



CHARLOTTE
TRANSPORTATION

Charlotte's Challenge

Success Stories from the Mayors' Challenge for Safer People & Safer Streets



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CHARLOTTE

- Charlotte's Story
- Charlotte's Framework for Action
 - What We've Accomplished
 - To Do List


CHARLOTTE

Charlotte's Story

- Incorporated in 1768
- The Queen City
- First in Independence
 - Mecklenburg Resolves (May 20, 1775)
- "a hornet's nest of rebellion" (British General Cornwallis)
- Largest banking center outside NYC
- Population: 810,000
- Area: 298 mi²










 **Charlotte's Story**

• Growing!


- 2nd fastest growing large city in the country
- 400,000 new residents by 2040
- 44 new residents per day

  **PER**  **DAY**

440,000 people,
2nd largest city in NC

 **Charlotte's Story**

We can't keep widening our roads, so we have to **broaden** our thinking.



 **USDG** Urban Street Design Guidelines
Sustainable Urban Design
www.charlotte.org

 **Charlotte's Story**





Charlotte's Story

How does Charlotte stack up in terms of walkability and bikeability?

- **"10th most dangerous metropolitan area in the country for pedestrians."** (National Complete Streets Coalition and Smart Growth America. 2014.)
- **"5th most sprawling large metropolitan area in the country."** (Smart Growth America. 2014.)
- **"Least walkable big city (population 250,000 or more) in America"** (Walkscore.com. 2014.)

Not well.

Charlotte's Story

Why is Charlotte such a challenging place for pedestrians, cyclists, and transit riders?

1950 to 2000

TRANSPORTATION POLICY
Move as many cars as we can as fast as we can.

POPULATION
More than quadrupled from 134,000 to 570,000

AREA
+213 square miles

Growth in Charlotte Following WWII

Year	Population	Land Area (square miles)
1950	134,000	~50
1960	~200,000	~70
1970	~250,000	~100
1980	~350,000	~150
1990	~450,000	~180
2000	~500,000	~200
2010	570,000	213

We forgot about other modes.

Charlotte's Story

- We've been focused on building Complete Streets and providing transportation choices for decades.
 - Urban Street Design Guidelines
 - Blue Line Light Rail
 - Gold Lynx Streetcar
 - Carolina Thread Trail
 - BCycle Bike Share

Light Rail
18.9 miles



USDG
2007



BCycle
24 stations
200+ bikes




Greenways
220+ miles



Streetcar
4 miles



Charlotte's Story



Charlotte is supporting more transportation choices than we ever have before...

Charlotte's Story

...but we still have a long way to go













Charlotte's Story


Mayor Foxx (2009 - 2013) Secretary Foxx (2013 -)


Charlotte's Framework for Action

It's about more than transportation... **It's about creating GREAT PLACES!**


Charlotte's Framework for Action


Partners

 **Charlotte's Framework for Action**





- **Challenge 1: Take a Complete Streets approach**
- **Challenge 4: Use designs that are appropriate to the context of the street and its uses**

 **Charlotte's Framework for Action**



Urban Street Design Guidelines (2007)

 **Charlotte's Framework for Action**



- **Challenge 2: Identify and address barriers to make streets safe and convenient**

GOALS

- 15 new pedestrian crossings in 2015 & 2016
- New bike racks at 20 schools
- Ongoing intersection improvements for ped/bike



Charlotte's Framework for Action

Challenge 3: Gather and track biking and walking data

GOALS

- Start an interagency counting program
- Quantify mode share for schools
- Quantify Uptown mode-share
- Celebrate ped/bike use
- Develop data-driven talking points


This slide features the Charlotte logo, a photograph of a street scene with people walking, and a list of goals for Challenge 3: Gather and track biking and walking data.

Charlotte's Framework for Action

WHY WALKABILITY?

This slide features the Charlotte logo and a large infographic titled "WHY WALKABILITY?". The infographic is divided into several sections: Growth Management, Economic Benefits, Social Equity, Environmental Stewardship, Public Health & Safety, and Transportation Choices. It includes various charts, graphs, and icons illustrating the benefits of walkability. A photograph of a woman in a neon green safety vest holding a clipboard is also included.

 **Charlotte's Framework for Action**



- **Challenge 5: Create & complete ped/bike networks through maintenance**

GOALS

- Use the street resurfacing program
- "Keep Clear" campaign
- Clean bike lanes on NCDOT streets

 **Charlotte's Framework for Action**




Sidewalk Stroller Slalom?
Please keep sidewalks clear.

Sidewalk Roller Derby?
Please keep sidewalks clear.

Keep Clear Campaign Website
<http://charmck.org/city/charlotte/campaigns/pages/sidewalksafety.aspx>

 **Charlotte's Framework for Action**



- **Challenge 6: Improve walking and biking safety laws and regulations**

GOALS


- Focus on sidewalk obstructions
- Citywide zoning ordinance rewrite (all land development regs)


 **Charlotte's Framework for Action**



July 2012

CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA
Zoning Ordinance Assessment Report

 **Charlotte's Framework for Action**



- **Challenge 7: Educate and enforce proper road use behaviors by all**

GOALS

- Conduct 5 enforcement events with CMPD
- Support the "Freewheelin' Fridays" bike commuting program
- Host the NC Bike Summit
- Develop a Complete Streets Orientation course for all new CDOT employees

 **Charlotte's Framework for Action**



WatchForMeNC.org


I look for bikes.

Ceda el paso a los peatones.
Es la ley.

STATE LAW
PEDESTRIANS
OR WALKERS

PEDESTRIAN CROSSWALK ENFORCEMENT
Drivers must yield to pedestrians in crosswalk.

Charlotte's Framework for Action



- **Challenge 7: Educate and enforce proper road use behaviors by all**

GOALS

- Participate in International Walk to School Day
- Partner with CMS and Park & Rec to offer bicycle safety classes
- Conduct walkability audits at up to 10 intersections with AARP
- Adopt Charlotte WALKS plan and Charlotte BIKES plan update

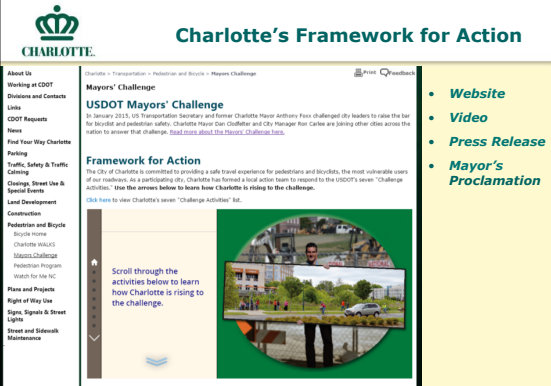
Charlotte's Framework for Action



Charlotte WALKS

Yield to people in crosswalks.

Charlotte's Framework for Action




USDOT Mayors' Challenge

Framework for Action

Scroll through the activities below to learn how Charlotte is rising to the challenge.


- **Website**
- **Video**
- **Press Release**
- **Mayor's Proclamation**


<http://charmck.org/city/charlotte/Transportation/PedBike/Pages/MayorsChallenge.aspx>

 **Charlotte's Framework for Action**

• To Do List

- **Near Term (1 year)**
 - Install Ped/Bike Counters & Displays
 - Walkability Audits with AARP
 - School Transportation Data
 - Install Bike Racks at Schools
 - Adopt Charlotte WALKS & Charlotte BIKES
 - Update Midblock Crossing Guidelines
- **Long Term (2-5 years)**
 - Establish Interagency Platform for Ped/Bike Data Collection & Sharing
 - Citywide Zoning Ordinance Rewrite





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<http://chameck.org/city/charlotte/Transportation/PedBike/Pages/MayorsChallenge.aspx>

Thank you!

