

Healthy Places Walkability Study Woodland Holt

The goals of the walkability study are to increase neighborhood residents walking in their neighborhood and to identify destination places that are within walking distance. This will be done by walking with neighborhood residents to 1) identify positive places to walk in their neighborhood; 2) inventory barriers to pedestrians and bikers; and 3) identify neighborhood destinations.

Synopsis

Date	May 24, 2011
Community Participation	4 Adults, 1 teenager, 2 city staff
Distance Walked	2.26 miles
Weather	Warm and sunny

Neighborhood Findings

Recreation

- The neighborhood has access to at least 3 parks within a mile of its boundaries: Amvet Village Park, Alum Creek/Arlington Park, and Maloney Park, as well as Brentnell Community Recreation Center.
- Recreation opportunities are also available at South Mifflin Elementary School, Arlington Park School, the Charles School, and the FCI Christian Academy charter schools.

Neighborhood Streets

- Most of the internal streets within the pride area have sidewalks, though there are gaps within that sidewalk network – especially on Brentnell Avenue.
- Woodland Avenue is a concern to residents – who feel unsafe walking and biking on the street. Most of Woodland lacks sidewalks and has eroding shoulders. Residents feel more comfortable walking on the service road on Woodland – but must step on and off of the main road to walk because the service road is not connected throughout.
- Residents have requested that a stop light be added at Mock Road and Woodland Avenue due to traffic and the high volume of school children in the area because of bus stops or charter schools. Residents have observed frequent speeding at this intersection on Mock Road.
- Residents expressed concern over the location of school bus stops along Brentnell Avenue – specifically stops around Middlehurst Drive. This section has inconsistent sidewalk connections and students have to wait in the street for their bus.

Safety

- Apart from potential conflicts with school children and traffic at the points mentioned above, residents expressed very few safety concerns in their neighborhood.

Noise

- Residents often complain of noise from planes flying directly overhead from Columbus International Airport. Although the airport has instructed pilots use techniques to mitigate engine noise – residents said that those rules are not often followed.

Housing

- The neighborhood benefits from good housing stock and many homes are beautifully maintained and landscaped.
- There are some instances of foreclosure and abandonment in the neighborhood – though residents report them to be monitored by the city and other officials.
- There is a concentration of abandoned homes on Woodland Avenue.

Commercial & Community Gathering:

- The neighborhood could benefit from more centralized community gathering spaces. The many churches located throughout the neighborhood serve this purpose.
- The closed grocery store in commercial corridor on Mock Road will serve as a great community gathering spot once finished with its renovation. It has even begun to host a farmers market during its closure.

This report will be used to create walking maps through the neighborhood. The mile-marked maps will highlight neighborhood features, safe paths and destinations. The report will also be forwarded to City of Columbus departments that can assist neighborhoods in addressing their needs.

The mission of the Healthy Places program is to enhance healthy and active living by establishing development policies and practices to reduce negative health impacts and by creating places that foster physical activity as a part of everyday life. For more information, please contact Betsy A. Pandora, Healthy Places Coordinator at 645-5318 or EAPandora@Columbus.gov.

Addendum

Site Specific Comments

Routes

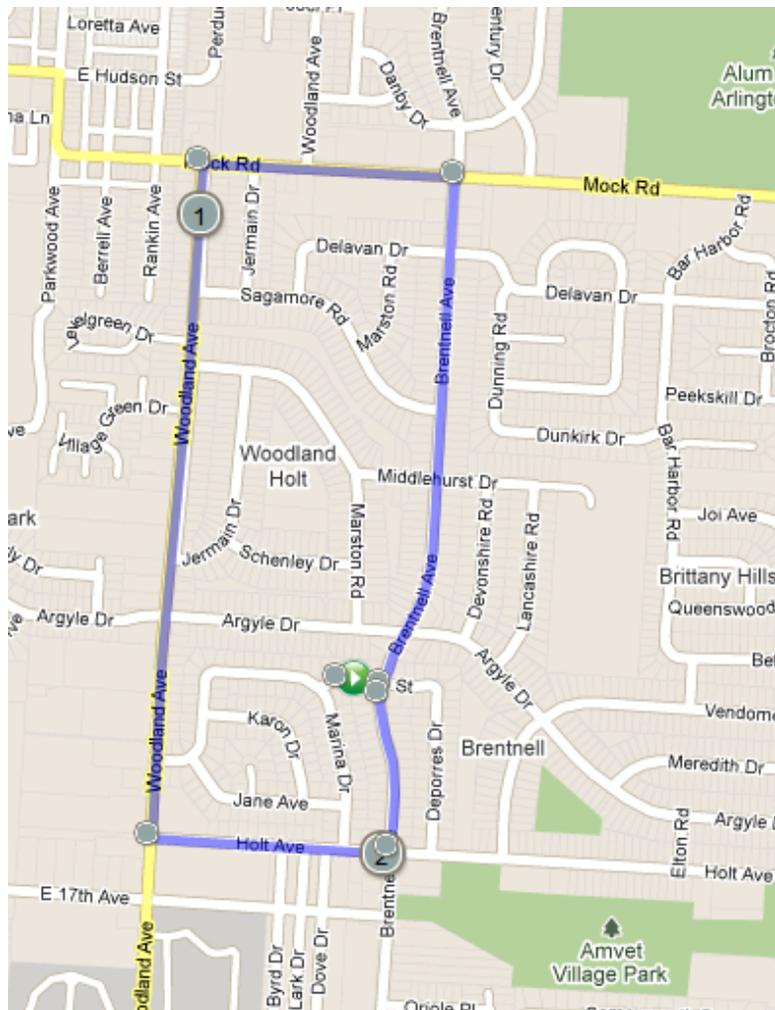
All Pictures

Site Specific Comments

Address	Street Comment
Neighborhood-wide, but specifically Mock Road and 5 th Avenue	Given the neighborhoods proximity to the Alumn Creek Trail – residents expressed that that could be opportunities for there to be a sharrowed connector on Mock Road and 5 th Avenue. Facilities for both are mentioned in the BBP – but prioritized for Phase 3 Implementation.

No Sidewalks	Sidewalks
Brentnell – sections throughout	Brentnell – sections throughout
Woodland Avenue	Holt
South side of Mock Road	All Internal Neighbor hood Streets

Route Walked



Pictures (Explanation of pictures below)



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Picture Explanation

Picture Number	Explanation
1	Sidewalk disconnections throughout Brentnell
2	Kids ride bikes often on Brentnell
3	More disconnections on Brentnell
4	Residents (especially kids) use Brentnell so much that they have worn a trail into the grass where there is no sidewalk.
5	No sidewalk on Brentnell at children's bus stop.
6-7	East and West corners of Brentnell and Mock Road no sidewalk at intersection leading to commercial and school uses.
8	Shared use path on north side of Mock Road – no crosswalk from south side.
9-10	Commercial center on Mock Road, grocery store will reopen after renovation.
11-12	Mock and Woodland intersection – shoulder erosion and no sidewalk
13-15	Service Road on Woodland provides relief for pedestrians – but is not connected throughout and cars park on the only sidewalk on the service road.
16	There are services, such as churches and some commercial, that residents could access on foot on Woodland if they had better connectivity.
17-18	There are some instances of abandonment – concentrated on Woodland and scattered throughout.
19	There are also some very beautifully maintained homes as well – like this one on Holt.
20	Residents complain often of being bothered by airplane noise from Columbus International Airport Flights.