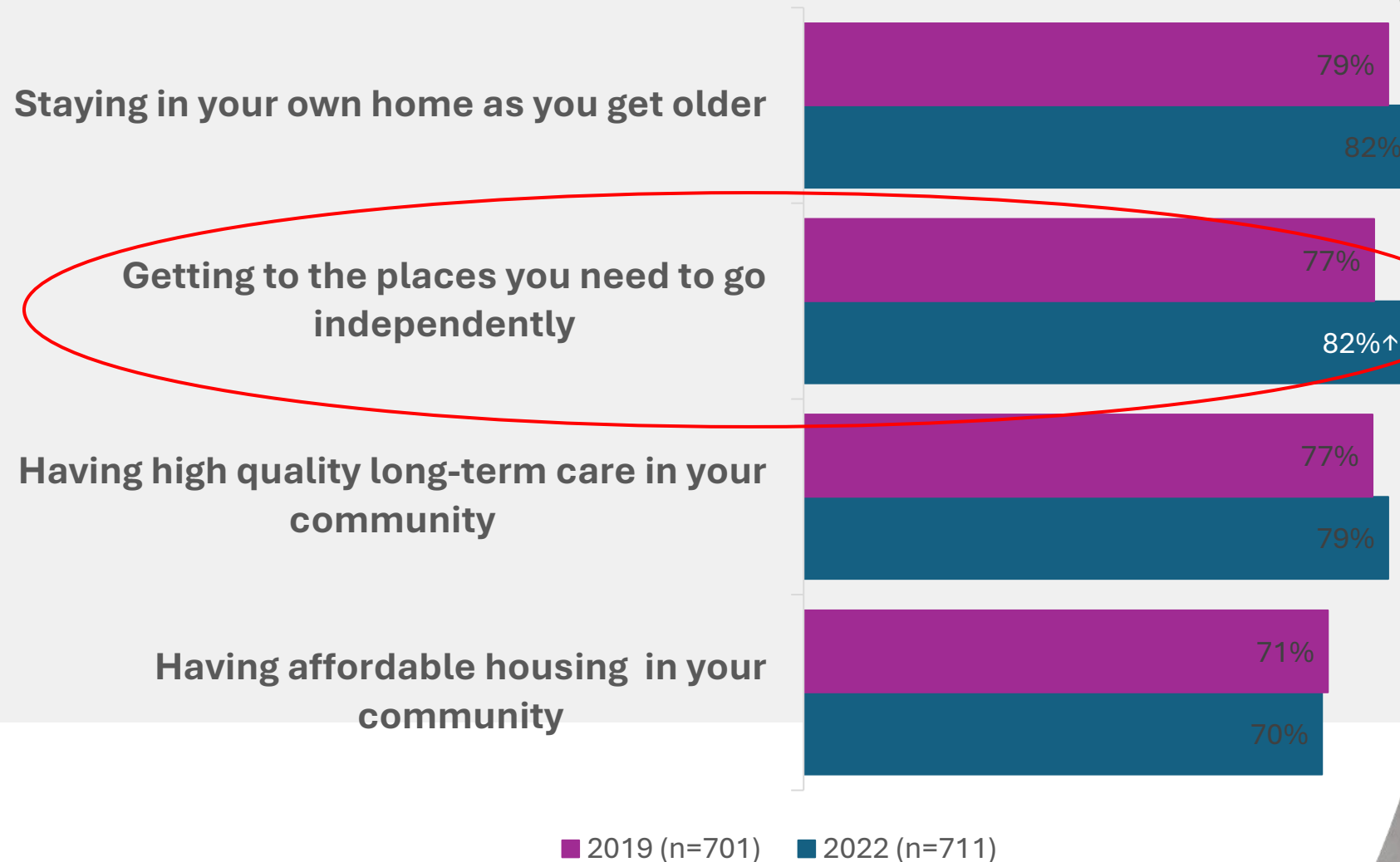




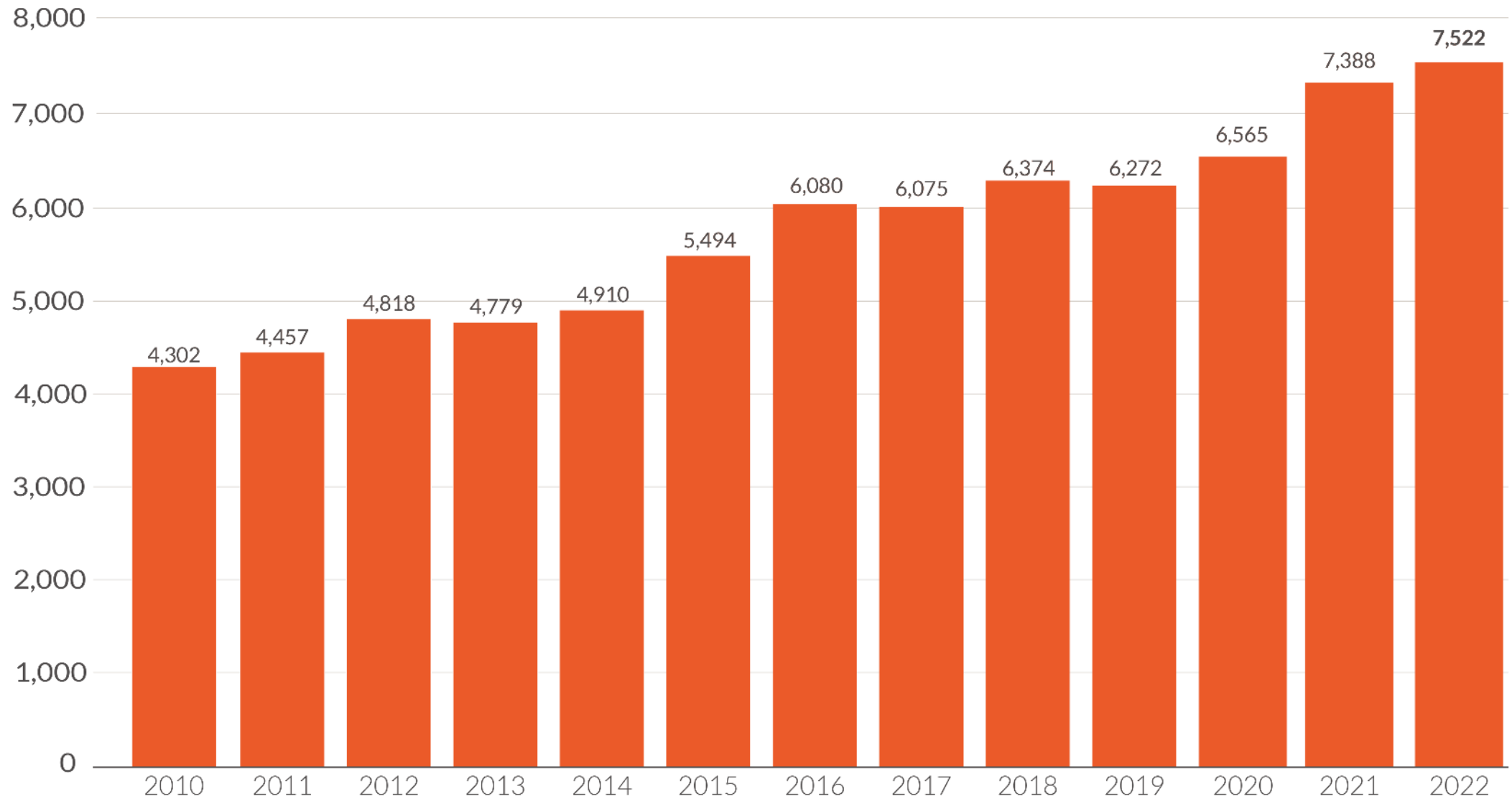
Danville Walk Audit Training 2025

A self-service guide for assessing your community's walkability

Important Independent Living Issues



75 percent increase in the deaths of people walking since 2010

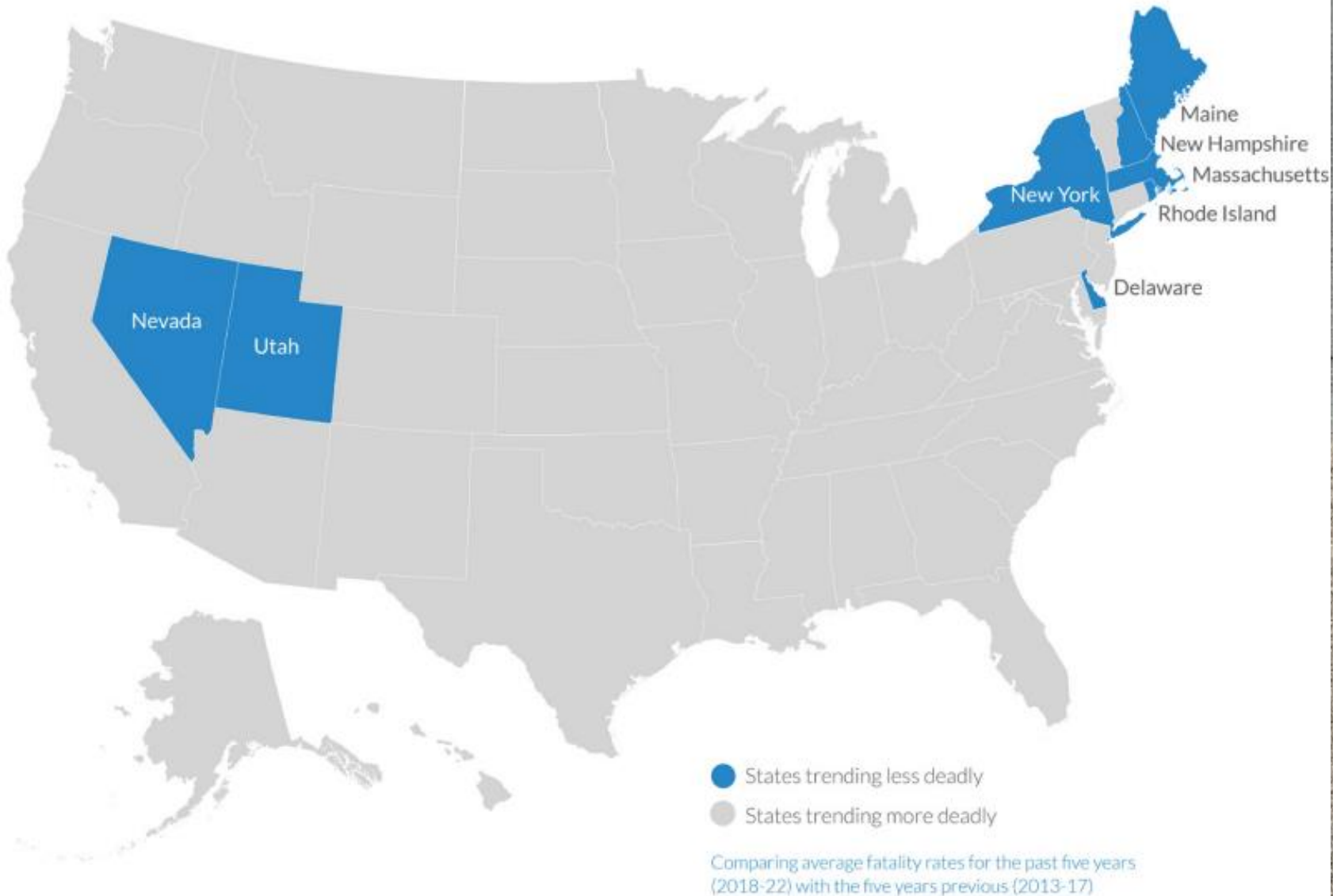


U.S. pedestrian deaths (2010-2022)

Source: Smart Growth America Dangerous by Design, 2022

Almost all states are trending more deadly for people walking

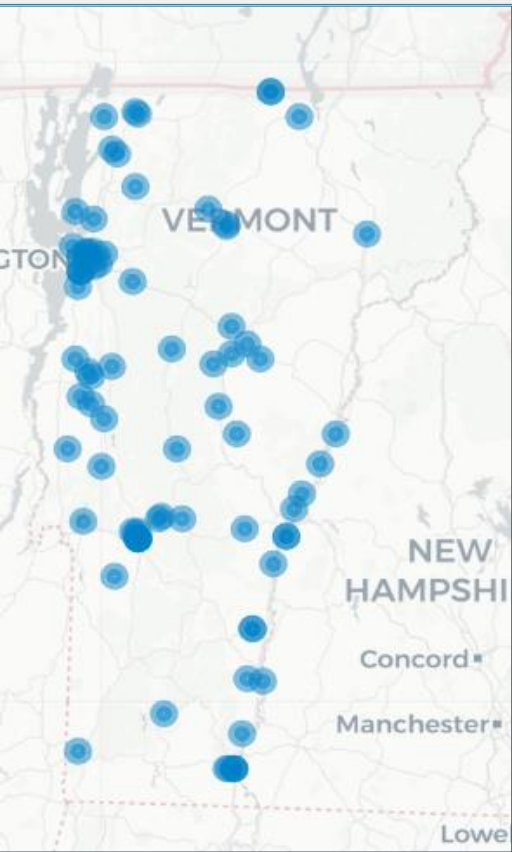
Only eight states saw a long-term improvement in fatality rates



Wheelock, VT



Pedestrian Deaths from 2008 - 2022



Rank	State	Avg. ped deaths per 100k people per year (2018-2022)	Pedestrian deaths (2013-17)	Pedestrian deaths (2018-22)	Long term trend in fatality rate	Share of all traffic deaths that were pedestrians	Percent of pedestrian deaths on state-owned roads
30	Indiana	1.50	438	509	0.18	11%	44%
31	Wyoming	1.45	24	42	0.63	7%	63%
32-t	Illinois	1.43	691	914	0.36	16%	46%
32-t	West Virginia	1.43	116	128	0.16	9%	70%
34	New York	1.37	1464	1368	-0.11	26%	38%
35	Pennsylvania	1.30	776	842	0.08	15%	77%
36-t	Ohio	1.26	564	739	0.28	12%	50%
36-t	South Dakota	1.26	40	56	0.32	9%	59%
38	Utah	1.20	184	197	-0.03	14%	64%
39	Kansas	1.12	146	165	0.12	8%	45%
40	Massachusetts	1.11	382	386	-0.02	20%	50%
41	Maine	1.04	76	71	-0.10	9%	72%
42	Nebraska	1.02	72	100	0.26	9%	56%
43	Wisconsin	0.98	246	287	0.12	10%	50%
44	Vermont	0.96	27	31	0.10	9%	65%
45	North Dakota	0.93	29	36	0.15	7%	54%
46-t	Idaho	0.86	67	80	0.05	7%	48%
46-t	New Hampshire	0.86	60	59	-0.05	10%	59%
48	Rhode Island	0.84	71	46	-0.50	15%	61%
49	Minnesota	0.81	182	230	0.14	11%	37%

THE PROBLEM: Too many streets are designed exclusively or almost exclusively for automobile travel, with little consideration given to the needs of people who walk, roll or ride a bike.



According to the U.S. Census Bureau, **8.3 percent of households do not own or have access to a motor vehicle** and must rely on biking, walking and/or public transit to get around.

Why Do Walkable Communities Matter?

- **Connected**
- **Friendly**
- **Safe**
- **Healthy**



Who's Using the Street & Why?

- Counting cars that pass the location
- Counting pedestrians who walk along and cross the street
- Noting demographic characteristics of the pedestrians (age and physical ability)
- Assessing why people are walking in the location (exercise, commuting, shopping, dog walking, school, etc..)



Accessibility – Considering All Abilities



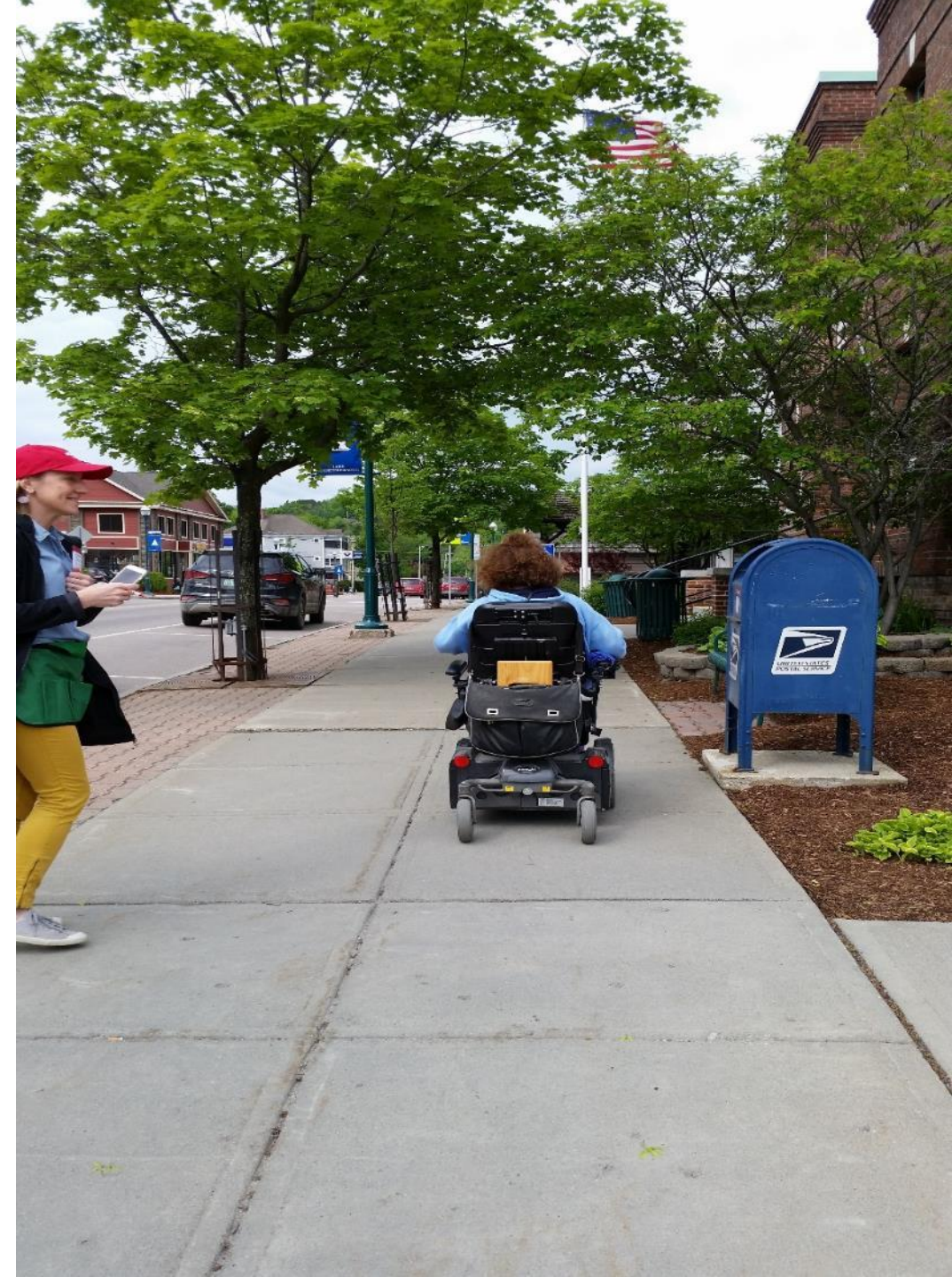
Sidewalks, Streets and Crossings



Sidewalk Conditions and Buffers

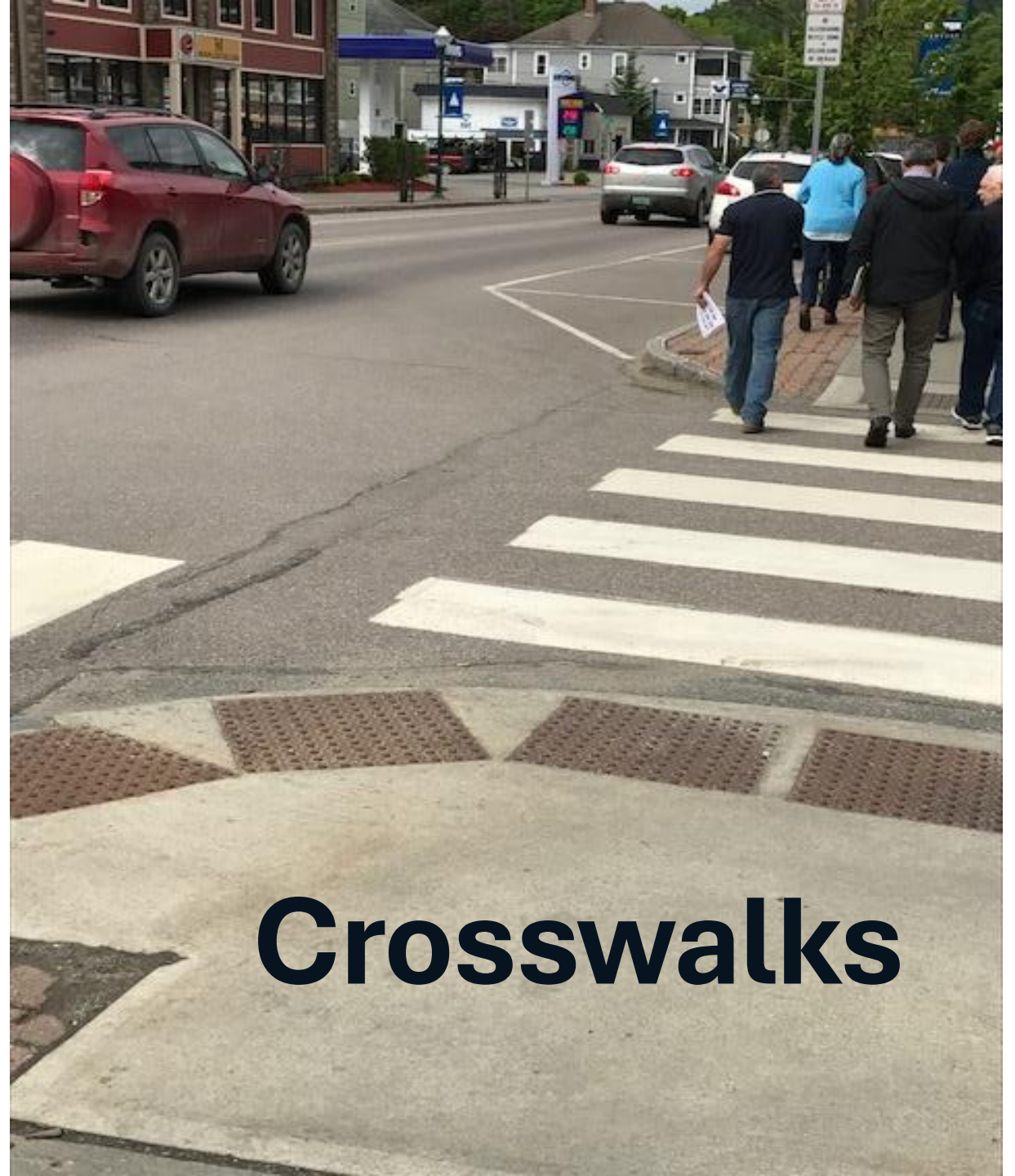


Sidewalks



Sidewalks & Shoulders





Crosswalks

Intersections



Comfort & Appeal

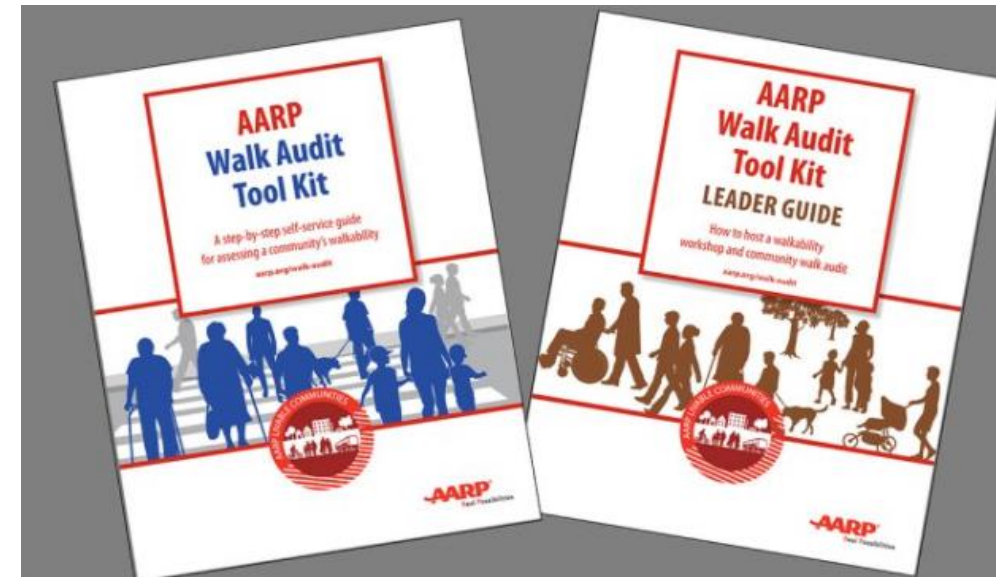
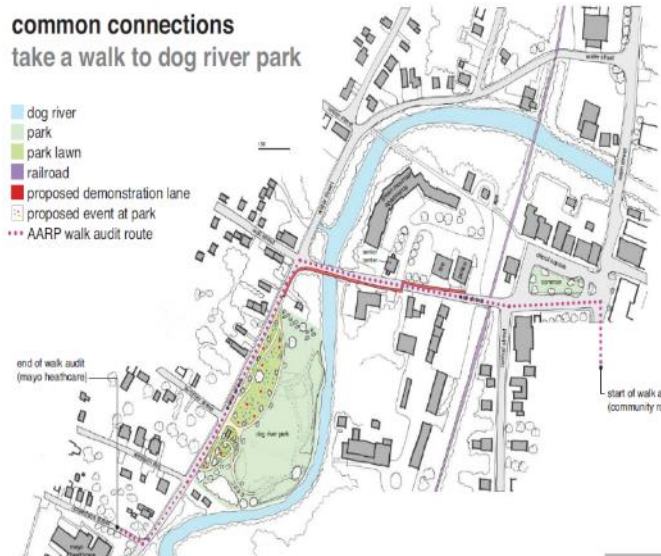


Connectivity and Public Transit



Step 1: Get Ready

1. **Where** – identify the walk audit location
2. **What** – decide on a type of walk audit
3. **Who** – invite people to participate
4. **When** – choose a date and time & meeting location
5. **Materials** – toolkit, map, pens, clipboards, speed gun, safety vests, clock and tape measure.

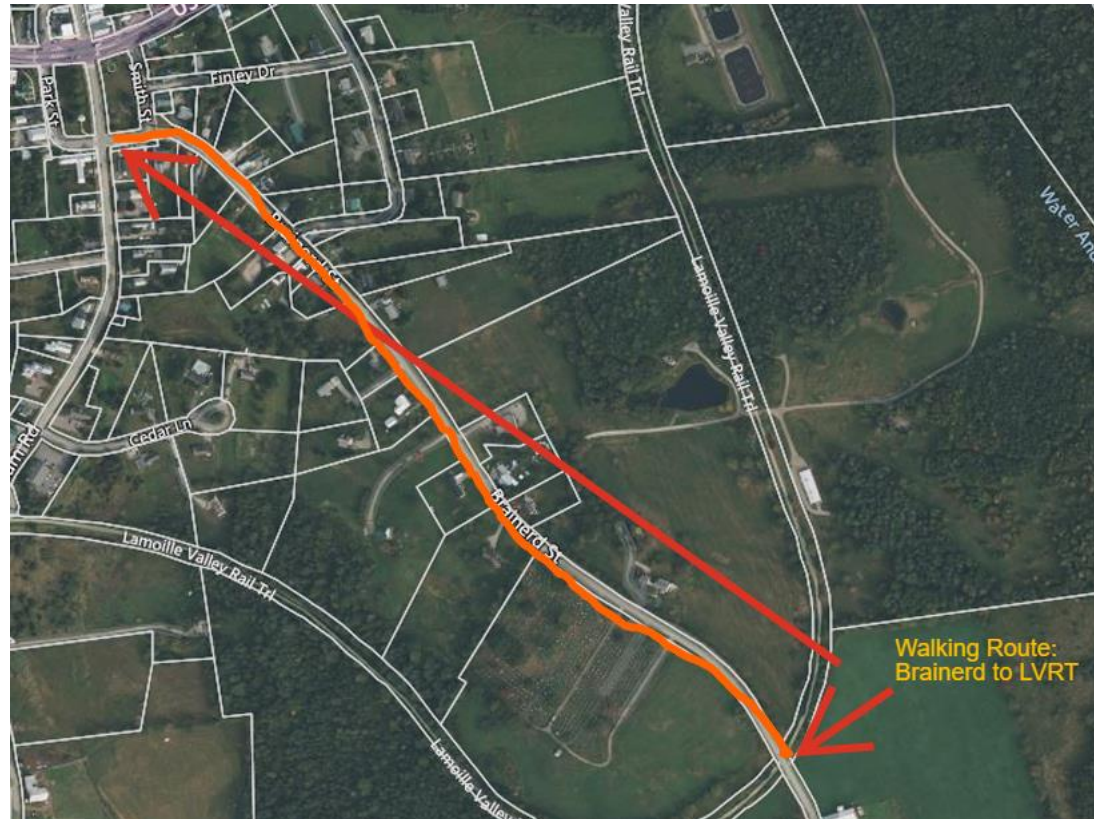


Walk Audit Date: June 11th at 12:45
Meet at the Village Green
Three Walk Audits

Hill Street



Brainerd Street



Peacham Road



Step 2: Conducting the Walk Audit

Provide an Overview, Map & Toolkit for Participants

Familiarize Street Vocabulary

Team Assignments

- Intersections & Crossings
- Sidewalk Conditions
- Comfort & Appeal
- Driver Behavior
- Photographs & Video of problems & solutions



Step 2: Conducting the Walk Audit

Details to focus on include

- Crosswalks and signals
- Vehicle stops and speed
- Turning lanes
- Curb cuts
- Lighting
- Seating

Scorecard

Great: the area is very pedestrian-friendly and safe

Acceptable: The area is mostly pedestrian-friendly and safe

Mixed: the area is somewhat pedestrian-friendly and safe

Poor: the area is absolutely not pedestrian-friendly or safe

Step 3: Debrief After The Walk Audit

Questions to Ask Participants:

- What kind of road users did you see?
- What did you see that works well?
- What did you see that needs improvement?
- Did anyone see specific perils for walkers, bikes, transit users?



Have participants share the biggest priority areas for improvement:

- List the easy fixes (repairing broken pavement on a sidewalk)
- List the difficult fixes (moving a utility pole obstructing a sidewalk)

Step 4: Reporting Results, Proposing Solutions

1. Prepare a report
2. Share the results
3. Ask for a meeting with local leaders and organizations
4. Present at public meetings with selectboard
5. Propose solutions – identify specific short, medium and long term actions
6. Consider pop-up and demonstration projects to test solutions.



A bright, sunny day in a suburban neighborhood. A paved sidewalk runs through the center of the frame. On the left, a young child in a blue shirt and red helmet rides a small yellow bicycle. On the right, a woman in a dark tank top and jeans, wearing a black helmet, rides a silver bicycle towards the camera. The background features several houses with grey roofs and white trim, surrounded by large, mature evergreen trees. A small wooden signpost with numbers is visible on the right side of the sidewalk.

Thank you!

**Kelly Stoddard Poor, Associate State Director,
AARP VT**