

strengthening and promoting quality health care

Creating Healthy Places to Live, Work & Play Walkability Survey Summary Report City of Dunkirk October 14, 2013

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INTRODUCTION

Creating Healthy Places to Live, Work, and Play (CHP) is a project funded by the New York State Department of Health focused on primary prevention of chronic disease. The Chautauqua County Health Network was awarded a 5-year grant in the fall of 2010 to administer CHP in Chautauqua County by working closely with a variety of partners to create policy, systems, and environmental changes to increase access to healthy foods and opportunities for physical activity. Among CCHN's built environment work plan objectives are adoption of complete streets legislation in the City of Jamestown (passed June 2012), the City of Dunkirk and Chautauqua County.

CHP initiated contact with City of Dunkirk elected and administrative officials in 2012 and early 2013. City officials expressed support for its nutrition and active lifestyle objectives and suggested specific locations in the city to be included in CHP walkability studies. These areas included Central Avenue between 3rd Street and Lakeshore Avenue and several bocks in either direction. CHP was able to survey the Central Avenue area as well as some other important corridors in the City.

Three walkability studies were conducted by volunteers on each of Monday, April 29th, Wednesday, May 1st, Wednesday, July 17th and Thursday, July 18th for a total of 12 studies. Volunteers were identified through various community contacts including the Dunkirk Senior Center, neighborhood associations and through the media.

On Monday, April 29th and Wednesday, May 1st, CHP and the Center for Regional Advancement ("CRA") collaborated to perform the first six studies. SUNY College at Fredonia students conducted the surveys and received extra course credit through arrangements made by Charles Cornell, Director of the CRA.



4/29 and 5/1 volunteers at the CRA before they began their Walkability studies.

On Wednesday, July 17^{th} and Thursday, July 18^{th} , CHP volunteers performed six walkability studies.

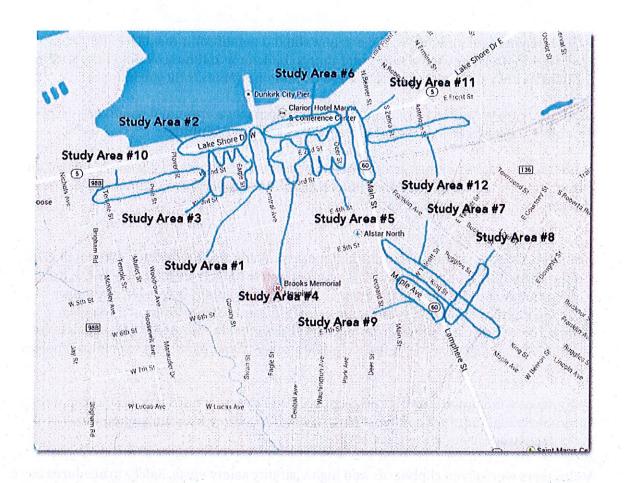


7/17 volunteers (front) Jim Harrisson, Stephanie Kiyak, Henry Hochstine, and Mary & Steve Rees (standing)



7/18 volunteers Jim Harrison (front), Carol Kozlowski, Ted & Cindy Tuning, Paula Levandoski, Michele Bautista and Steve Rees.

Approximately 21,046 or nearly 4 miles of streets were surveyed over the four days and included in the body of this report as shown in the map below. In addition, Mr. Rees conducted a survey of three blocks of Dove Street at a later date and is included in Appendix #2.



PROCESS

April 29th & May1st, 2013

Students were oriented to their assignment beginning at 12:30pm in the CRA conference room. A brief description of the project and the nature of their involvement was given by Andy Dickson, Built Environment Contractor to CHP. A 45 minute webinar was then viewed (http://www.walkinginfo.org *Designing for Pedestrian Safety Webinars*, Part 1: Introduction to Pedestrian Safety Design and Planning Principles) which provided the students with basic information to conduct their studies.

Students were divided into three groups of 2-3 individuals. One group was given a wheelchair for use in their study. The survey instrument and the respective areas of study were reviewed. The survey instrument that was used is the AARP "Sidewalks and Streets Survey" which can be viewed in Appendix #2 or at:

http://www.aarp.org/content/dam/aarp/livable-communities/plan/assessments/the-how-to-guide-for-sidewalks-and-streets-survey-aarp.pdf

Students were given clipboards and high visibility safety vests.

Before beginning their studies, the group walked together for one block of Central Avenue and were shown the types of things to look for and how to conduct the survey. Students were asked to take pictures to document problems they encountered.

Students were then directed to move to their respective areas and begin their survey, complete their survey and return to the CRA in about 90 minutes.

Upon their return, equipment was returned and survey instruments were reviewed for completeness. A brief discussion followed about the experience including Q & A. The sessions concluded at about 3:45pm.

July 17th & July 18th, 2013

Volunteers were oriented to their assignment on Wednesday 7/17 at 6:30pm in School #3 parking lot and on Thursday 7/18 at 2:00pm in the Dunkirk Senior Center. A brief description of the project and the nature of their involvement was given by Andy Dickson, Built Environment Contractor to CHP. Volunteers had all previously seen complete streets power point presentations and were familiar with basic principles of walkability. They reviewed a folio of complete street pictures to refresh their memories of the subject.

Volunteers were divided into three groups. Five of the six groups had a handicap device for use in their study or a handicap participant. The survey instrument and the respective study areas were reviewed.

Volunteers were given clipboards and high visibility safety vests. Safety procedures were reviewed.

Volunteers were then directed to move to their respective areas and begin their survey, complete their survey and return in about 90 minutes.

Upon their return, equipment was returned and survey instruments were reviewed for completeness. A brief discussion followed about the experience including Q & A. The sessions concluded after a total elapsed time of about 2.5 hours.

STUDY DETAILS

Study Area #1- Central Avenue between 3rd Street and the Pier- April 29, 2013

This street is main connection of the central business district to the waterfront. City officials indicated this is a priority area for study, as funding may be available immediately for improvements in this area. Study group included Kayleigh Forger, Maribel Avila and Alison Dyer. One member of the group used a wheelchair for the study.

Crossing the Street

Three intersections fall within this study area:

Central & Lakeshore Dr.

Rating: Poor

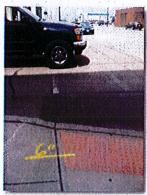
- No crosswalk markings or crossing signals are available for crossing Central Avenue. Only the crossings on Lakeshore are signaled.
- Lakeshore crossing requires pedestrians to cross 5 lanes.
- Insufficient time is allotted for Lakeshore crossing.
- No safety median.



Central & 2nd Streets

Rating:

- There are no crosswalk signals for any of the 4 crossings.
- A crosswalk button on the southwest corner is inoperative.





Central & 3rd Streets

Rating:

: Fair Push to walk signal is inoperative.

• Curb cuts on the tangent of the turns are not safe for wheelchair/handicap users.

• Railroad bridge obscures the view of the streetlight for southbound traffic approaching the intersection.

• Grass paths evidence pedestrian traffic walking on the north side of 3rd Street where no sidewalk exists.



Sidewalks

Rating:

Fair

- Central Avenue crosswalks do not connect to sidewalk on the north side of Lakeshore. Pedestrians travelling north to the pier must walk through parking lots.
- No buffers exist between sidewalks and streets.
- There are some broken/cracked sidewalk sections.
- Cars and trucks block sidewalks.

Driver Behavior

Rating:

Fair

- Every driver observed failed to stop behind crosswalks.
- · Drivers do not yield to pedestrians.

Safety

Rating:

Poor

- Car are travelling fast.
- There are unclear signs or directions for drivers or pedestrians.

Study Area #2- Lakeshore between Central & Dove Streets- April 29, 2013

This section of Lakeshore is adjacent to Memorial Park, important public waterfront access. City officials indicated this is a priority area for study, as funding may be available immediately for improvements in this area. Study group included Randy Woodbury, Josh Clark Stacy Klimczak and Elizabeth Farrell.

Crossing the Street

Four intersections fall within this study area:

W. Lakeshore & Eagle Streets

Rating: Fair

- There is no crossing signal.
- Crosswalk is poorly marked and muddy.
- There are markings or signal to cross Lakeshore.
- · Cars and trucks block sidewalks.
- A broken sign post is hazardous to pedestrians.







W. Lakeshore & Pelican Streets

Rating:

Poor

- There is no crossing signal.
- Crosswalk is poorly marked.
- · There is no marking or signal to cross Lakeshore.
- Cars and trucks block sidewalks despite "No Parking" sign
- · Parked cars blocking sidewalk also block view of stopped cars.

W. Lakeshore & Swan Streets

Rating:

Fair

- · There is no crossing signal.
- Crosswalk is poorly marked.
- There is no marking or signal to cross Lakeshore. Swan provides walking access
 to lakefront from neighborhoods south of railroad and should have Lakeshore
 crossing signals & markings.

W. Lakeshore & Dove Streets

Rating:

Good

- · There is no crossing signal.
- Crosswalk is poorly marked.
- There is no marking or signal to cross Lakeshore.

Sidewalks

Rating:

- : Fair
 No buffers exist between sidewalks and streets.
- There are some broken/cracked sidewalk sections.
- · Cars and trucks block sidewalks.
- Sidewalks are interrupted by driveways
- · Sidewalk is blocked by obstacles in some places.
- Sidewalks on north side of Lakeshore are in better condition than south side.

Driver Behavior

Rating:

Fair

- Drivers observed failed to stop behind crosswalks.
- · Drivers do not stop at signs.
- Drivers do not yield to pedestrians.

Safety

Rating:

Fair

• There are unclear signs or directions for drivers or pedestrians

Study Area #3- Swan, Pelican, Eagle & W 2nd Streets between Lakeshore & 3rd Streets-April 29, 2013

This neighborhood is adjacent to Memorial Park and Swan Street provides pedestrian lake access from residential neighborhoods south of the railroad. City officials indicated this is a priority area for study, as funding may be available immediately for improvements in this area. Study group included Jacie Gavin and Kim Tydings.

Crossing the Street

Three intersections fall within this study area:

W. 2nd & Eagle

Rating:

- There is no crossing signal.
- Crosswalk is poorly marked.
- Curb cuts are in disrepair and not suitable for handicap pedestrians.





W 2nd & Pelican Streets

Rating:

Poor

- There is no crossing signal.
- Crosswalk is poorly marked.
- N-S pedestrian crossings no handicap or stroller compatible (high curbs)

W 2nd & Swan Streets

Rating:

Fair

- There is no crossing signal.
- · Crosswalk is poorly marked.
- Steep inclines onto sidewalk not handicap or elderly compatible





Sidewalks

Rating:

Poor

- Sidewalks are interrupted by driveways
- · Cars and trucks block sidewalks.
- No textured curb cuts
- · Some areas lack sidewalks
- Sections of sidewalks are badly fractured, heaved and dangerous
- The railing protecting a basement entry on 2nd Street will not prevent a stroller or wheelchair from falling below.









Driver Behavior

Rating:

Fair

- Drivers observed failed to stop behind crosswalks.
- Drivers do not stop at signs.
- Drivers do not yield to pedestrians.

Safety

Rating:

Good

There are unclear signs or directions for drivers or pedestrians

Study Area #4- E 2nd between Central & Park and Washington between Lakeshore & 3rd Street- May 1, 2013

Washington Street provides pedestrian access to the lakeshore for neighborhoods south of the railroad. City officials indicated this is a priority area for study, as funding may be available immediately for improvements in this area. Study group included Kayleigh Forger, Maribel Avila and Alison Dyer.

Crossing the Street

One intersection falls within this study area:

Washington & E 2nd Street

Rating: Fair

- There is no crossing signal.
- Crosswalk is poorly marked.

Sidewalks

Rating:

Fair

- There are some broken/cracked sidewalk sections.
- There is no sidewalk on Lynx St.
- Cars and trucks block sidewalks.
- · Sidewalks are interrupted by driveways

Driver Behavior

Rating:

Good

- Drivers observed failed to stop behind crosswalks.
- Drivers do not stop at signs.

Safety

Rating:

Good

- Car speeds are too fast
- · There are unclear signs or directions for drivers or pedestrians

Study Area #5- Park, Deer & Columbus Streets between Lakeshore and 3rd St. and E.2nd between Park & Deer Streets- May 1, 2013

Park Street provides Pedestrian access to the waterfront for neighborhoods south of the railroad. City officials indicated this is a priority area for study, as funding may be available immediately for improvements in this area. Study group included Josh Clark and Stacey Klimcziak.

Crossing the Street

Two intersections fall within this study area.

E 2nd & Park Streets

Rating: Poor

- There is no crossing signal.
- Crosswalk is poorly marked.
- Broken pavement and raised curb cuts are not handicap accessible.

E 2nd & Deer Streets

Rating:

Fair

- There is no crossing signal.
- Crosswalk is poorly marked.
- No textured curb cuts

Sidewalks

Rating:

Fair

- There are broken/cracked sidewalk sections.
- Sidewalk not wide enough for 2 people.
- Some sections are fractured and overgrown by grass.
- Curb cuts are not safe.

Driver Behavior

Rating:

Fair

- Drivers observed failed to stop behind crosswalks.
- Drivers do not stop at signs.
- Drivers do not yield to pedestrians.
- Drivers seem to be speeding.

Safety

Rating:

Good

• Drivers not coming to complete stops & rolling through intersections.

Study Area #6- Lakeshore Drive East between Central & Leopard-May 1, 2013

E. Lakeshore Drive provides pedestrian access to the lake front. City officials indicated this is a priority area for study, as funding may be available immediately for improvements in this area. Study group included Justin Baron and Jon McCray.

Crossing the Street

Three intersections fall within this study area.

E. Lakeshore & Washington Streets

Rating: Poor

- There is no crossing signal.
- · Crosswalk is poorly marked.
- Stop line needs set-back behind crosswalk.
- Crosswalk needs set-back off tangent of turn.
- No Lakeshore pedestrian crossing.

E. Lakeshore & Park Streets

Rating:

Fair

- There is no crossing signal.
- · Crosswalk is poorly marked.
- Stop line needs set-back behind crosswalk.
- · Crosswalk needs set-back off tangent of turn.
- · No Lakeshore pedestrian crossing.

E. Lakeshore & Deer Streets

Rating: Fair

- There is no crossing signal.
- · Crosswalk is poorly marked.
- Stop line needs set-back behind crosswalk.
- · Crosswalk needs set-back off tangent of turn.
- · No Lakeshore pedestrian crossing.

Sidewalks

Rating:

Fair

- There are broken/cracked sidewalk sections.
- Sidewalk not wide enough for 2 people.
- Misplaced curb cuts for wheelchairs & handicapped- manholes and storm sewer obstruct curb cuts.

Driver Behavior

Rating:

Good

- Drivers observed failed to stop behind crosswalks.
- Drivers do not stop at signs.

Safety



Rating: Fair

• Too much traffic for safe crossing of Lakeshore.

STUDY AREA #7- King St. between Main St & W. Doughty St - July 17, 2013

This residential street represents a walking route between the residential area east of Main St. and the downtown area. The study group included Andy Dickson and Jim Harrison, who utilizes an electric wheelchair.

Crossing the Street

One intersection in the survey area was studied. The intersection at King & W. Talcott Streets was included in Survey Area #2. Intersections at the Main Street and W. Doughty were not surveyed.

King & W. Talcott Streets

Rating: Poor

- This intersection is currently under construction as part of the W. Talcott project.
- Pedestrian traffic is badly impeded for travel along King Street in both directions requiring pedestrians to travel in the traffic lane with vehicular traffic through the intersection. Temporary accommodations for pedestrians are deficient.



West side of King St. facing north



East side of King St. facing south



East side of King St. facing north



Crosswalk at Main requires pedestrians to move into traffic to reach the curb cut; no crosswalk signal

Sidewalks

Rating:

Poor

- Sidewalks are badly cracked and fractured in many locations.
- · Many section of sidewalk are heaved.
- Cars and bikes blocked sidewalks.
- Pedestrian crossings for the railroad are in very bad condition.
- Poor sidewalk conditions force pedestrians into the road where surfaces are smoother and less irregular but expose them to vehicular danger.



Westside of King between Talcott & Courtney



East side of King between Main & Talcott



East side of King between Talcott & Courtney- vehicle blocking sidewalk



East side of King between Courtney & Doughty



East side of King between Courtney & Doughty



West side of King between Courtney & Doughty

Driver Behavior

Rating:

Good

- Drivers observed failed to stop behind crosswalks.
- Drivers were courteous and yielded to the handicap electric vehicle.

Safety

Rating: Fair

- There was little car traffic at the time of the survey (evening).
- There are unclear signs or directions for drivers or pedestrians.

Comfort & Appeal

Rating:

Fair

- · There are poorly maintained residences with debris and litter on site.
- There are no shade trees along portions of the street.

STUDY AREA #8- W. Courtney Street between NY 60 and Franklin Ave- July 17, 2013

This section of street bisects a large residential section of the City and connects it to NY 60 and School #3, making it important for E-W vehicular traffic and walking students. Steve & Mary Rees conducted the study.

Crossing the Street

Four intersections fall within this study area:

W. Courtney at Dunkirk Housing entrance

Rating:

Good

- · There is no crossing signal or markings.
- Curb cut on the tangent requires pedestrians to come close to vehicular traffic.

W. Courtney & King Streets

Rating:

- There are no crossing signals or crosswalk markings in any direction.
- Deteriorated pavement impedes safe crossing.



South side of W. Courtney



North side of W. Courtney

W. Courtney & Lincoln Streets

Rating: Fair

- There are no crossing signals or crosswalk markings in any direction.
- There are no stop lines for vehicles.
- A sidewalk along W. Courtney has a steep grade and lacks textured warning surface
- Curb cuts are raised/abrupt.
- Some pavement deterioration and weeds impede crosswalks.



North side of W. Courtney





W. Courtney & Ruggles Streets

Rating: Fair

- There are no crossing signals crosswalks markings (there is no sidewalk on the opposite side of the street)
- There are no stop lines for vehicles.

Sidewalks

Rating: Fair

- Sidewalk is non-existent on the south side of W. Courtney between Lincoln & Franklin. Cars and trucks block the portion in front of Chautauqua Opportunities.
- There are some broken/cracked sidewalk sections.
- · Sidewalk width is too narrow in places or obstructed by shrubberies.
- At-grade railroad crossing.







Street surfaces in better condition than sidewalks on W. Courtney





Deteriorated & impeded sidewalk

Driver Behavior

Rating:

Good

• Lack of crosswalk markings results in drivers failing to stop behind crosswalks.

Safety

Rating:

Fair

• Faded or illegible street signs at Ruggles and Franklin intersections.

Comfort & Appeal

Rating:

Poor

- Landscaping and aesthetics are not appealing.
- There are no benches or resting areas.

STUDY AREA #9- NY60/Maple between W. Courtney & Grant Streets- July 17, 2013

This street is an important N-S arterial for vehicular traffic and access to School #3. Study group included Stephanie Kiyak and Henry Hochstine.

Crossing the Street

Three intersections fall within this study area:

NY60/Maple & W. Courtney Streets

Rating:

- The wide curb radius allows traffic to turn onto NY60/Maple at higher speed.
- Location of curb cut on tangent of wide radius turn increases crossing time/distance.





Wide radius curbs at NY60/Maple & W. Courtney

NY60/Maple & W. 7th Streets

Rating:

Fair

- The wide curb radius allows traffic to turn onto NY60/Maple at higher speed.
- Location of curb cut on tangent of wide radius turn increases crossing time/distance.



Wide radius curbs increase crossing distance

NY60/Maple & Grant Streets

Rating:

Fair

- The wide curb radius allows traffic to turn onto NY60/Maple at higher speed.
- Location of curb cut on tangent of wide radius turn increases crossing time/distance.
- Sidewalks on east side of NY60/Maple impaired by W. Talott Street construction.



Wide radius curbs increase traffic speed and crossing distance



Missing sidewalk at W. Talcott St.

Sidewalks

Rating:

Excellent

· Curbs and sidewalks are relatively new.

Driver Behavior

Rating:

Good

Drivers observed might be exceeding speed limit.

Safety

Rating:

Good

• There is heavy traffic on NY60/Maple.

Comfort & Appeal

Rating:

Fair

There are no shade trees, landscaping or benches.



NY60/Maple is a gateway to Dunkirk but is aesthetically unappealing.

STUDY AREA #10- E 2nd between Dove and Brigham Streets-July 18, 2013

E. 2nd is a residential street in close proximity to the lakefront and Memorial Park. Study group included Ted & Cindy Tuning, Paula Levandoski and Michele Bautista.

Crossing the Street

Seven intersections falls within this study area:

W 2nd & Dove Streets

Rating:

Poor

- There are no crossing signals or crosswalk markings in any direction.
- There are no stop lines for vehicles.
- Crosswalks are impeded with dirt/mud and grass.



Impeded crosswalk



Dirt/mud impeding crosswalk

W 2nd & Plover Streets

Rating: Poor

- There are no crossing signals; crosswalk markings have deteriorated.
- There are no stop lines for vehicles.
- Curb cuts are raised/abrupt.
- Sidewalks are deteriorated with a steep incline on the south side.
- Pavement in crosswalk is badly deteriorated and dangerous.



Dangerous crosswalks



W 2nd & Robin Streets

Rating:

- There are no crossing signals; crosswalk markings have deteriorated.
- There are no stop lines for vehicles.
- · Curb cuts are overgrown with grass.
- · Pavement in crosswalk is badly deteriorated and dangerous.
- A sinkhole is appearing in the middle of the intersection.



Impeded crosswalk



Deteriorated crosswalk



Sinkhole

W 2nd & Pike Streets Poor

Rating:

- There are no crossing signals; crosswalk markings have deteriorated.
- There are no stop lines for vehicles.
- Pavement in crosswalk is badly deteriorated and dangerous.
- Accumulated dirt creates muddy conditions.



Deteriorated crosswalk and dirt/mud

W 2nd & Woodrow Streets

Rating:

Poor

- There are no crossing signals or crosswalk markings in any direction.
- There are no stop lines for vehicles.
- Stairways are not passable by the handicapped.
- Crosswalks are impeded with dirt/mud and grass.



Stairways at intersection



Dirt/mud impeding crosswalk

W 2nd & Mullet Streets

Rating: Poor

- There are no crossing signals; crosswalk markings have deteriorated.
- There are no stop lines for vehicles.
- · Steep inclines and stairways impede handicap passage.
- Pavement in crosswalk is badly deteriorated and dangerous.



Steep sidewalk slope



Steep sidewalk grade



Deteriorated crosswalk

W 2nd & Brigham Streets

Rating:

- Fair
- There are no crossing signals or crosswalk markings in any direction.
- There are no stop lines for vehicles.
- Misaligned crosswalk requires diagonal (longer) crossing.



New sidewalks at crossing



No marked crossing in front of school

Sidewalks

Rating:

Poor

- Sidewalks are badly cracked and fractured in many locations.
- · Many section of sidewalk are heaved or missing.
- Sidewalk width is too narrow in places or obstructed by shrubberies.
- · There are dangerous inclines.
- Poor sidewalk conditions force pedestrians into the road where surfaces are smoother and less irregular but expose them to vehicular danger.







Fractured and deteriorated sidewalks in every block.







Driver Behavior

Rating:

Good

One driver may have used excessive speed on E. 2nd.

Safety

Rating:

Good

· Most cars traveled within speed limit.

Comfort & Appeal

Rating:

- Landscaping and mowing is neglected in many places.
- There are no benches or places to rest.

STUDY AREA #11- Main Street from 3rd Street to Lakeshore-July 18, 2013

Main Street is a busy vehicular and pedestrian corridor. The corridor is important to pedestrians connecting retail and residential areas south of the railroad tracks with residential, retail and recreational area to the north. Study group included Carol Kozlowski and Steve Rees.

Crossing the Street

Three intersections fall within this study area.

Main Street, 3rd Street and Franklin Street

Rating: Fair

- There is no crossing signal for the right-turning lane off Main onto Franklin; crosswalk should be high visibility striping.
- Broken pavement in Franklin Street crossing is dangerous.
- Franklin Street crossing is directly adjacent to vehicle traffic.



Broken pavement & close proximity to traffic.



High visibility striping needed.

Main Street & E. 2nd Street Rating: Fair

There are no crossing signals in either direction.

- Location of curb cut on tangent of wide radius turn increases crossing time/distance and puts pedestrians in close proximity to traffic.
- · Bicyclists ride on sidewalk.



Crossing adjacent to traffic



No crossing signals on busy highway

Main Street & Lakeshore Drive

Rating:

Poor

- There are no audible signals for this busy intersection.
- Location of curb cut on tangent of wide radius turn increases crossing time/distance and puts pedestrians in close proximity to traffic.
- Lakeshore is too wide for elderly or handicapped to cross safely.
- · Bicyclists ride on sidewalk.







Long crossing distances

Heavy vehicular & pedestrian traffic

Sidewalks

Rating:

Good

- · Sidewalk not wide enough for 2 people.
- Some curb cuts are not textured or placed for pedestrian safety.



Narrow sidewalk width



No textured crosswalk

Driver Behavior

Rating:

Fair

- Drivers observed failed to stop behind crosswalks.
- Drivers do not yield to pedestrians.
- Drivers do not obey traffic signals; lane markings on Main Street at Lakeshore are missing.

Safety

Rating:

- Very heavy traffic.
- Unclear or missing signage/directions for vehicles and pedestrians.



Dangerous sidewalk ledge between 3rd & 2nd streets

Comfort & Appeal

Rating: Poor

- · No shade trees or landscaping.
- · Congested, loud traffic.
- No benches or resting areas.
- · Litter & leaking water under railroad bridge.



STUDY AREA #12- E. 2nd Street between Main and Roberts Streets- July 18, 2013

 $E.\ 2^{nd}$ is a residential street with heavy vehicular traffic. Study group included Jim Harrison and Andy Dickson.

Crossing the Street

Seven intersections fall within this study area.

E. 2nd & Beaver Streets

Rating: Fair

- There is no crossing signal or marked crosswalks.
- · There are no stop lines for vehicles.
- No textured curb cuts.



No crosswalk markings

E. 2nd & Zebra

Rating: Poor

- There are no crossing signals or crosswalk markings in any direction.
- · There are no stop lines for vehicles.
- Pavement in crosswalk is badly deteriorated and dangerous.
- Cut cuts are abrupt and dangerous.
- No textured curb cuts.



No crosswalk markings



Fractured crosswalk pavement

E. 2nd & Gazelle Streets

Rating:

- There are no crossing signals or crosswalk markings in any direction.
- There are no stop lines for vehicles.
- Cut cuts are abrupt and dangerous on all four corners.
- · No textured curb cuts.





Curb cuts are abrupt and lack textured surface

E. 2nd & Antelope Streets

Rating:

Poor

- There are no crossing signals or crosswalk markings in any direction.
- There are no stop lines for vehicles.
- Cut cuts are abrupt and dangerous.
- · No textured curb cuts.

Pavement in crosswalk is badly deteriorated and dangerous.







Unmarked and deteriorated crosswalks

E. 2nd & Beagle Streets

Rating:

Poor

- There are no crossing signals or crosswalk markings in any direction.
- · There are no stop lines for vehicles.
- Cut cuts are abrupt or do not exist.
- No textured curb cuts.
- · Pavement in crosswalk is badly deteriorated and dangerous.





No curb cut

E. 2nd & Ermine Streets

Rating:

- There are no crossing signals or crosswalk markings in any direction.
- · There are no stop lines for vehicles.
- · Cut cuts are abrupt or do not exist.
- No textured curb cuts.
- Pavement in crosswalk is badly deteriorated and dangerous.



Deteriorated crosswalk

E. 2nd & Roberts Streets

Rating:

Poor

- Crosswalk signal is broken; button does not operate traffic signal
- · There are no audible signals for this busy intersection.
- Location of curb cut on tangent of wide radius turn increases crossing time/distance and puts pedestrians in close proximity to traffic.
- · Crosswalk is not marked.
- Some curb cuts are not textured or properly placed.





Non-functioning signal button at busy intersection

Sidewalks

Rating:

Poor

- Sidewalks are badly cracked and fractured in many locations
- Many section of sidewalk are heaved or missing.
- Sidewalk width is too narrow in places or obstructed by shrubberies.
- Poor sidewalk conditions force pedestrians into the road where surfaces are smoother and less irregular but expose them to vehicular danger.
- · Cars block sidewalks.



Dangerous sidewalks







Fractured sidewalks



Oil stains evidence cars blocking sidewalk

Driver Behavior

Rating:

Good

Fair

Drivers observed failed to stop behind unmarked crosswalks.

Safety

Rating:

• Heavy traffic volume and large trucks.



Tractor trailer westbound on 2nd St.

Comfort & Appeal

Rating:

- · Heavy traffic volume.
- · No benches or resting areas.

RATINGS SUMMARY Excellent (E), Good (G), Fair (F), Poor (P)

Study Area	Crossing the Street	Sidewalks	Driver Behavior	Safety	Comfort & Appeal*
#1	P, F, F	P	F	P	
#2	F, P, F, G	F	F Man	F	sal setter esse
#3	F, P, F	P	F	G	A STATE OF THE STA
#4	F 1 2 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 2	F	G	G	da sami da des
#5	P, F	For an annual	F	G	lagiji etraske de
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^{*}Comfort & Appeal was not evaluated in Study Areas 1-6

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#10	P,P,F,P,P,F	P	G	G	F
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#12	F,P,F,P,P,P	P	G	F	F

FINDINGS

Lakeshore Avenue (NY5)

Lakeshore Avenue as it is currently engineered acts as a barrier to pedestrians who might visit the waterfront from residential neighborhoods to the south. It also acts as a barrier to residents of the Dunkirk Housing Authority high-rise apartment building wishing walk to shopping areas, medical appointments or other destinations to the south. Lakeshore lacks marked and signed crosswalks, a pedestrian median or curb extensions to shorten the crossing distance, trees, benches or murals/art.

Main Street

Newer construction makes these sections of street less difficult for the pedestrians or the handicapped to travel. However, there are several instances where pedestrian crossings are not marked or too close to adjacent traffic lanes. Curb extensions do not exist to shorten crossing distances. Some crossing signals are non-functional.

E. 2nd Street

Serious deficiencies exist on the entire length of the 1.2 miles we surveyed. Many pedestrians use the smoother road surfaces. Mothers pushing baby carriages and handicap pedestrians in the roadways set up a dangerous conflicts with vehicular traffic.

Fractured, heaved or handicap inaccessible sidewalks inhibit use. Crossings are deteriorated and insufficiently marked for walkways and vehicular stops.

Lakeshore & Central Intersection

This is an important intersection for tourists, pedestrians and vehicular traffic and represents the center of Lakeshore commercial activity. It is very dangerous for pedestrians as it is currently configured. There are no sidewalks to the north of Lakeshore leading to the pier leaving pedestrians to walk/roll through parking lots or roadways. There is no marked or signaled crossing for Central Avenue. There are no curb extensions to reduce crossing distances and there is no pedestrian median on Lakeshore. Curb radiuses are wide allowing vehicles to turn at higher speeds.

King and E. Courtney Streets

E. Courtney has newer construction, possibly due to recent funding for Safe Routes to School. However, some steep grades are not handicap accessible.

King Street represents a possible pedestrian corridor to the down town area. However, sidewalks are in very bad condition. Handicap and elderly access in impossible without using roadways. Temporary accommodations for pedestrians were not attempted during construction on Talcott.

OPPORTUNITIES

- The Lake Erie waterfront is a tremendous community asset and should be leveraged through improvements to the built environment to foster more pedestrian traffic, exercise, tourism, social and economic activity.
- New York State DOT has adopted complete streets legislation for its roads and will be an important partner and funding source in improving Lakeshore Avenue.
- Dunkirk is a very bikable and walkable community because it is flat. Biking is already an important mode of transportation for many residents.
- Downtown streets are wide and can easily and inexpensively be stripped with bike lanes and sharrows.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Adopt a complete streets ordinance, as over 500 municipalities around the U.S. have done already, including Jamestown NY, Cuba, NY, Gowanda NY and Buffalo NY.
- Prioritize Swan, Park and Washington streets to become north-south pedestrian corridors to the lakefront with proper sidewalks and marked/signed crossings.

- Request the NYSDOT to install pedestrian medians and signaled crossings on Lakeshore/NY5.
- Add bright murals, artwork and trees along Lakeshore/NY5 to beautify the urban landscape and calm traffic.
- Begin to create a bike lane network throughout the City by adding bike lanes on wide downtown streets. Built the network outward to neighborhoods as opportunities present themselves.
- Add benches along corridors to provide resting places for the elderly and to encourage more casual socialization.
- Undertake walkability studies in other parts of the city and foster better understanding of needed improvements to the built environment.
- As pedestrian corridors and bike lanes are added, education and enforcement of applicable laws will be required. Driver and pedestrian behavior has evolved around the deficient streets and sidewalks and drivers are growing complacent with these pedestrian adaptations.

CONCLUSIONS

The post WWII era in America brought about a love affair with the automobile. Roads, suburbs, neighborhoods, shopping areas, and downtowns evolved with the priority of facilitating automotive travel. Pedestrian, handicap and fitness were secondary considerations, if at all. Fast forward to the current day and we are dealing with



numerous social, economic and health problems related in part to the public policies that gave emphasis to automotive transportation. Obesity, chronic illness, suburban sprawl, parking scarcity and decaying city centers are just a few of these problems communities around the nations are struggling to overcome. Dunkirk is no exception.

In addition, Dunkirk also faces considerable economic challenges and a decline of its tax base. The result is a decaying or outdated infrastructure and built environment with limited resources to address the problems. Again, Dunkirk is not alone.

It is within this context that the results of these walkability studies should be considered. The deficiencies in Dunkirk's built environment should be considered more as situations to avoid in the future rather than as sins of past or recent work.

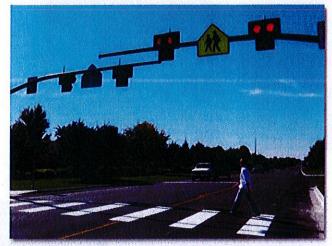
Improvements to the built environment represent a powerful tool to revitalize a community. Just as the automobile transformed our society, so can changes



that give higher priority to the personal, economic and social fabric of our communities. Streets that are safe, convenient and appealing to all users will help revitalize Dunkirk.

Analysis is not exhaustive and was done by students and volunteers. The Chautauqua County Health Network and Creating Healthy Places to Live, Work & Play would like to thank the City of Dunkirk for its cooperation in this very important undertaking. We also wish to thank the SUNY Fredonia Center for Regional Advancement, SUNY Fredonia, the Dunkirk Senior Center, the Washington Park Action Restoration Committee, the Academy Heights Neighborhood Association and Spoke Folk.

Appendix 1 Example Complete Street Treatments



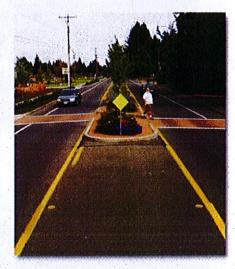
Crosswalk signals



Crosswalk sign



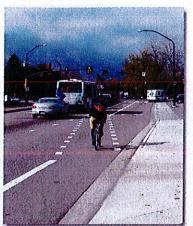
Curb Extension



Pedestrian median



Traffic calming- landscaping



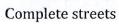
Bike lane

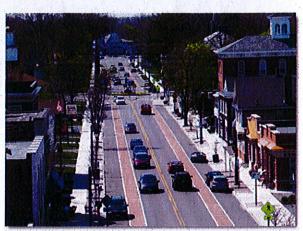


Beautification/traffic calming- murals









Appendix 2 AARP Sidewalks and Streets Survey example Dove Street survey by Steve Rees

REPORTER: STEVE REES

433 DOVEST

Sidewalks and Streets Survey

14048

Section A: Mapping Out Your Walk Survey Area

This survey will tell you what to look for on sidewalks and streets within the walkable area that you choose. Your walkable area could be as small as one intersection or could include several streets and intersections. Consider starting small, with one or two intersections and a connecting street.

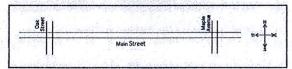
Remember, the smaller your walk survey area, the easier it is to follow up and get results.

Please record the following for your walk survey area:

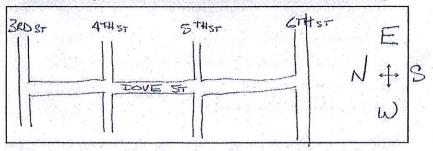
County Character City/Town Dunkirk
State N Y Zip code 14048

Next draw a simple map of your walk survey area and label the streets. Here is an example:

Survey Map



Now draw your own walk survey area. Be sure to write in N, E, S and W (North, East, South and West) next to the arrows to show which direction the streets are facing.



Your map will help you organize fellow walkers and review the area you have surveyed. Make a copy for each fellow walker to make notes on. For example, they can note the spot where a telephone pole blocks the sidewalk or where a curb cut is needed and then take photos of what they find. If you are creating a final report, include a clean copy of your map along with the photos taken.



nters	ection observed: location at SRD ST and	DOVE ST
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Date:	7 Z Time observations ended: 2 !!	2 □ a.m. 🗷 p.m.
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•	What is the exact location(s) of each problem? Record a landmark east or west) on the blank line to the right of each item you check	
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-	Pedestrian signal doesn't give people walking at average speed el (WALK+DON'T WALK)	
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People using assistive devices (canes, wheelchairs, walkers)	total #: o
People with young children or strollers	total #: 0
People crossing against signal	total #: @
Cyclists	total#: o
Skateboarders	total #: o
Scooters	total #: o
Other	total #:

Overall rating of street crossings in walk survey area:

☐ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Poor



incia	ection observed: location at _	4TH ST all	nd DOVE OF
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	Traffic signal makes pedestr	ians wait too long before crossing	NA
	Need a traffic signal or cross	swalk	N/A
	Push-to-walk signal is not a	/ailable/operating	N/A
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K	Crosswalk is not marked or p	ooony marked	MUNICIPAL TOTAL
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	Have to	walk i	too far (>300	ft.) for	a safe	place to	cross t	he street				
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People using assistive devices (canes, wheelchairs, walkers)	total #:	

11

People with young children or strollers

People crossing against signal

Cyclists

Scooters

Other

Skateboarders

total #:

total #:

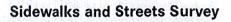
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		e people who walk more slowly	
\Box	Traffic signal makes pedestri	ans wait too long before crossing	g
	Need a traffic signal or-cross	walk	XING 6TH EYW
	Push-to-walk signal is not av	allable/operating	<u> </u>
	Crosswalk is not marked or p	oorly marked	ACROSS GTH ST / ACROSS
V	Have to walk too far (>300 ft	.) for a safe place to cross the st	reet
		Appropriate to the second seco	/ /
	Road is too wide to cross safe	ely	ν/A

	s are blocking $ u/A $
☑ Other issues and observations (please	specify)
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People using assistive devices (canes, wheelchairs, walkers)	total #:
People with young children or strollers	total #:
People crossing against signal	total #:
Cyclists	total #:
Skateboarders	total #:
Scooters	total #:
Other	total #:
Overall rating of street crossings in walk survey	RED LEW CUT
OLO LOUSE	1 NEW COI
	Prosun

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FAIR TO GOOD ON GAST SIDE

400 BLOCK SIDEWALKS

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EAST SION: RANGE LEST NEW TO BROKEN AND HEAVED MANY UNLEVEL PLACES

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CERASS OVERGROUND IN MANY PLACES

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Sidewalks and Streets Survey

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robl	east or west) on the blank line to the right of each item you check ems for walkers SEE NOTES ON BACKS A	200 Location	400 BLE	500
	There are no sidewalks, paths or shoulders	Location		-
	There are sidewalks, but they are not continuous (segments are missing)		437	NA
	Sidewalk is not wide enough for two people to walk together side-by-side (5 ft.)	<u></u>	1 834	
	Sidewalk is broken or cracked	V		
	There is no buffer between traffic and the sidewalk			_
	Sidewalks are interrupted by driveways			
	No/misplaced ramps (curb cuts) for wheelchairs, strollers and wagons		-	ا
	Curb cuts are not textured or marked for those with visual impairments	~	١	_
	Sidewalk is blocked with poles, signs, shrubs, dumpsters, low hanging trees, etc.			V
	Cars, trucks, vendors are blocking the sidewalk	ست		-
	Other issues and observations (please specify)			1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
eral	I rating of sidewalks in walk survey area: ☐ Ex	cellent 🖾	Good 🏻 F	air 🛭 Po

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Section D: Driver Behavior

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Problems for walk	cers		Loc	ation
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☐ Drivers do no	ot obey traffic s	ignals		
D Drivers seem	n to be speedin			FTH 5' GTH STS.
☐ Drivers do no	ot yield to pede	strians, especially at right tu		
Drivers do no	ot stop behind t	he crosswalk	<u>_S</u>	TH & GTH STS
☐ Drivers don't	look when leav	ring or backing out of drivew	ays	
☐ Drivers make	unexpected to	rns/maneuvers	re es alla company	
☐ Other (pleas	e specify)			
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Overall rating of driv	er behavior in v	alk survey area:	L.I Exceller	nt □ Good 🌂 Eair □ Poor
	••••••			
Visit CreateTheGod	od.org for more	e opportunities, tools and id	eas to help imp	rove your community.



Sidewalks and Streets Survey

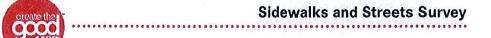
Section E: Safety

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	There is	loiter	rering or sus	picious/criminal activit	y	-	
	Unleash	ed do	ogs				
	Unclear	signs	or direction	ns for drivers or pedestr	ians		
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Section F: Comfort and Appeal

	ere one hage for th	e entire walkable area on your su	ivey map.	
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☐ Need	grass, flowers, land	<u>~</u>	/A	
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Grass,	/landscaping need	s maintenance	SE	PADIC ALL BLOCKS
☐ Need	water fountains an	d bathrooms	~	1/1
☐ Need:	sidewalk leading to	bus stop	2	/A
☐ Bus st	op doesn't have sh	elter	س	IA
☐ Bus st	op doesn't have ad	equate lighting	N/	/A
☐ There	is graffiti or vacant	/run-down buildings	N	14
☐ There	is trash on the rou	e	W	500 BLK
☐ Other	(please specify)			
<u> </u>				
Overall rating	or comfort/appeal	in walk survey area:	LI Excelle	nt □ Good □ Fair □ Poo



Section G: Overall Ratings and Observations

Now it's time to tally your scores from each observation section. Place a $\sqrt{}$ below next to each rating from the previous sections. If you observed more than one location for Sections B and C, record the average of your observations.

Section	Rating
B: Crossing the Street (Intersections)	☐ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Poor
C: Sidewalks	☐ Excellent ☐ Good X Fair ☐ Poor
D: Driver Behavior	☐ Excellent
E: Safety	☐ Excellent 🗷 Good ☐ Fair ☐ Poor
F: Comfort and Appeal	☐ Excellent 🗷 Good ☐ Fair ☐ Poor
Total checkmarks:	
Overall rating	
walk survey area. With this in mind:	eet. This might justify reducing the Overall Rating of your
Overall Rating of the entire walk survey area:	☐ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Poor
Additional comments on what works well and what r	needs improvement:
CROSSWALKS DEFINATELY NEEDS	DACROSS GTH ST. TO GUT TO SCHOOL
PROPERTY. 437 DOUR STWACK H	les for BEEN MAINTAINED FOR OVER ZSYRS
100 FORLES PROPETRIANS TOLUBLICIOS	

results for the district and managing.