Vision Zero & Complete Streets
Education, Engagement & Community Outreach

Annual Update: September 2026

This update summarizes activities aligned with Complete Streets and Vision Zero and is organized according to the StrEEEts Safety Task Force recommendations.

Education/Engagement

2.1 Experiential Engagement & Placemaking

- **MLK Demonstration Project:** Through a privately funded RCC grant, the MLK corridor has been assessed in coordination with LFUCG, Lextran, and UK to identify opportunities to improve conditions for people walking and biking. A five-day pop-up demonstration is planned for October to give the public an opportunity to experience potential changes on the bridge, learn more about Complete Streets and Vision Zero, and provide feedback on the temporary improvements. The demonstration will help inform a quick-build installation planned for spring 2027.
- **Shropshire Asphalt Art:** This is an art-based 'quick build' street safety project, inspired by the city's annual Streetfest event on Shropshire Avenue. It's funded by the Public Art Commission and Council District 1, and it has involved several key stakeholders along the way, including: the East End Neighborhood Association, the Charles Young Center board, the Lexington Art League, Partners for Youth, LFUCG's Opportunity Officer, One Lexington, and the District 1 Youth Council. Local advocacy group Living Streets Lexington, in partnership with the Division of Planning, is stewarding this project alongside artist Tony Wavy. Murals will be installed along Lewis Street and inside new curb extensions and buffer zones on Shropshire Avenue. Tony has worked with the East End community on other projects and his design is inspired by the community's history and character. Tony's mural design was selected from a pool of applicants by a committee representing the East End Neighborhood Association, Lexington Art League, Partners for Youth, the Mayor's Opportunity Office, the Division of Planning, and Living Streets Lexington. In September, Tony will facilitate public paint-sessions where neighborhood residents and community members will have a chance to help install the mural artwork. By adding vibrant color directly to the asphalt, this project is intended to highlight new traffic calming features like curb extensions and a bike lane buffer zone. The project is also an opportunity for placemaking and neighborhood storytelling, allowing the community to participate in and witness the beautification of the area around Charles Young Park.
- **Traffic Circle Quick-Build Pilot:** Planning in partnership with TE met with interested residents near the pilot project site to address concerns and hear their ideas for beautifying the installation. It was learned that residents are interested in landscaping and also asphalt art; Planning is helping them explore near-term opportunities.

- **Safe Routes to School:** A coalition of LFUCG divisions, FCPS, Lextran, UK, and community advocacy partners has formed to expand opportunities for students to safely walk and bike to school. The group is working with two school campuses, encompassing five schools, to pilot a Safe Routes to School program that combines education, engagement, and built-environment improvements. This work also contributed to Lexington being selected as one of three cities nationwide for Smart Growth America's 2026 Community Connectors program, bringing additional technical assistance and funding resources to the effort.
- **StreetFest:** StreetFest provides an experiential opportunity for residents to experience streets as shared public spaces. The event temporarily closes the street to allow people to walk, bike, scoot, skate, and gather without the normal presence of vehicle traffic. The event includes opportunities to discuss Complete Streets and helps residents experience firsthand what a street designed for multiple users can look and feel like. StreetFest is a partnership between the Lexington Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, Live Green Lex, and Living Streets Lexington. The 2026 event is scheduled for October 3.

2.2 Community Champions

- **Community Champions:** This recommendation remains under review by the Division of Planning, PIE, and interested Council offices. Planning staff are participating in the Community Environmental Academy to explore opportunities to integrate Planning content and strengthen cross-topic engagement. The Academy is being considered as a potential foundation for a broader Community Champions approach focused on sustained community involvement beyond individual classes.
- **Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC):** BPAC provides an ongoing opportunity for community members to participate in conversations about walking, bicycling, and transportation safety in Lexington. The committee brings community perspectives together with city staff to share ideas and provide input on transportation projects. Meetings are open to the public and provide an ongoing avenue for community engagement around Complete Streets and safer streets.

2.3 Internal & External Education Capacity

- **Complete Streets Design Manual Developer Workshops:** Workshops with the development and design community have been conducted throughout the year as

part of the Design Manual development process, providing opportunities for education, input, and discussion before implementation.

- **Complete Streets Design Manual Training:** A contract modification has been approved for Toole and SGA to develop training modules for both internal and external audiences following adoption of the Complete Streets Design Manual. Development of the training program is expected to begin this fall, with trainings anticipated in Q1 2027.
- **Complete Streets Online Engagement**: LFUCG Division of Planning partnered to use the Engage Lexington platform to provide residents with opportunities to learn about and provide feedback on Complete Streets. The online engagement site included the draft Complete Streets Design Manual, and provided an opportunity for residents to share ideas about what Complete Streets should look like in Lexington. This provided an accessible way for residents to participate in the development and implementation of the Complete Streets Design Manual.
- **Walk Audits:** A walk audit focused on Safe Routes to School was conducted alongside Smart Growth America in May, helping launch what we hope is a more regular occurrence for staff and the community. A second walk audit is planned with the Senior Services Commission in October. The broader goal is to establish walk audits as a recurring educational and experiential tool, with a minimum of two conducted annually.
- **Street Talk Lunch-and-Learn:** The first cross-departmental Street Talk was held in April, focused on building a shared understanding of Vision Zero and Complete Streets while creating space for small-group discussion and different departmental perspectives. A second Street Talk is being planned for this fall.
- **Smart Growth America Engagement:** Through SGA's technical assistance, a series of internal and external stakeholder sessions provided introductory Complete Streets education while creating significant opportunity for participants to discuss what is working, where barriers remain, and how implementation can improve. SGA also facilitated a two-day workshop focused on opportunities to strengthen LFUCG's internal organization, coordination, and processes in support of Complete Streets implementation.
- **Kentuckians for Better Transportation Partnership Presentation:** The Mayor's Office, a StrEEEts Council staff representative, and community advocacy organizations participated in a presentation and discussion focused on Complete Streets, Vision Zero, and safer transportation options. The presentation provided an opportunity to share information about Lexington's ongoing work, connect city efforts with community advocacy, and share perspectives from organizations working directly with residents on walking, bicycling, and street safety. This

partnership helped broaden the reach of Complete Streets and Vision Zero education beyond LFUCG to a state-wide audience, and created opportunities for continued collaboration with community partners.

- **Mobile Interactive Outreach Toolkit**: PIE is working with a firm on development of high quality informational and interactive pieces that can be used for outreach in a variety of settings
- **K-12 Complete Streets/Vision Zero Curriculum:** Curriculum is being developed for classroom use, with units designed to align with state educational requirements while incorporating Complete Streets, Vision Zero, and safe-streets concepts. Staff are exploring a spring semester pilot of the high school units.
    - **Coloring/activity pages:** These have been developed focused on streets as shared spaces. They are being finalized and will be available for use at events and in the classroom.
    - **Bike lessons for 2nd/3rd grade**: Bike lessons for second- and third-grade students have expanded from one session to two, with a half-time AmeriCorps member being added to support school-based bicycle outreach.
- **Events:**
    - **Community Bike Rides & Walks:**
        - **GlowRide:** There is an upcoming event scheduled for Nov 7, 2026.
            - Following cancellation of the 2025 Glow Ride due to inclement weather, self-service displays at several partner locations were used to distribute hundreds of bicycle lights and reflective safety vests. This helped spread the message of being safe and seen when walking and riding at night.
        - **Hot Chocolate Ride:** 15 participants
        - **Lemonade Ride:** 20 participants
        - **Guided CEA Alumni Downtown Tree Walk:**10 participants
    - **Tabling at Events**:
        - **Woodland Art Fair** - Booth Theme was Complete Street/Safe Streets. Approximately 500 people engaged directly that included a children's activity of designing their own safe, dream street.
        - **Lexington Traditional Magnet School Safety Fair-**Theme Safe Streets-245 middle school students engaged
    - **Bike/Walk Month:** In May 2026, the program expanded from Bike Month to Bike/Walk Month, with 26 community-organized events including group rides, repair workshops, group runs, riding tours, and other activities.

Different events like group rides, repair workshops, group runs, riding tours, and more took place across the month.

Many private events were also encouraged; a continued partnership with the Love to Ride platform. The Love to Ride platform encourages participation through challenges for individuals, groups, and workplaces. Participants can also provide route feedback, with aggregate information providing an additional source of information about bicycling conditions and potential areas for improvement.

- **Cycle and Stroll Month:** Staff and partners are continuing to expand offerings during the month of September, 12 events are planned for 2026.
  - Cycle September 2025 consisted of 11 events that were held throughout the month, featuring activities like community rides and bike clinics of different kinds.

- **Reflective vest distribution:** 150 reflective vests were distributed to the community via 5 organizations that interact heavily with people who walk/bike (Hope Community Center, LexTran, Family Care Center, Red Oaks Forest School, Neighborhood Resource Office Led PD).
- **Social Media:** Lex Bike Walk social media continues to share information to education and engage the public around our safe streets goals.

2.4 Unified Messaging Support

- **Safer Streets Communications Team:** A cross-departmental team has been established and now meets monthly to coordinate messaging, education, and outreach related to Complete Streets, Vision Zero, and other safer-streets initiatives.
- **SGA Messaging Baseline:** Through SGA's technical assistance, LFUCG has received a foundational messaging framework to help guide development of a more unified approach to communicating about Complete Streets, Vision Zero, and safer streets. This resource will inform the work of the internal communications team and consultant.
- **Safer Streets Messaging Campaign:** A consultant has been retained to develop a coordinated messaging campaign that brings together the numerous safer-streets initiatives, including Complete Streets and Vision Zero. Campaign development will begin fall 2026.