The Talbot-Norfolk Triangle Eco-Innovation District:

An Overview of Mobility Initiatives

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The TNT Eco Innovation District By the Numbers...

- 46 acres, 217 homes, 13 blocks,
- 1,500+ residents, in approximately 525 families
- Approx. 33% of residents live under the poverty line ($23,850 for a family of four)
- The unemployment rate for young men of color is nearly 50%
- 400+ children and youth under the age of 18
- 30 small businesses are located in TNT
- 80% of residents are renters, 50% resident home-owners
- 78% identify as African-American, 8% other race, 5% White,
- 5% are two or more races, 2% American Indian, 2% Asian
- 20% of residents report being of Hispanic/Latino ethnicity

Metrics....
- Three green roofs on bus stops as part of EPA’s Soak Up the Rain Campaign
- 30 rain barrels installed
- Approx. 35% of homes now retrofit with new insulation
- 1 passive park, 1 active park, 1 community garden, 1 urban ag site
- More... LEED certified buildings, trees, green roofs, rain gardens, etc...
- Community Shared Solar
CSNDC Service Area
Eco Innovation District Goals

- Create a more vibrant, environmentally aware and sustainability-focused community

- Improve cost savings, health, quality of life for TNT area residents

- Demonstrate neighborhood-scale sustainability in an existing neighborhood

- Measure climate change related impacts of neighborhood scale change

- Pilot new ways of cooperation and partnership

- Serve as a pilot and demonstration for Boston and beyond
Eco Innovation District Approaches

- Create sustainable, low-income TOD rental and homeownership opportunities

- Promote and create green infrastructure via increased walkability, bike routes/infrastructure, open spaces, green infrastructure, and traffic calming

- Help residents save money by retrofitting their homes with insulation, helping them remain in place

- Create local energy generation opportunities that benefit residents and help stabilize their utility bills.
On-street parking to serve ground level retail and commercial uses

Traffic calming through textured sidewalks

Active ground level uses fronting tree lined sidewalks

Establish distinct street edge with mixed use development of architectural significance

Provide additional “Eyes on the Street” through front doors, windows and decks facing the street
What Becomes A Neighborhood Most?

- Start from the inside out with....

  - Comprehensive planning and partnerships: Vision Zero, Slow Streets, Greenlinks, Emerald Network, GoBoston 2030 and larger efforts
  - Need to calm traffic and install more ped friendly directions and signage
  - Improve bike infrastructure in near term: Hubway needed at key locations, more bike lanes, more bike parking
  - PICH Healthy Community Champions/Block Stewards survey residents about their mobility and health issues, and educate them about the health and related financial benefits of increased walking and biking and related open space
  - Make it more comfortable for folks to walk and ride by reclaiming the street via Slow Roll, Let’s Get Moving and other events.
TNT Slow Streets Pilot

- Public input
- Draft design plans
- Reengage public
- Approvals
- Implementation Summer 2016
Gateway Treatment, NYC

Why use a zone-based approach?

• Reduces transfer effect
• Everyone wins
• Significant safety benefits for entire neighborhood
• Improved quality of life
• Low-cost and easy to implement
• Community driven process

Source: New York City Neighborhood Slow Zones
Speed Humps
Curb Extensions / Daylighting
Our Goal: Promote healthy walking and biking in the Talbot-Norfolk Triangle

Survey
• How often, how far, and why we walk and bike
• Factors that promote or discourage walking and biking in TNT

Who & How we surveyed
• 137 TNT residents, evenly distributed by gender, age, and streets
• Door-to-door, engaging neighbors while collecting information

Headline: Safety is a major factor—both personal safety and traffic/roads

Next Steps: Partner Initiatives, Innovation Circles, Community Actions
### Results Summary: Walking & Biking in TNT Today

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>WALKING</th>
<th>BIKING</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Frequency</strong></td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>33%</td>
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<td>(2-5x / week)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Distance</strong></td>
<td>1-3 miles</td>
<td>1-3 miles</td>
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<td><strong>Why/Where</strong></td>
<td>Work/School/Transit (60%)</td>
<td>Fun &amp; Exercise 80%</td>
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<td>(Work/School/Transit 6%)</td>
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- 80% of TNT residents walk 2-5 times/week
- Typically walk about 1-3 miles each time
- Mostly walk to get somewhere, and bike for fun
Safety and Roads are biggest barriers before age 46, then Health is major barrier. Personal Safety concerns (violence, shootings, harassment) discourage 30-40% of TNT residents. Roads/Traffic (speeding, violations, etc.) discourages 20-30% of TNT residents.
Neighbor Innovation Circles Generate Ideas

4-7 Neighbors in each circle, adults and youth

What is a memorable walking experience for you?

What energizes or discourages you from walking?

How can we promote walking in our neighborhood?
TNT Ideas & Initiatives to Promote Walking

**Events**
- Summer events
- Ice cream truck
- Color walk/fun themes
- Having kids run race
- Walking Marathon

**Groups**
- Walking group
- Walking buddy
- 30+/50+ groups
- Partner with youth
- Pet walking
- Let children go out to play/walk

**Incentives**
- Set walking distance goals
- Mileage markers
- Prizes for walking
- Free food/drinks
- Pedometers track progress
- Store discounts for walkers
- Publicize walk routes
- Beautify public areas

**Safety - Traffic**
- Safer walk signs
- More crosswalks
- Stop signs and speed bumps to reduce speed
- Posters on speed risks

**Safety - Personal**
- End street harassment
- Safer streets
- Safer neighborhood
- Neighborhood pride
- Social connectedness
- Local police detail
- Surveillance cameras

**Safety - Roads, etc.**
- Better lighting
- Trees, more greenery
- More trash cans
- More benches
- Sidewalk repair

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- **Slow Streets initiative** will improve traffic and road conditions
- **Safe Routes to School** will help respond to safety
- **Fairmont Greenway mural** to promote safe biking & walking
- **Neighborhood Health block party:** “Let’s Get Moving!”
- **Innovation Circles:** Ideas in progress...
Partnerships...

A key component of an ongoing process...

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<th>Organization/Program</th>
<th>Location/Role</th>
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<td>Talbot Norfolk Neighbors United</td>
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<td>The Boston Project Ministries</td>
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<td>Codman Square Farmer’s Market</td>
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Everyone Deserves Access to the Outdoors

- “The inequitable distribution of park space harms the residents of those communities and creates substantial costs to the nation as a whole. The strain on the nation’s health care system is enormous…”

- “Only 27 percent of children in grades 9 through 12 engage in moderate to intensive physical activity. Access...increases frequency of exercise and exposure to nature and greenery makes people healthier”

- A group of studies reviewed in the American Journal of Medicine shows that “creation of or enhanced access to places for physical activity combined with informational outreach” produced a 48.4 percent increase in frequency of physical activity.

Source: The Trust for Public Land