#### Neighborhood Mobility Audits Polk County, FL

Tom Deardorff, AICP





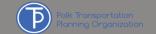
#### Mobility Audit Process

- Defining the Neighborhood
- Preparing the Neighborhood Overview
- Evaluating Access to Community Services and Places
- Identifying Mobility
   Improvements
- Engaging the Community
- Prioritizing, Funding, and Implementing
   Improvements



## Neighborhood Mobility Audits Defining the Neighborhood

Adam Purcell, AICP







#### **Defining the Neighborhood**

- Difficult to define "Neighborhood"
- Important means of engagement
  - Unit of analysis that public can easily identify
  - Allows for ownership of evaluation effort and recommendations
- Multi-step process
  - Demographic Analysis
  - Analysis of existing land use and other environmental features
  - Refinement based on Technical Advisory Committee knowledge



#### **Identifying the Traditionally Underserved**



Traditionally Underserved Population Category	2007 – 2011 American Community Survey Dataset	
Low Income	Percentage of Families and People Whose Income in the Past	
Low income	12 Months is Below the Poverty Level - All People	
Basial Minarity	Persons Self-Identifying as American Indian, Asian, Black,	
Racial Minority	Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, Other, or Multiple Races	
Ethnic Minority	Hispanic or Latino and Race – Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	

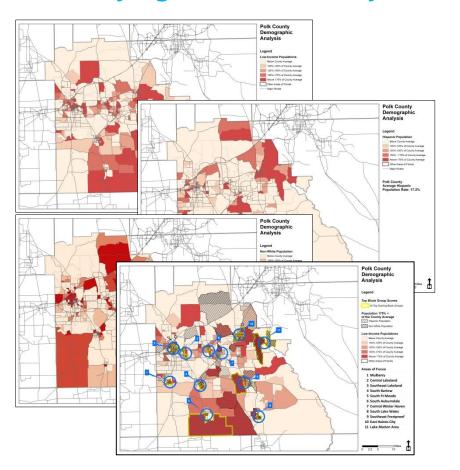
#### "Traditionally Underserved"

Executive Order 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in **Minority Populations** and **Low-Income Populations**.

NCHRP Report 710 expands discussion to other populations recognized in other Executive Orders and Title VI legislation including those with limited English proficiency, low-literacy populations, seniors, persons with disabilities.



#### **Identifying the Traditionally Underserved**



#### **Polk County Percent Non-White**

20.3

Range	Percent Non-White	Score
1-1.25 x County Average	20.30-25.38	0.25
1.25-1.5 x County Average	25.38-30.45	0.5
1.5-1.75 x County Average	30.45-35.53	0.75
1.75+ x County Average	35.53+	1

#### **Polk County Percent Hispanic**

17.2

Range	Percent Hispanic	Score
1-1.25 x County Average	17.2-21.5	0.25
1.25-1.5 x County Average	21.5-25.8	0.5
1.5-1.75 x County Average	25.8-30.1	0.75
1.75+ x County Average	30.1+	1

#### **Polk County Percent Below Poverty**

16.4

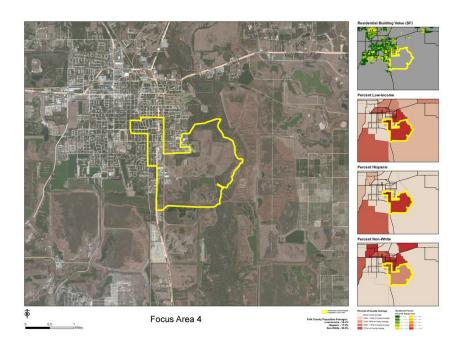
Range	Percent Low-Income	Score
1-1.25 x County Average	16.40-20.50	0.25
1.25-1.5 x County Average	20.50-24.60	0.5
1.5-1.75 x County Average	24.60-28.70	0.75
1.75+ x County Average	28.70+	1

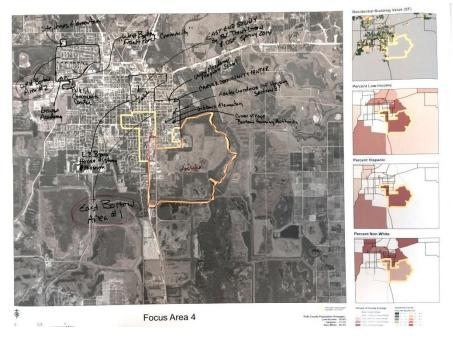




#### **Defining the Neighborhood**

#### Local Engagement

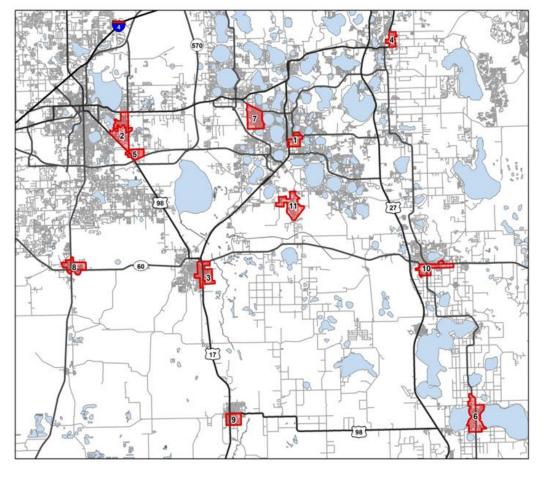




#### **Defined Neighborhoods**

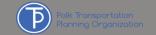
#### Refined boundary

- Local knowledge of social connections
- Demographic characteristics
  - Income
     Race and ethnicity
- Housing characteristics
  - Square- foot value
  - Year built
- Geography/physical features
  - Major roadways
  - Water bodies
  - Shift in land use



## Neighborhood Mobility Audits Preparing the Neighborhood Overview

Adam Purcell, AICP





### **Elements of the Neighborhood Overview**

- Location and context of neighborhood
- Description of existing land use and community services and places
- Employment and commute patterns
- Mode of travel
- Demographic characteristics



#### **Description of Community Services and Places**

- National Household Travel
   Survey (NHTS) classifies daily
   trips by purpose.
- FHWA Ladders of Opportunity
  - "Essential Services"
- Identify destinations that support daily trips and essential services
  - Shopping, Medical Facilities,
     Financial Institutions,
     Government and Social Services,
     Schools, Daycare Centers,
     Religious Centers, Parks





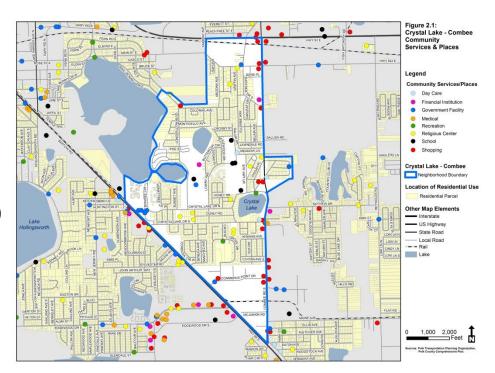
#### **Description of Existing Use**

Property Appraiser Department of Revenue Code (DOR) information identifies location of existing use

- Parcel-level analysis
- Detailed assessment of current use

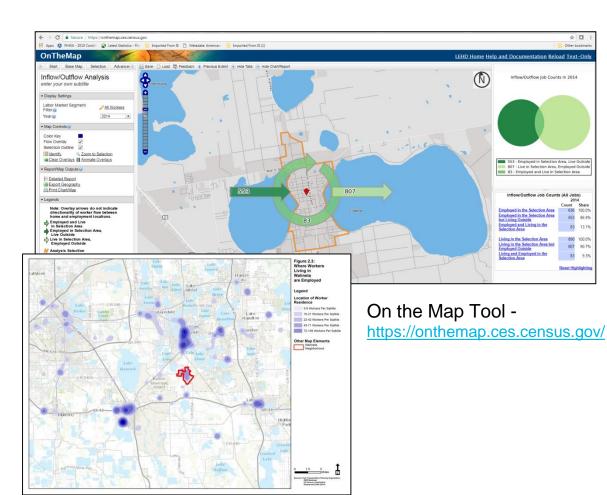
Florida Geographic Data Library (FGDL) Geocoded Resources

- Religious Centers
- Government Services
- Park and Recreation Areas







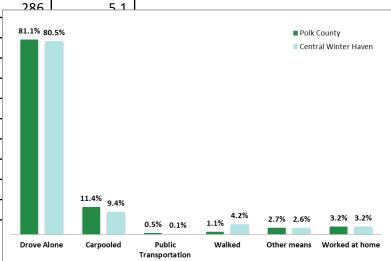


#### **Commuter Flow**

- Worker and Resident focus
- Identifies employment and residential centers
- Home-Job balance
- Compared to existing transit routes/service
- Compared to existing bike/ped infrastructure

#### **US Census - Commute Mode and Demographic Information**

Demographic Characteristic	Polk County		Central Winter Haven Neighborhood		
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	
Population	602,095	N/A	5,588	N/	
White	452,854	75.2	3,324	59.	
Black or African American	88,833	14.8	1,875	33.	
American Indian and Alaskan Native	2,706	0.4	0	0.	
Asian	9,760	1.6	286	5	
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	360	0.1	81.1% 80	0.5%	
Some Other Race	32,847	5.5			
Two or More Races	14,735	2.4			
Hispanic or Latino	106,532	17.7			
Age 15 and Under	117,125	19.5			
Age 18 and Under	141,736	23.5			
Age 65 and Over	108,296	18.0			
Limited English Proficiency <sup>(1)</sup>	46,717	8.4			
Housing Units with No Vehicle Available	12,990	5.9		11.4% 9.4	
Median Household Income	44,398	N/A		9.4	



N/A

59.5

33.6 0.0 **Pedestrian Transit User Bicyclist** 

## Neighborhood Mobility Audits Evaluating Access to Community Services and Places

Lauren Brooks, AICP





#### **Evaluation of Access – Infrastructure & Safety**

- Infrastructure/facilities inventory for walking, biking, & transit use
  - Sidewalks
  - Bike Lanes/Trails
  - Transit Routes & Stops
- Pedestrian & Bicycle Crashes
- Comparison of factors to each other
   to location of community services



#### **Evaluation of Access – Indices**

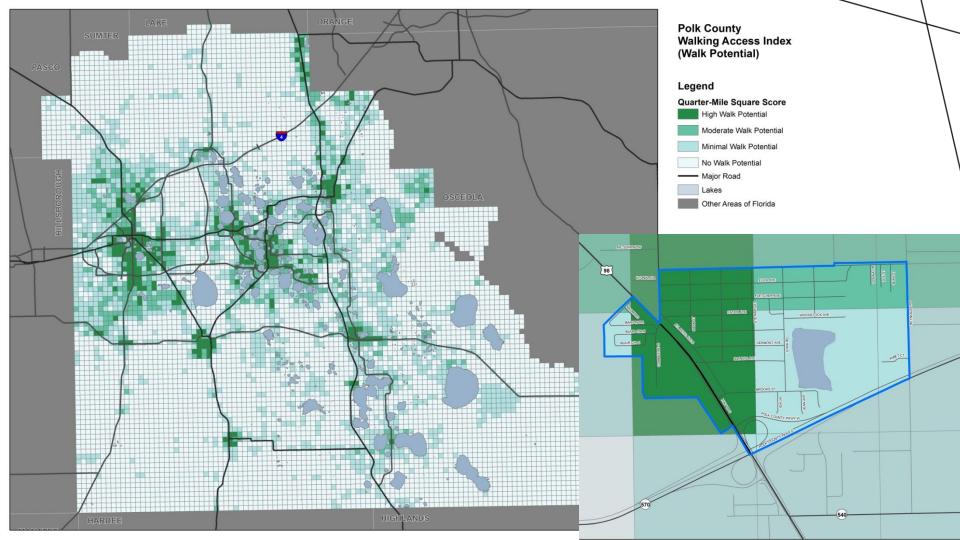
- Mobility Opportunities:
  - Walking Access Index
  - Biking Access Index
  - Transit Connectivity Index
- Mobility Constraints:
  - Gaps Index
  - Barriers Index
- Mobility Index



#### **Evaluation of Access – Walking & Biking Access Indices**

- Apply quarter-mile square
- Account for trip distance to services:
  - Walking: Quarter-Mile
  - Biking: One Mile
- Measure walking & biking potential through:
  - Connectivity of Streets
  - Dwelling Unit (DU) Density
  - Diversity of Land Uses
- High score = High # of intersections,DUs, & services within distance





#### **Evaluation of Access – Transit Connectivity Index**

 Measure potential to access services through location, intensity, & frequency of transit service

- Apply quarter-mile buffer to routes
- Apply quarter-mile square

Total Weekly Transit Trips = sum of weekly transit trips by route that pass within quarter-mile square

– High score = High transit coverage



#### **Evaluation of Access – Gaps Index**

- Assess presence of sidewalk gaps (field review/desktop analysis)
- Subtract linear feet of sidewalk from roadway linear feet = gap
- Divide linear feet of sidewalk gap into linear feet of roadway =
   % of roadway network with no sidewalks per quarter-mile square
- High score = no sidewalk



# Sidewalk Gap

#### **Evaluation of Access – Barriers Index**

- Apply quarter-mile square
- Assess presence of features that may hinder potential to walk or bike:
  - Roadway with 4+ lanes or 45+ mph
  - Railroad line
  - Waterway (rivers, streams, & canals)
- High score = low # of barriers

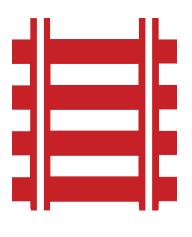




#### **Barriers**



Multi-lane Road > 45 mph



**Railroad Track** 



**Water Body** 

#### **Evaluation of Access – Mobility Index**

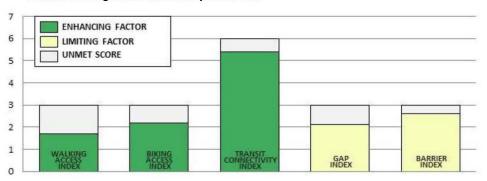
 Identify overall level of mobility through compilation of Indices

**Mobility Index = Potential Access - Gaps - Barriers** 

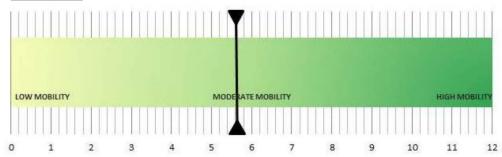
Result: Prioritize neighborhoods for transportation investments



#### **Eaton Park Neighborhood Mobility Dashboard**



#### **Mobility Index**



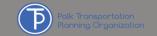
#### **Eaton Park Neighborhood Index Scores**

Walking Access Index	Biking Access Index	Transit Connectivity Index	Potential Access	Gaps Index	Barriers Index	Mobility Index
1.7	2.2	5.4	9.3	2.1	2.6	5.67



## Neighborhood Mobility Audits Identifying Mobility Improvements

Lauren Brooks, AICP





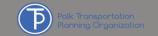
#### **Identifying Improvements**

- Review & map improvements of existing plans:
  - Comprehensive Plans
  - Polk TPO 2035 Mobility Vision Plan
  - Polk County My Ride
- Compare improvements of plans to indices, location of services, & safety issues to determine:
  - Modify existing improvements
  - Determine additional improvements
- Result: List of projects & map





# Neighborhood Mobility Audits Engaging the Community and Prioritizing Improvements Xiomara Meeks





#### **Public Outreach Strategies**

- 379 total surveys
- Local government























#### **Local Agency Engagement**

 Top 3-5 projects based on public outreach



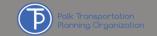






# Neighborhood Mobility Audits Funding and Implementing Improvements

Xiomara Meeks





#### **Implementing Improvements**

#### Currently Funded Projects – \$8.5M

PROJECT LENGTH	PROJECT TYPE	PROJECT COST	PROJECT LOCATION
0.74	sidewalk	\$1,584,158	Wabash - Polk County
2	lighting	\$959,888	Wahneta - Polk County
1	sidewalk, lighting	\$1,080,689	Haines City
0	transit shelters	\$136,000	Lakeland
1	PD&E - sidewalks	\$1,545,000	Combee - Polk County
1	Bike path/trail	\$1,023,284	Ft. Meade
0.36	sidewalk	\$569,641	Haines City
1	Bike path/trail	\$1,526,002	Inwood - Polk County



#### **Thank You**

http://bit.ly/MobilityAudits





Gaps Barriers