

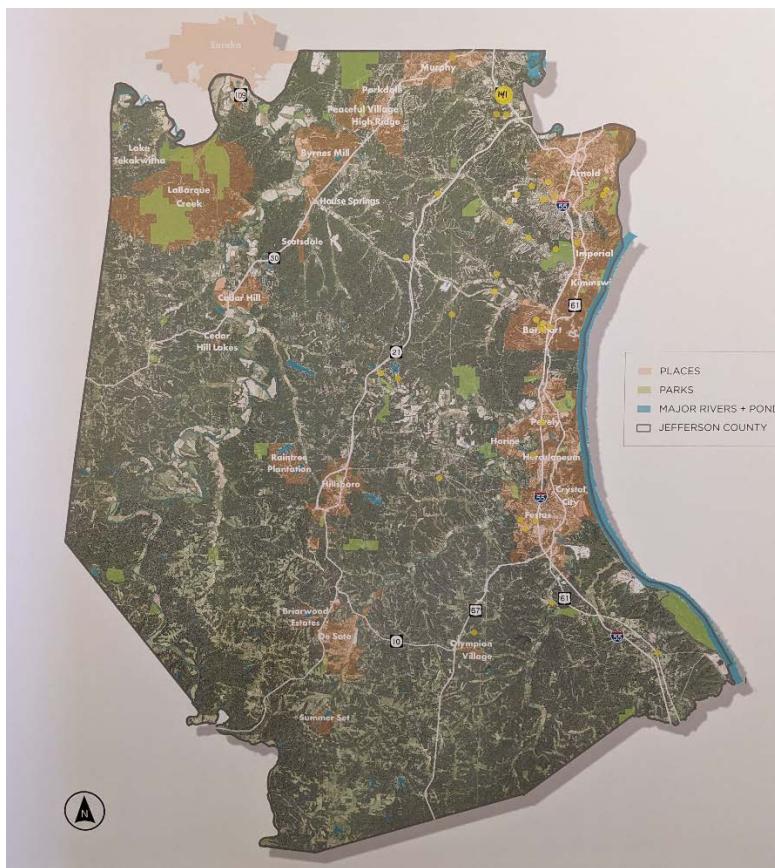
Open House Facilitators:

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Jefferson County: Jason Jonas, Kelly Harlow

Summary of Events at Open House 1

The Walk Bike Jefferson County project team held the first Open House at Antonia Middle School on June 6, 2024. The public was invited to learn about the project scope and existing conditions on study roadways and to give feedback on where they want to walk and bike in the county.

There were 40 signed-in attendees of the Open House. These attendees mostly visited from The North and East parts of the County, especially Arnold, Barnhart and nearby areas (see yellow dots added by attendees below).



Attendees reviewed boards at their own pace with Walk Bike Jefferson County staff present to discuss if desired. The boards focused on project scope and schedule, typical sections for walking and biking in urban, suburban and rural contexts, and characteristics for roadways included in the study area. Many attendees inquired about plans to build bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure ("what", "where", "when").

The project team reinforced that the draft plan is yet to come, and that public engagement throughout the summer would inform these priorities.



Community Feedback via Subarea Maps

After reviewing the project status, attendees were asked to note down their insights, hopes and concerns by drawing on four subarea maps. This activity led to fruitful discussion among attendees and staff and produced more than 60 written and drawn suggestions on the subarea maps. Images of the marked maps are provided at the end of this document.



Here is a selection of feedback provided on subarea maps:

- Improved bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure along US 61 – Arnold to Festus
- Use of “Old Numbered” routes (e.g. Old MO 21) as cross-county bike routes
- Trail connections to St Louis County, along the Mississippi River or from Arnold
- Upgrading pedestrian facilities in neighborhoods near schools, such as along Miller Rd to Simpson Elementary School
- A trail following Rock Creek from MO 21 to Mastodon State Park
- Identification of safety trouble spots, especially crossing major roadways (e.g. MO 30 at W/MM, 141 at 13th Street)

After the Open House was complete, the project team reviewed the suggestions on project maps and added them to the project’s spatial feedback application, [map.social](#). Adding Open House feedback to this platform allows for public viewing and comment on these ideas throughout the project, as well as easier download of final public comment as the plan reaches completion.

Comment Forms

Of the 40 attendees, 12 left anonymous feedback on the provided comment forms. These forms expressed nearly unanimous positivity for the project status, goals and direction. Many written comments expressed the urgency for facilities to be built.

Table 1: Count of Responses by Agree – Disagree

Prompt	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
More people walking and biking is good for the health of Jefferson County residents.	12	0	0	0
More people walking and biking is good for businesses.	11	1	0	0
Walking and biking are good for more than just exercise.	11	1	0	0
The project is helping create a safer environment for people in Jefferson County.	12	0	0	0

A top concern expressed was safety, both as a motivator for the project and an impact on quality of life today. Respondents mentioned a desire for safe options to get out more, reach new activities, and even run errands without a car. Some placed special emphasis on safety for their children as well as themselves. Opinion was split on infrastructure quality. A few mentioned that they would be ok with “just something”, like shoulders and simple sidewalks, while others were willing to pay to get premium infrastructure quality.

The top concerns listed were related to funding, though two mentioned that expensive but effective infrastructure is worth it to them. One respondent mentioned risks related to implementation follow-through (“giving up the fight”), and another said that people might not support projects that get in the way of driving.

I-55 Corridor North



Festus & Herculaneum



Walk Bike Jefferson County Plan Open House 1 Summary June 6, 2024



High Ridge, House Springs & Cedar Hill



Hillsboro & De Soto

