login", and "Register".

On the left side, there are five categories of issues with checkboxes and instructions:

- Where are curb ramps missing?**  
Place symbol on locations where curb ramps are missing.  
[Click here for sample ..](#)
- Where are difficult intersection crossings?**  
Place symbol on intersections that you find dangerous as a pedestrian or bicyclist.  
[Click here for sample ..](#)
- Where are crosswalks damaged / missing?**  
Place symbol on locations where sidewalks are damaged (worn/faded) or missing.  
[Click here for sample ..](#)
- Where are dangerous drainage grate(s)?**  
Place symbol on locations where there are dangerous grates that interfere with walking or bicycling.  
[Click here for sample ..](#)
- Where are streetlights missing or damaged?**  
Place symbol on locations that need additional lighting

The main area features an "Interactive Map" with a street view of Falls Church, Virginia. The map is overlaid with numerous red triangular warning symbols, each containing a white icon representing one of the five categories listed on the left. A legend on the left side of the map shows the icons for each category: a blue wheelchair symbol for missing curb ramps, a yellow triangle with a black exclamation mark for dangerous intersections, a black and white striped rectangle for damaged crosswalks, a circular grid for dangerous drainage grates, and a brown flower-like symbol for missing streetlights. The map also includes a navigation panel with "Map", "Satellite", and "Hybrid" options.

Allowed users to pinpoint areas requiring improvement for pedestrians and bicyclists—over 700 comments

# Interactive Tool – Sample Results



City of Falls Church  
Pedestrian, Bicycle, and  
Traffic Calming Strategic  
Implementation Plan

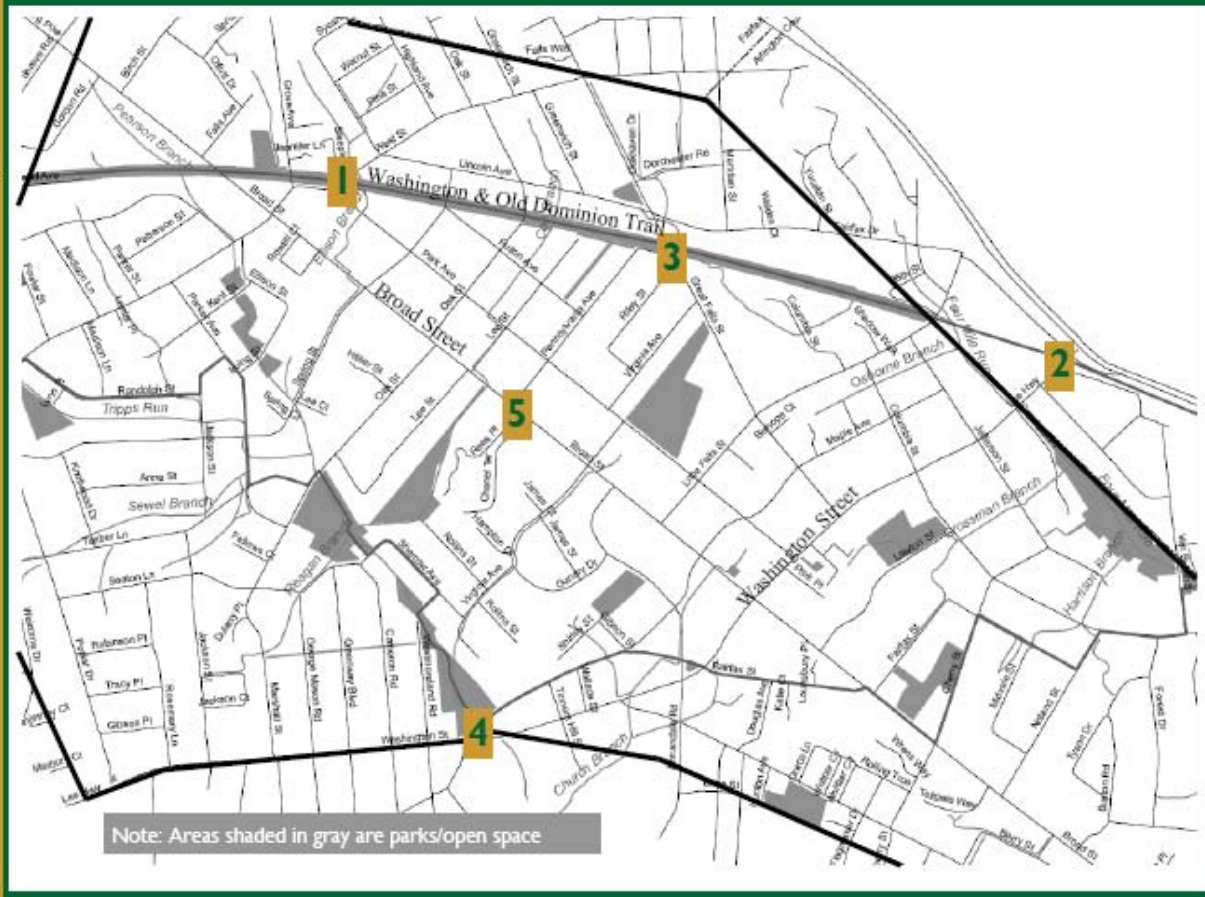
Q10. Where are difficult  
intersection crossings?

Highest rated difficult  
intersection crossings:

1. W&OD Trail / N. West  
St/Park Ave (11%)
2. W&OD Trail / N.  
Washington St / Fairfax Dr\*  
(8%)
3. Great Falls St / W&OD  
Trail / Lincoln Avenue (7%)
4. Lee Highway / Cavalier Trail  
/ S. Maple Ave (6%)
5. Pennsylvania Ave / Rees Pl  
(5%)

83 responses received

## Interactive Tool Survey Results Difficult Intersection Crossings



\*Note: Located just outside the City limits.

# Pedestrian, Bicycle and Traffic Calming Advisory Committee



# Safe Routes to School Advisory Committee

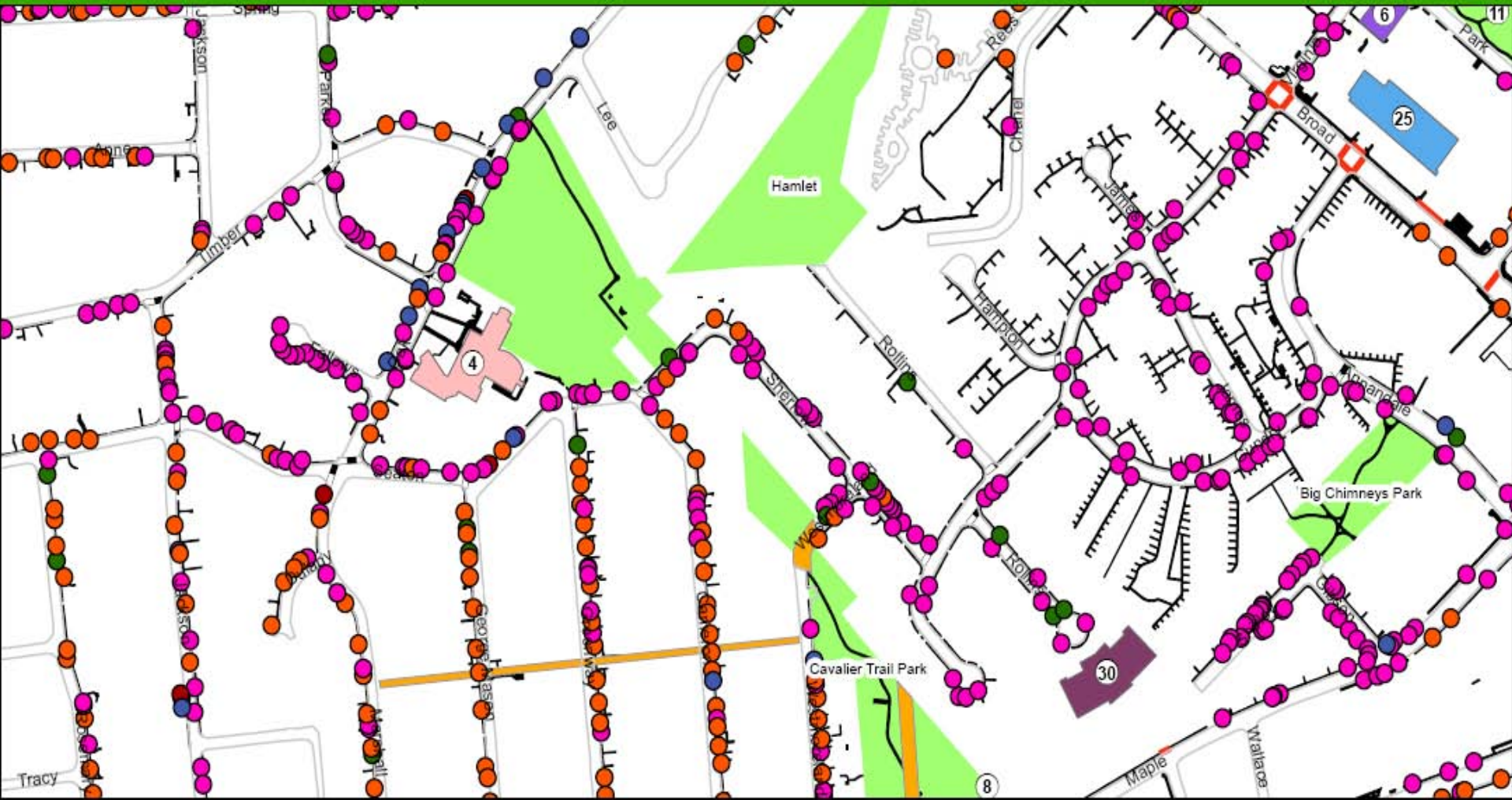


# Data Collection

- Extensive effort
- 15 weeks
- Collected data from every street
- Noted every sidewalk deficiency
- Noted every curb ramp deficiency



# SIDEWALK INVENTORY



## Legend

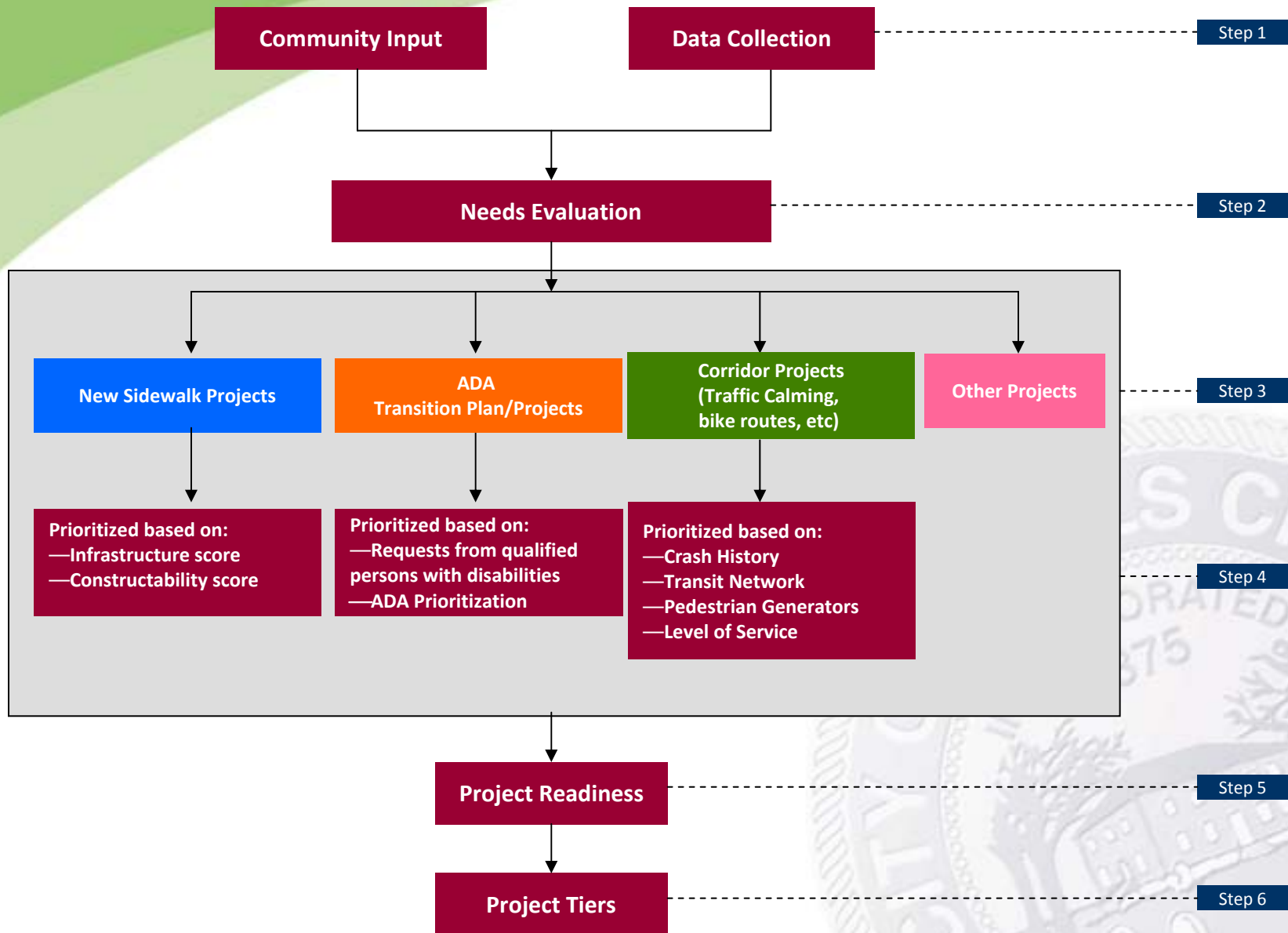
### SIDEWALK DEFICIENCIES

- UNEVEN, DAMAGED, SLOPE
- NARROW SIDEWALK
- DRIVEWAY SLOPE
- UNPROTECTED GUIDEWIRE
- MAINTENANCE

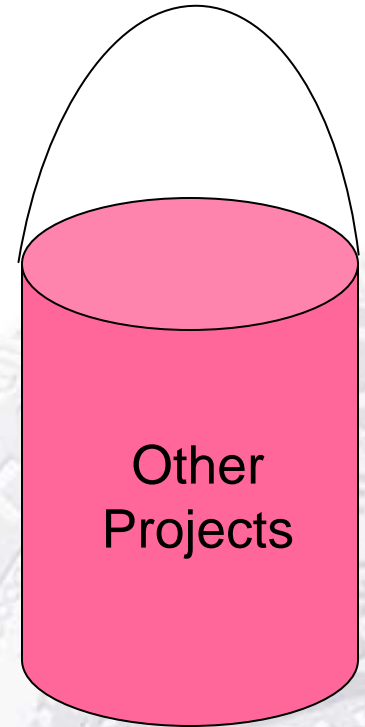
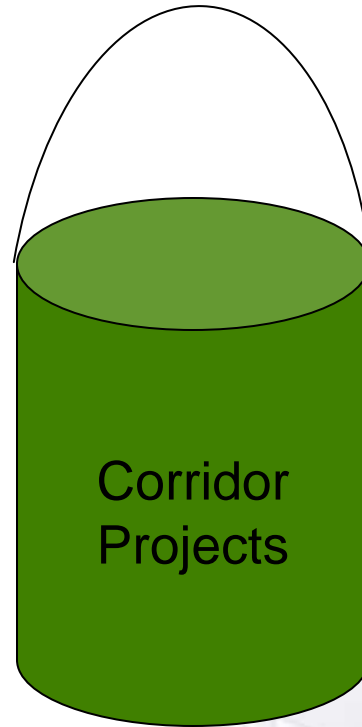
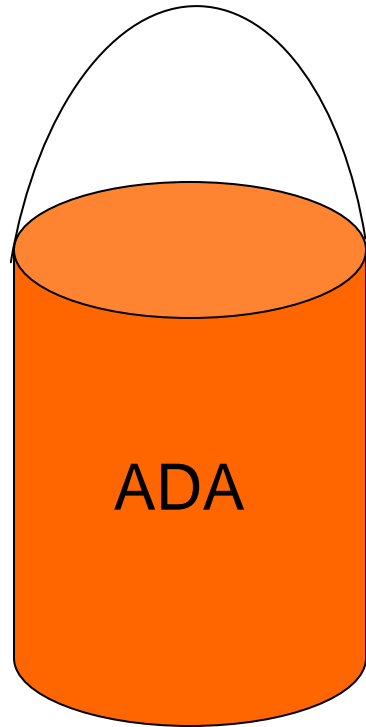
# Analysis

- Data collection complete
- Paused to develop methodology to guide analysis
- Lays foundation for all recommendations
- Developed by project team and Pedestrian Bicycle Advisory Committee





# Project “Buckets”



# Project “Buckets”



- Each bucket has many projects
- City has limited funding
- City cannot improve every location immediately
- **How do we determine which projects to implement first?**

# Prioritization Methodology

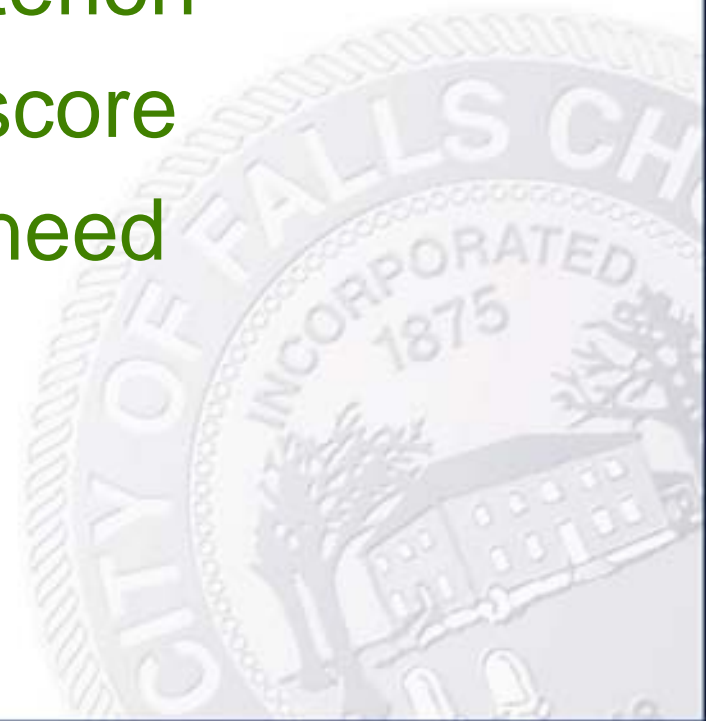


- Developed process to rank projects within each bucket
- Limited funding makes prioritization necessary
- Criteria and weighting have been developed by staff and Pedestrian Bicycle Advisory Committee

# Prioritization Methodology



- Go through checklist of criteria
- Assign points to each criterion
- Each project receives a score
- Highest score = highest need



# Criteria for Evaluation of Streets for New Sidewalks



1. Is street along Safe Routes to School Route?



## 2. PRIMARY AND SECONDARY ROUTES TO SCHOOL



### CITY OF FALLS CHURCH SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PLAN

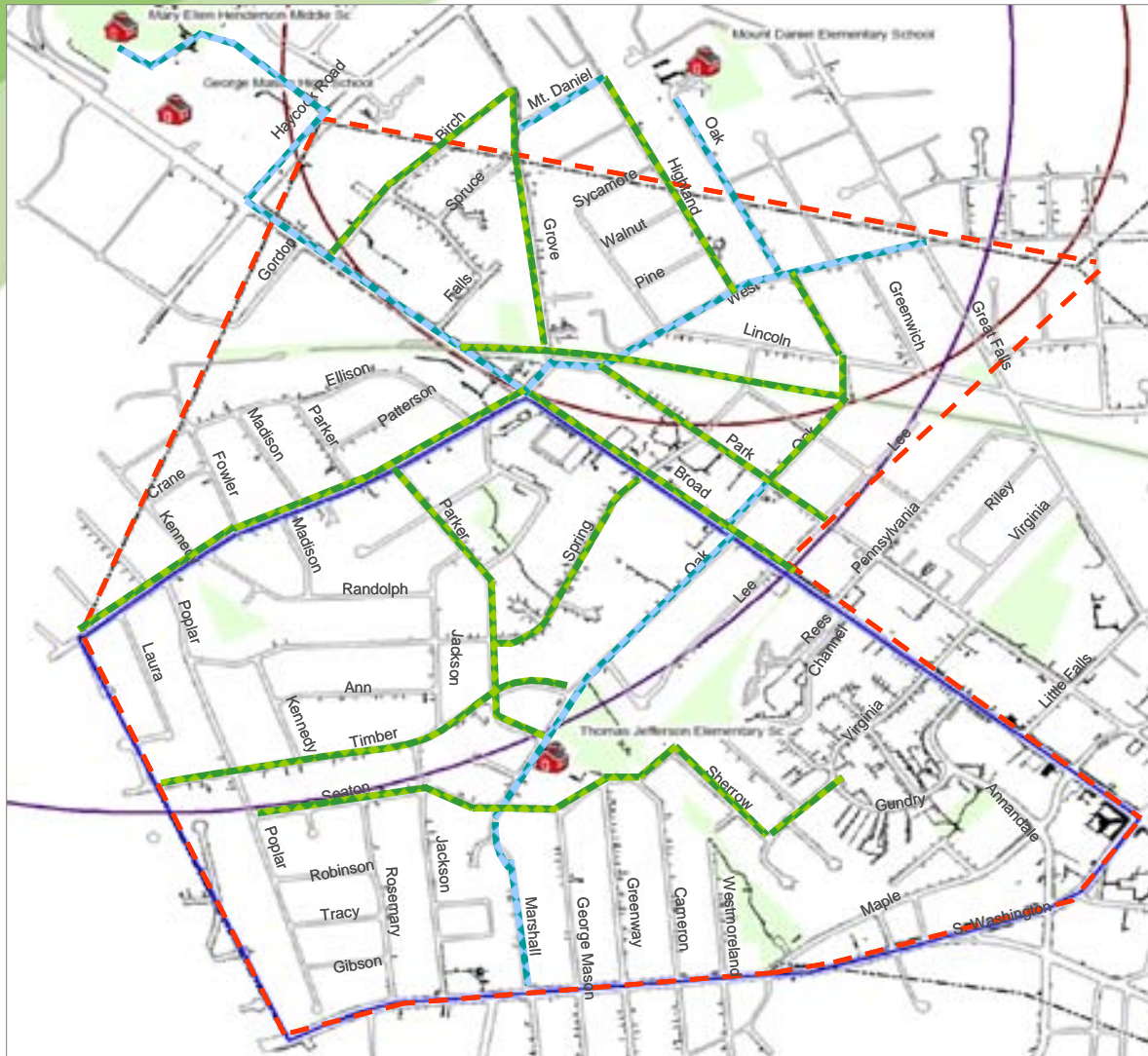
#### Legend

- Primary Routes\*<sup>1</sup>
- Secondary Routes\*<sup>1</sup>
- Mt. Daniel Elementary\*<sup>2</sup> - (0.5 mile radius)
- TJ Elementary School Walking Zone
- MEH Middle School\*<sup>2</sup> and GM High School Walking Zone (1 mile radius)
- Combined walking zone Schools

**\*Notes:**

<sup>2</sup>All routes except primary and secondary within the combined walking zone are tertiary routes

<sup>2</sup>Currently no walking zones exist for Mt. Daniel Elementary and MEH Middle School



# Criteria for Evaluation of Streets for New Sidewalks



1. Is street along Safe Routes to School Route?
2. Is street on a primary route to Metro?



METRO ROUTE



Legend

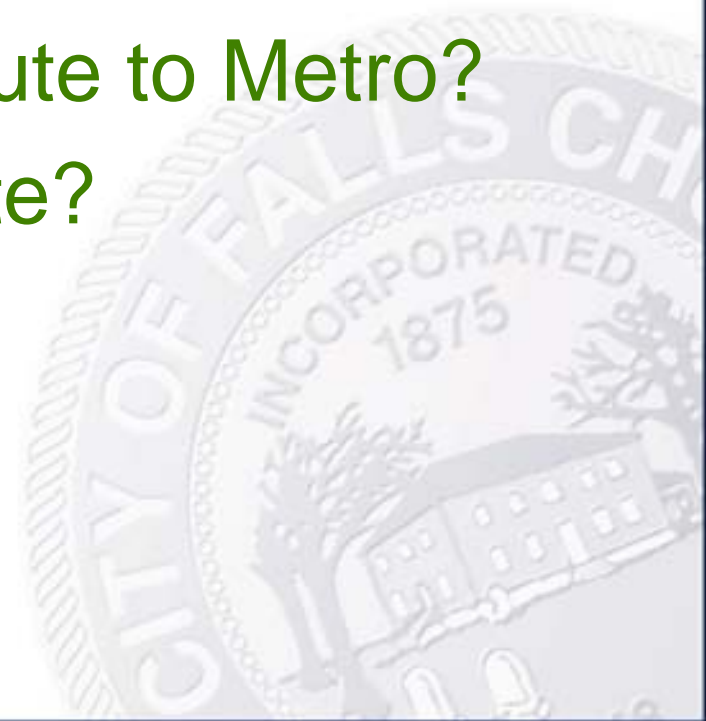
- PRIMARY ROUTE TO METRO STATION
- - - CITY OF FALLS CHURCH BOUNDARY
- PARK



# Criteria for Evaluation of Streets for New Sidewalks



1. Is street along Safe Routes to School Route?
2. Is street on a primary route to Metro?
3. Is street on a transit route?



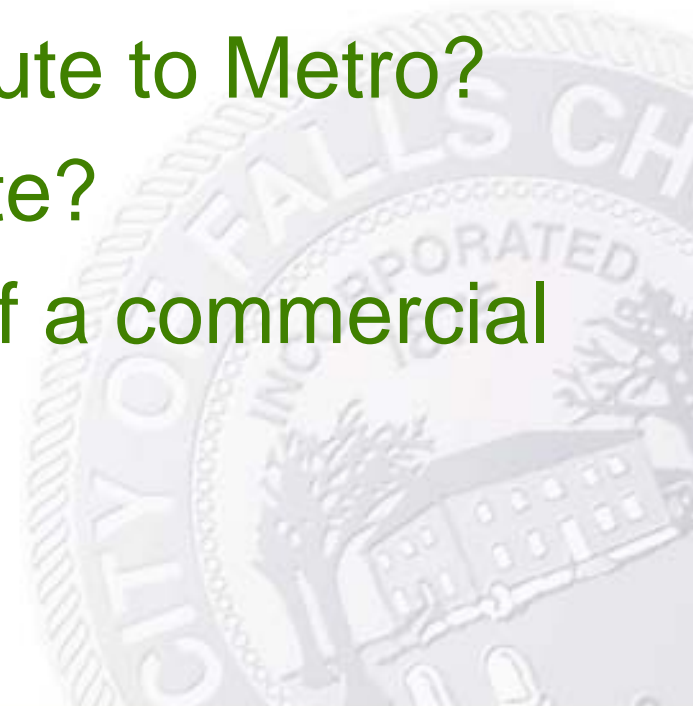
## TRANSIT ROUTE



# Criteria for Evaluation of Streets for New Sidewalks



1. Is street along Safe Routes to School Route?
2. Is street on a primary route to Metro?
3. Is street on a transit route?
4. Is street within 1 block of a commercial corridor?



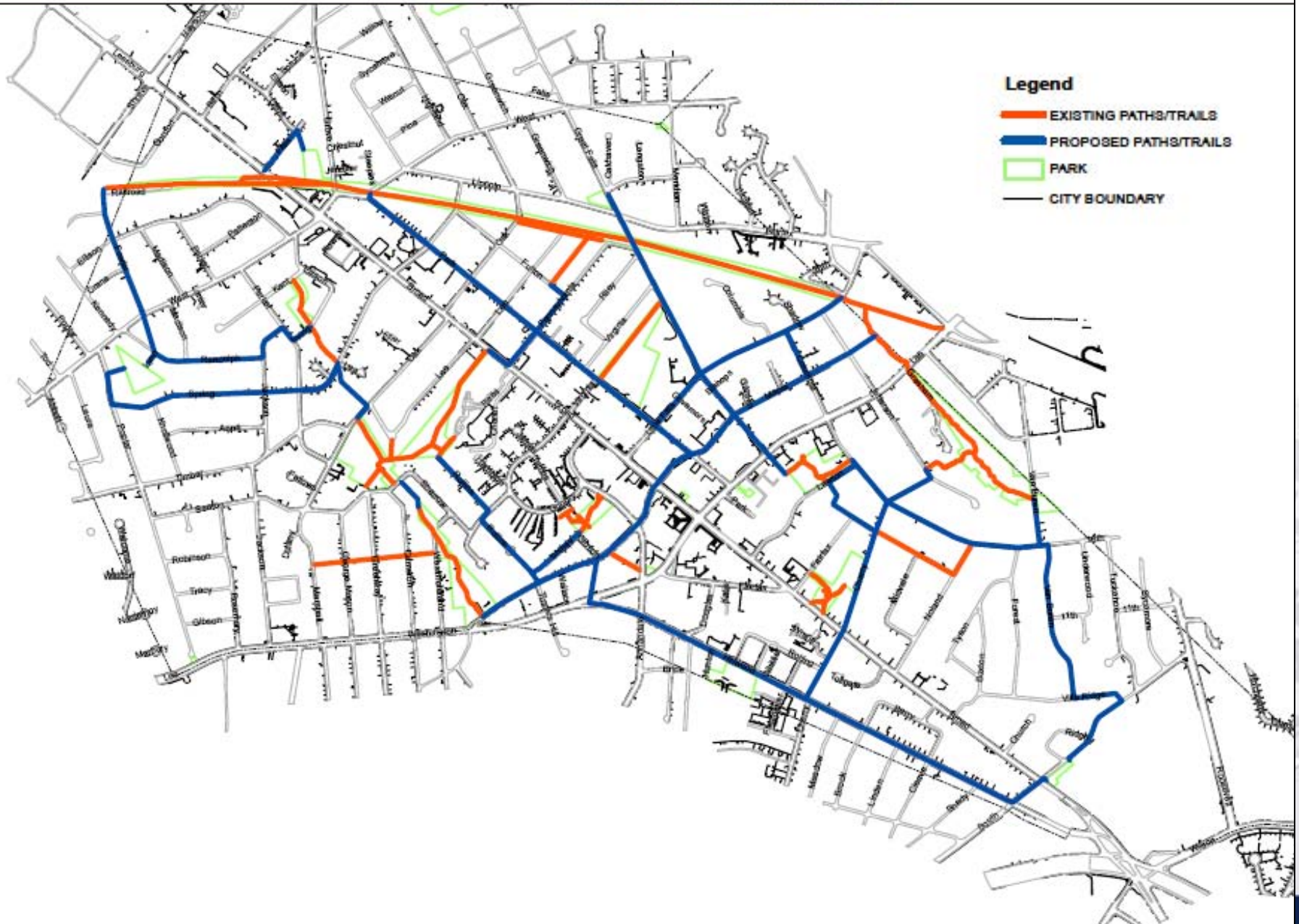


# Criteria for Evaluation of Streets for New Sidewalks



1. Is street along Safe Routes to School Route?
2. Is street on a primary route to Metro?
3. Is street on a transit route?
4. Is street within 1 block of a commercial corridor?
5. Is street on park connectivity map?

# PARK CONNECTIVITY MASTER PLAN



# Criteria for Evaluation of Streets for New Sidewalks

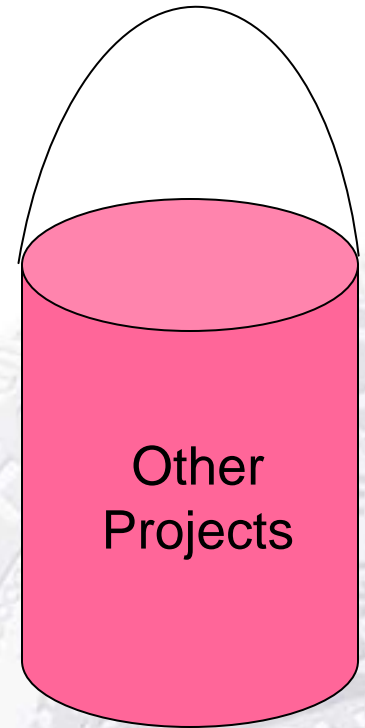
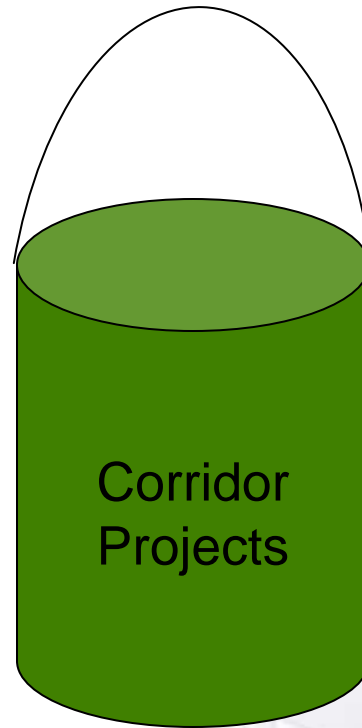
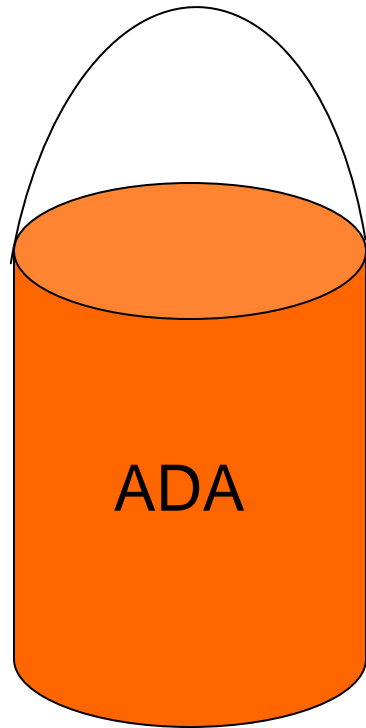


Highest number of points

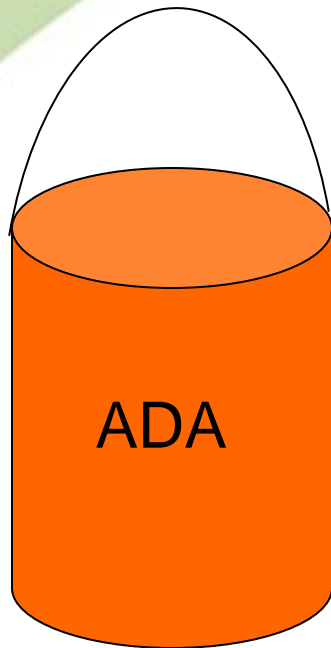
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Greatest sidewalk need

# Project “Buckets”



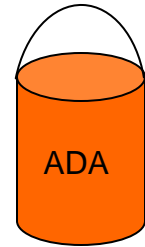
# ADA “Bucket”



- Existing sidewalks with deficiencies
- This bucket has thousands of projects
- **How do we determine which projects to implement first?**

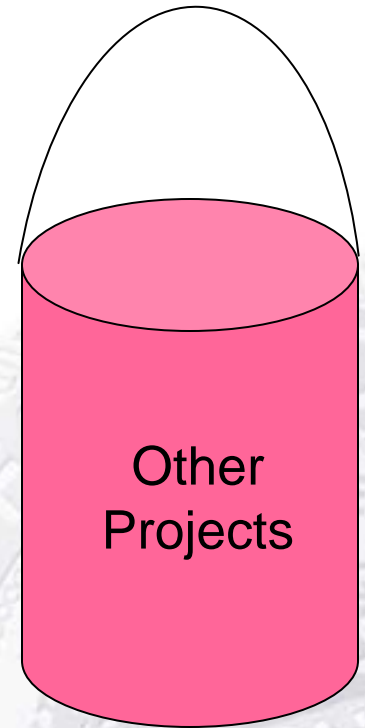
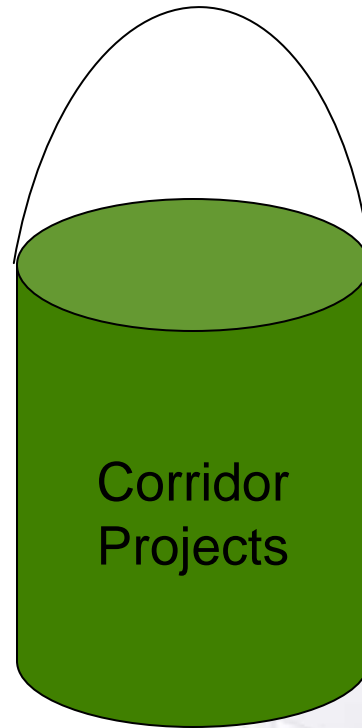
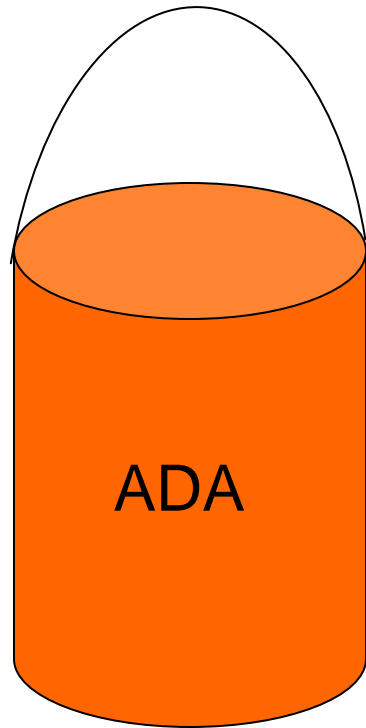


# ADA Projects Evaluation

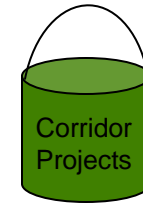


- ADA Projects = Improvements to EXISTING sidewalks
- Ranking all projects within this category
- Using similar scoring/ranking methodology, but different criteria
  - Compliance score (ratio of number of deficiencies to length of sidewalk)
  - Obstacle score (total number of obstacles)
  - Right of way score

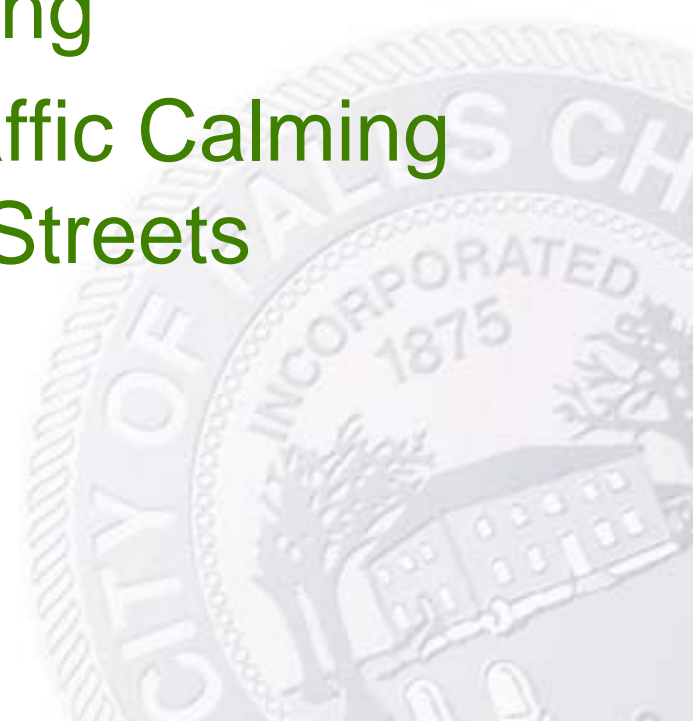
# Project “Buckets”



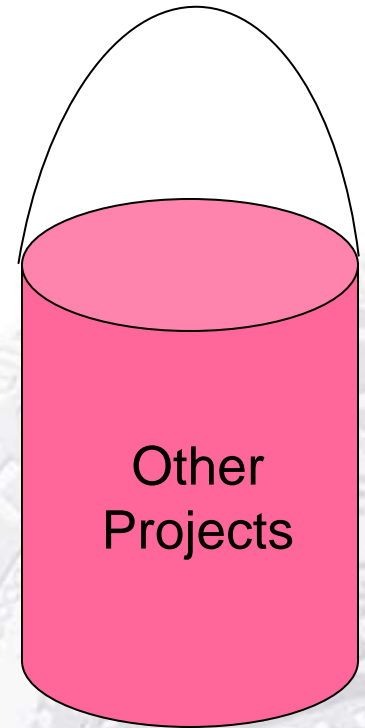
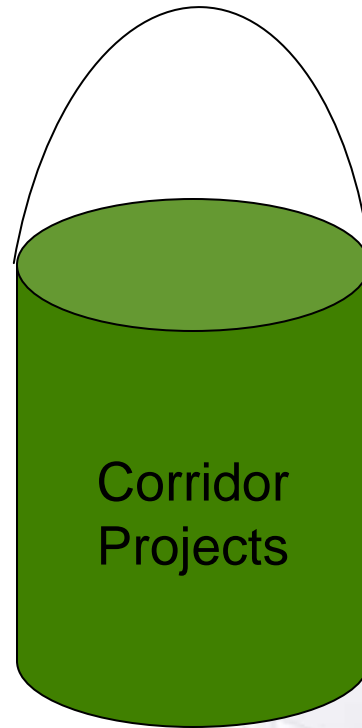
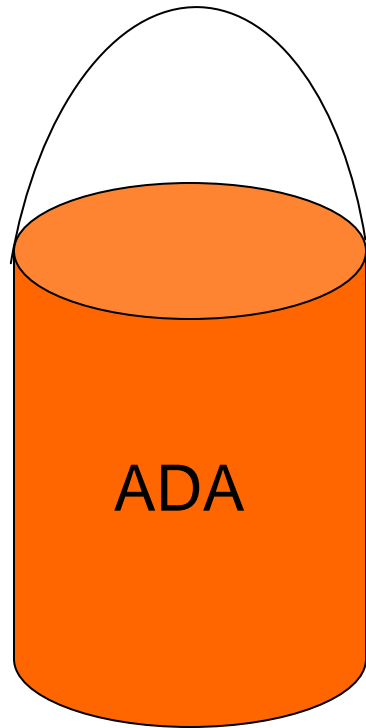
# Corridor Projects / Traffic Calming Methodology



- Evaluate all Collectors and Minor Arterials for Traffic Calming
- Utilize Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program for Residential Streets



# Project “Buckets”



# Safe Routes to School Advisory Committee

- Steve Knight – TJ Safety Patrol Sponsor
- Steve Rau – School Resource Officer
- Nancy Hendrickson – Bus Stop Coordinator
- Kristen Cunningham – Mt. Daniel Asst Principal
- Ellen Meinhart – MEH Parent
- Mark Sokolowski – GM High Teacher
- James Hickey – GM High Student



A decorative graphic consisting of three overlapping, curved bands of green, transitioning from a darker shade to a lighter shade, located in the top-left corner of the slide.

# **Open House**

## **20 Minutes**

