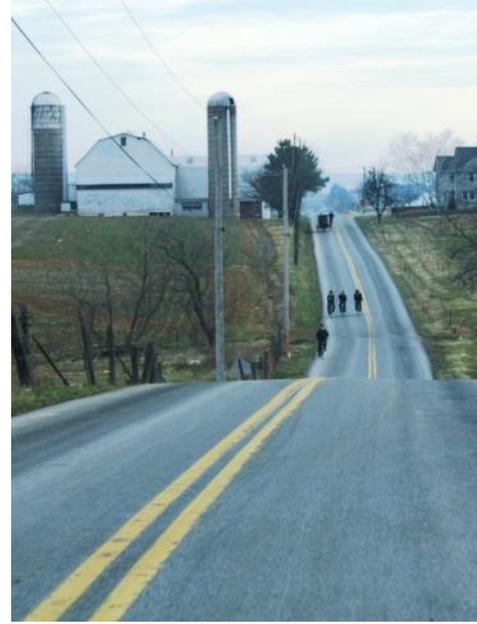


Complete Streets for Lancaster County



Lancaster County Planning Commission
Lancaster, Pennsylvania
September 2014

Have you ever tried to get somewhere without a car, and found there was no safe way to do it?





How did we end up with so many places like this?

In the old days,
streets were more
than just a place to
drive a car.

They were
**shared public
spaces.**





Since then, we've focused most of our energy creating more space for cars – and forced everyone else off the road.

But attitudes are changing...

- People are living longer, healthier lives
- Older adults and millennials prefer walkable communities
- Car ownership and use is declining
- Community character attracts new residents, and factors into business recruitment and retention



The Solution: Complete Streets



Complete Streets...

- Are safe and convenient for all users (drivers, pedestrians, transit riders, and people of all ages and abilities)
- Create a sense of place

Does every Complete Street look the same?

No. It's not a design prescription, but a menu of options. There are many ways to meet the needs of all users.





Context matters.

What elements does a street need to be considered a Complete Street?

The answer depends on:

- 1 The characteristics of the surrounding area
- 2 The type of the street it is

1

What are the characteristics of the surrounding area?

Planners use a tool called a **transect** to:

- Describe the different kinds of places found in a particular community
- Explain what types of streets, housing, etc. are appropriate for each of these places

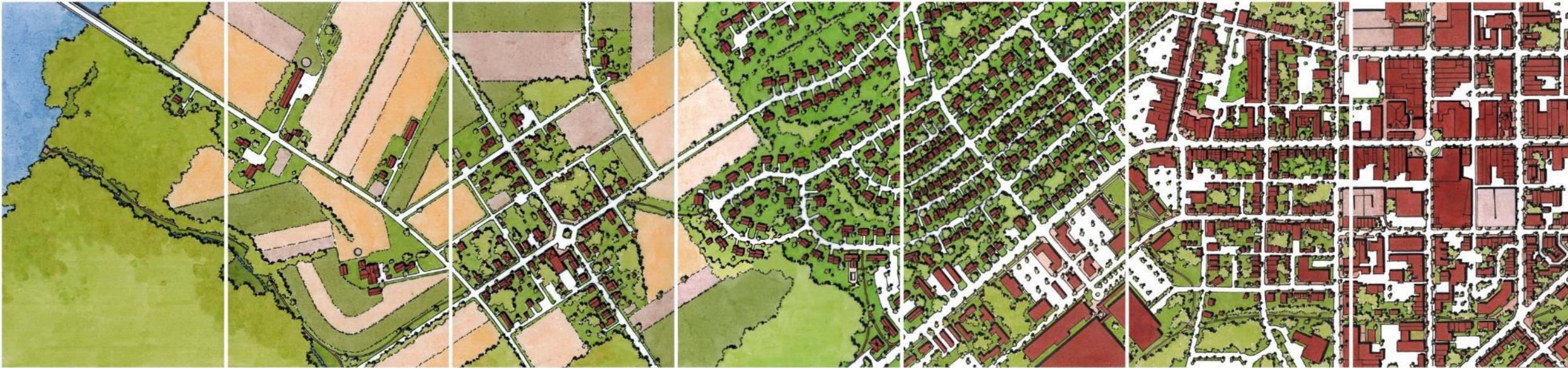


The Lancaster County Transect

The Lancaster County Planning Commission created this drawing to illustrate 7 different kinds of places found in Lancaster County.

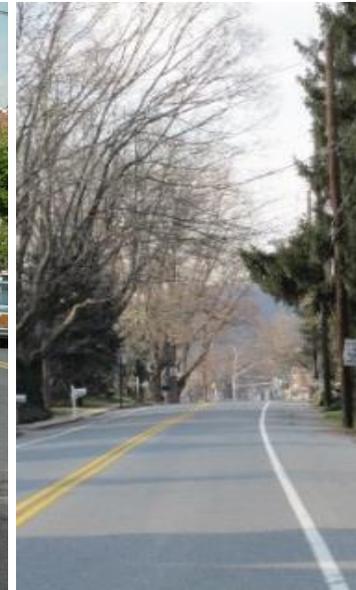
more rural

more urban

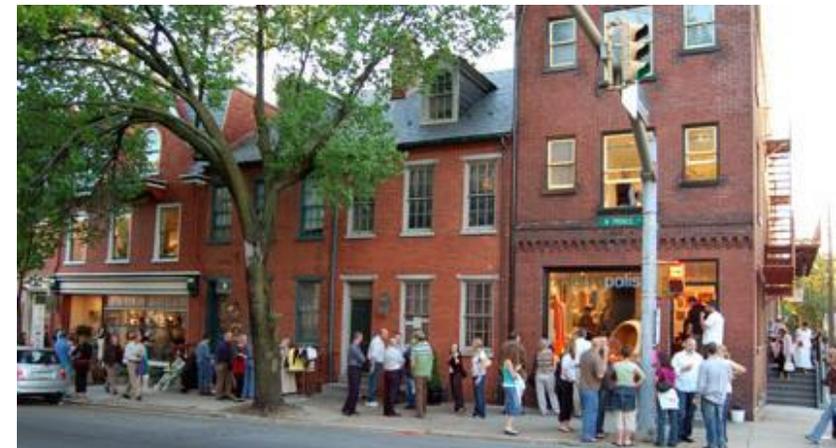


2 What type of street is it?

The Lancaster County Planning Commission also created a **road typology** to describe 7 types of streets found in Lancaster County.



Different places, different Complete Street solutions



Benefits of Complete Streets

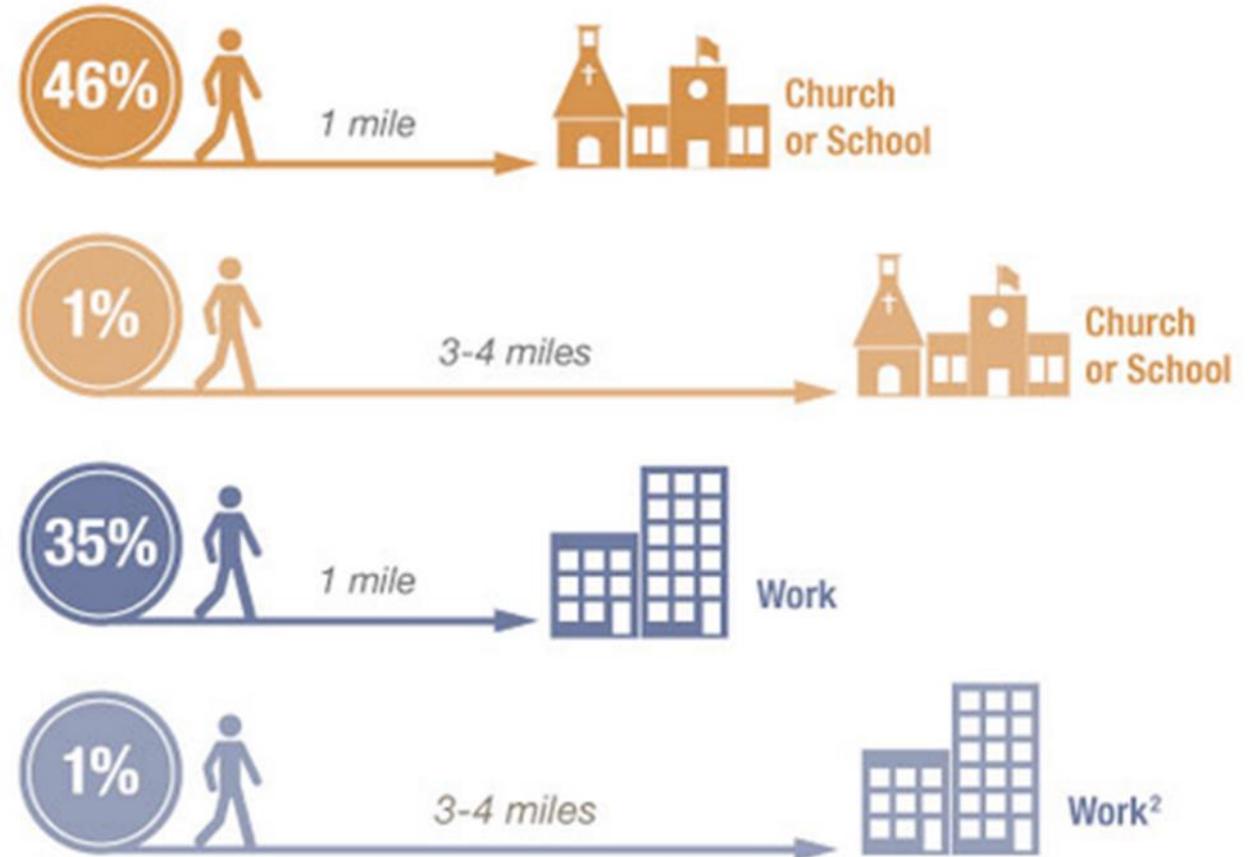


- Creates more vibrant communities
- Attracts new businesses, increasing the tax base
- Raises property values
- Reduces greenhouse gases and traffic congestion
- Improves public health

Complete Streets encourage walking



How far are most people willing to walk?



A Vision for Lancaster County

Create an interconnected network of streets, sidewalks, trails, and transportation facilities that safely accommodates all users and makes physical activity a regular part of everyday life.





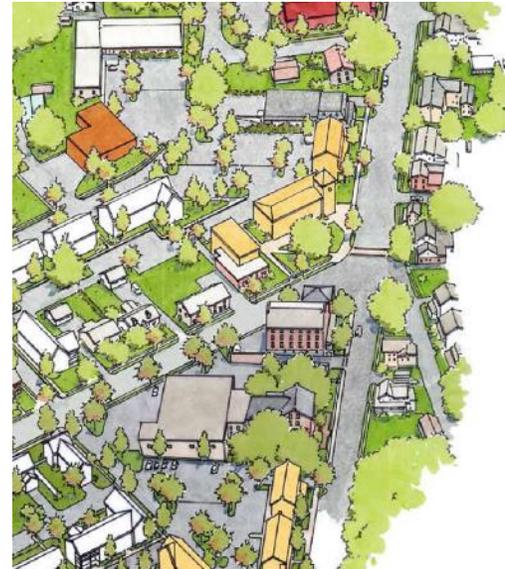
Making the vision a reality

Implementing this vision
will require a joint effort by
county and municipal
governments.



What the county will do

- Develop design guidelines
- Conduct educational workshops
- Create performance measures
- Provide funding opportunities



Examples of county-funded projects

Source	Project	Lead Sponsor	Total Cost (\$)	LCTCC Share (\$)
Smart Growth Transportation (SGT)	E-town Bike/Ped. Path	E-town Borough	960,615	329,743
	Comp. Bicycle Study	Lancaster City	60,000	48,000
	Non-Motorized Study	LIMC	60,000	48,000
	Doe Run Ped. Project	Penn Twp.	1,192,618	858,378
	Bridgeport Trans. Study	E. Lampeter Twp.	237,500	187,200
Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)	Enola Low Grade Pedestrian Bridge	Providence Twp.	2,256,600	808,000



What municipalities can do

- Adopt a municipal Complete Streets resolution and policy
- Review and update your plans, ordinances, and policies to reflect the principles in that resolution

But our plans and ordinances already emphasize these principles!

The problem is:

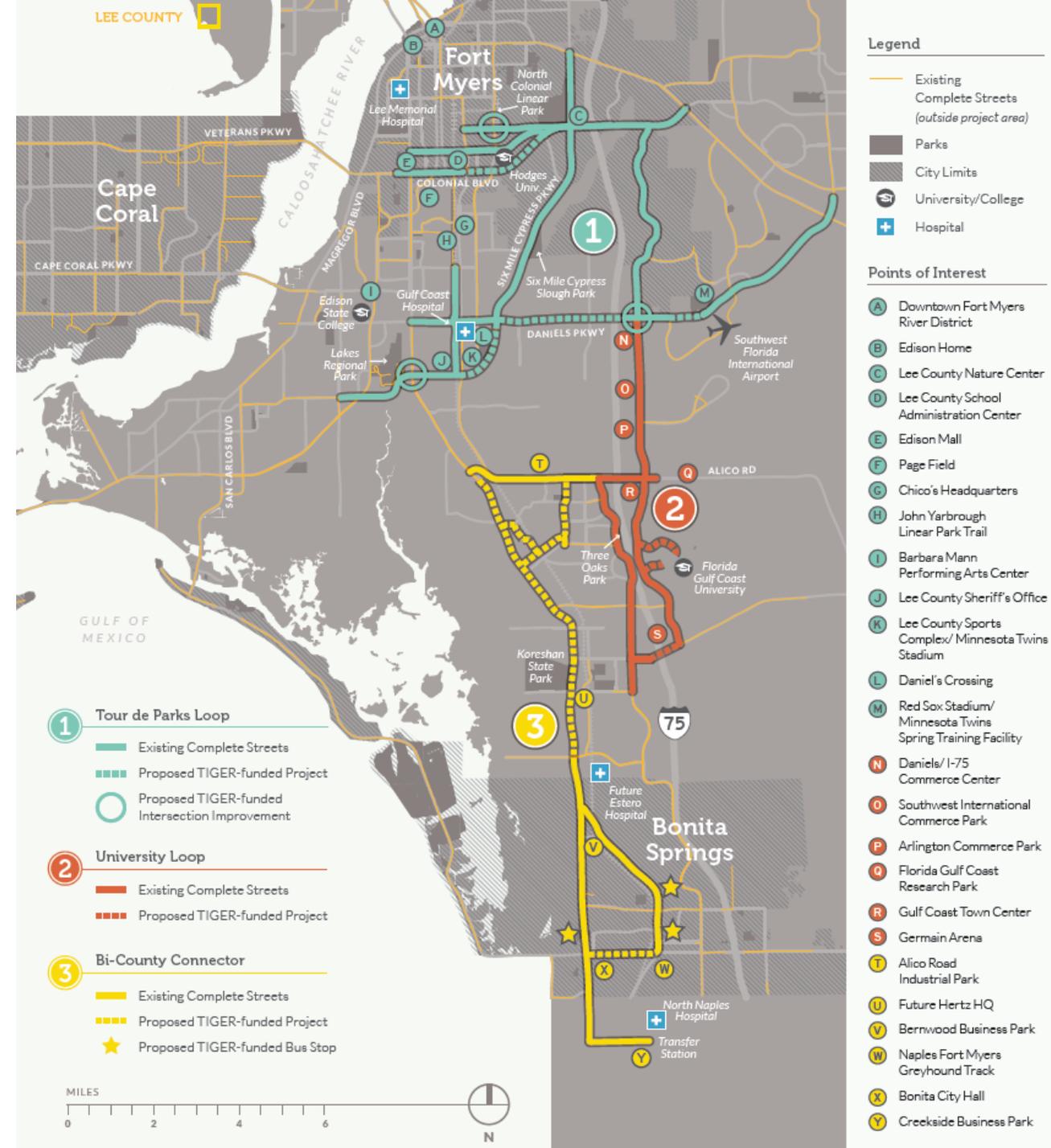
- When different principles are spread around these documents, it's not clear how they relate, and the “big picture” is lost
- As officials, staff, and volunteers come and go, old commitments are forgotten or ignored



Ensuring success

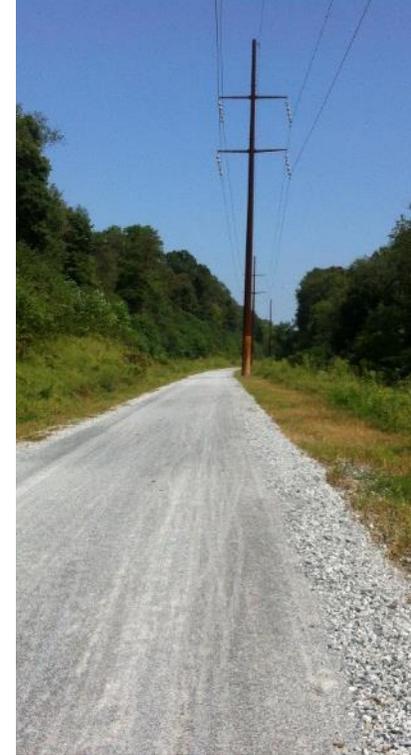
Complete Streets principles work best when applied in every aspect of transportation planning and management:

- Comprehensive plans, official maps, zoning and subdivision ordinances
- Road maintenance and construction



Implementation tips

- **Promote safety for all.**
Manage vehicle speed with self-enforcing street design.
- **Emphasize inclusion.**
Complete Streets are for cars as well as bicycles, pedestrians, and transit.
- **Work within existing budgets.**
Start with easy fixes, like restriping a road after repaving.





If you plan for cars and traffic, you get cars and traffic.



If you plan for people and places, you get people and places.