



NORTH SHOAL CREEK
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

NEIGHBORHOOD PARTNERING PROGRAM PROPOSAL

SEPTEMBER 2016

WHAT IS NPP?

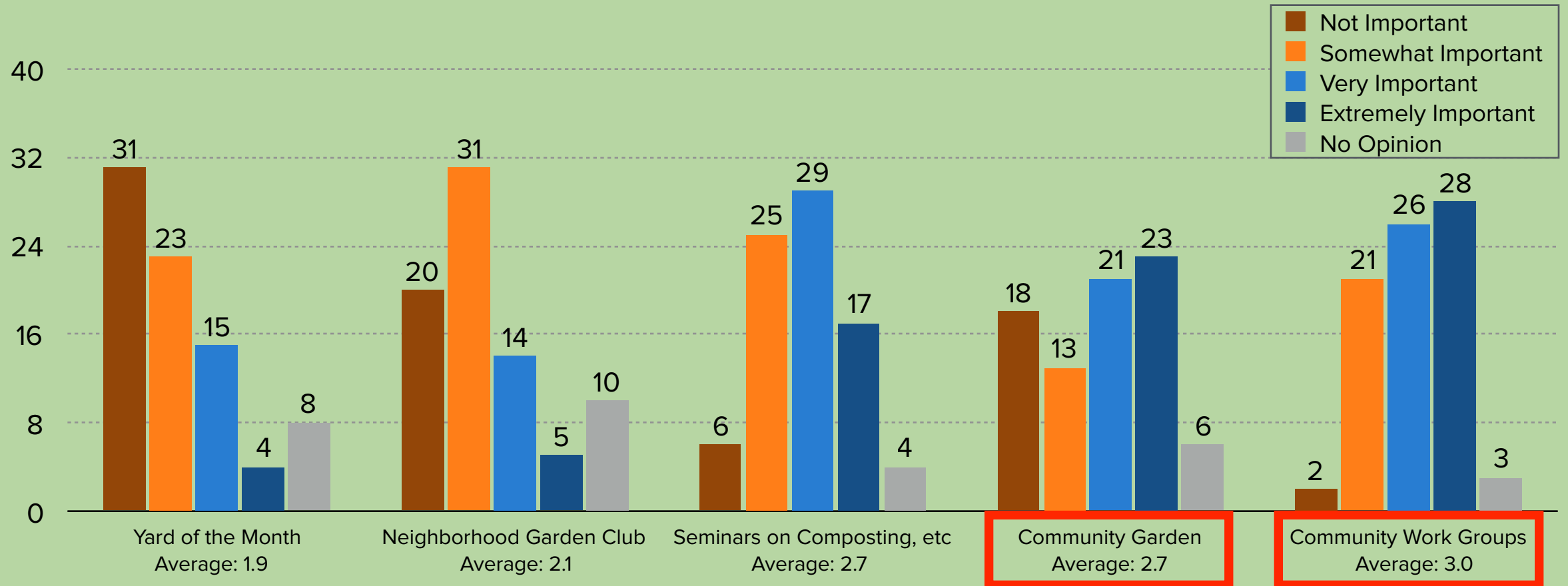
- **Purpose:** Allows citizens to partner with the City to propose small to medium scale projects on City-owned property.
 - Our goal has been to come up with projects that will allow us to beautify our neighborhood and apply for sidewalk funding around priority areas.
- **Examples:** Adopt-a-median, community garden, pocket parks, pedestrian enhancements.
- **Funding:**
 1. *Neighborhood Cost-Share* - Apply to the City to have your project funded.
 2. *Grant Assistance* - Apply to the City for funding to meet a cash portion of a grant you have received or for which you are applying.
 3. *Adopt-A-Median* - Apply to the City to enter into an agreement to beautify and maintain a median or other rights of way.
- **Deadline:** October 1 and June 1 for each year, for cost-share application, but we can bundle our projects and funding sources into one application.

NSCNA'S SURVEY RESULTS

- Earlier this year we distributed a survey to all NSC residents
- Total responses: 83 (76 Online / Email, 7 Paper)
- Question One centered on neighborhood beautification
- Question Five centered on neighborhood safety
- The results, along with the NSCNA's first NPP meeting discussion, was used to establish the projects to include in the NPP application.

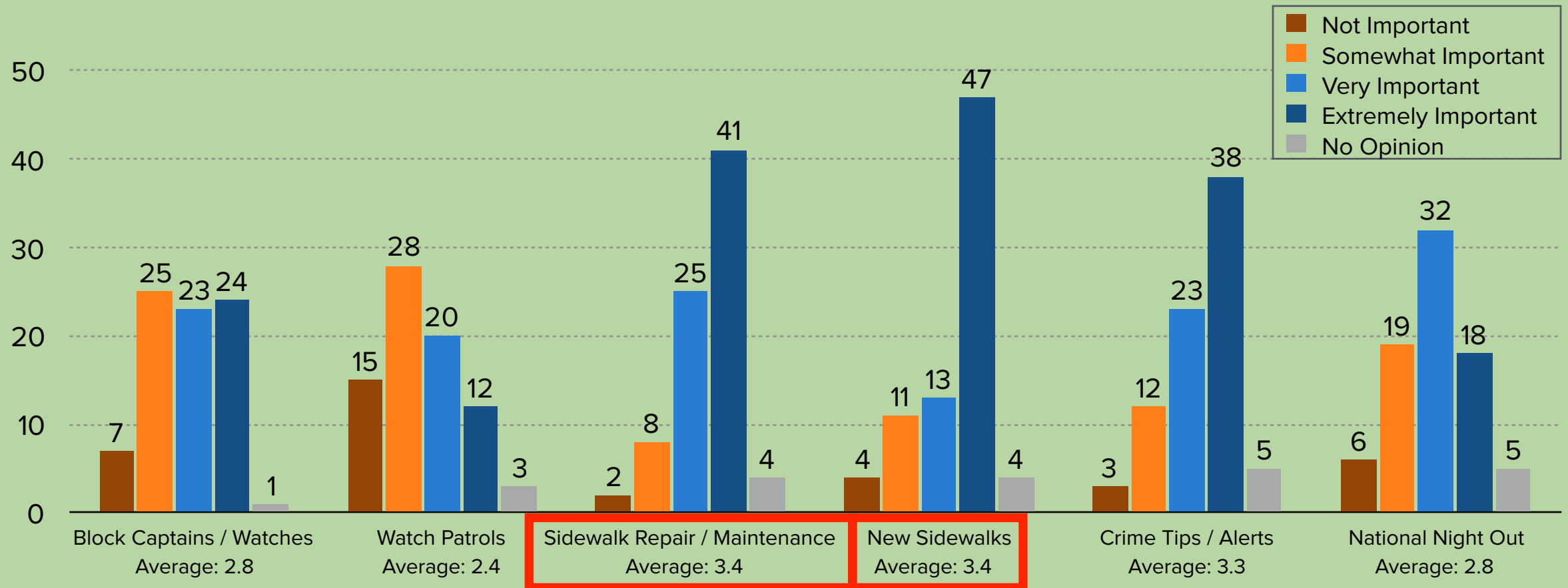
QUESTION 1: BEAUTIFICATION

Residents find the seminars on composting, water conservation, landscaping, etc as well as community work groups such as litter pick-up, beautification of common areas, etc to be the most important.



QUESTION 5: NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY

Residents find the creation of new sidewalks in the neighborhood and repair and maintenance of existing sidewalks to be most important with crime prevention tips / alerts as another interest area.



BREAKING DOWN THE RESULTS

Community Garden

- 13 – “somewhat important”
- 21 – “very important”
- 23 – “extremely important”
- Total = 57 want community garden

New Sidewalks

- 11 – “somewhat important”
- 13 – “very important”
- 47 – “extremely important”

Community Workgroups

- 21 – “somewhat important”
- 26 – “very important”
- 28 – “extremely important”
- Total = 75 want workgroups

Repair/Maintenance of Sidewalks

- 8 – “somewhat important”
- 25 – “very important”
- 41 – “extremely important”

These results are perfect for NPP:

- 1) Community garden is a good example of past NPP projects
- 2) It takes volunteer hours to realize these projects, and
- 3) We can use sweat equity meeting our cost-match for these projects and to obtain funding for sidewalks

INFO FROM NPP MEETINGS

- First meeting (July 23):
 - Established neighborhood's priority projects by reviewing survey results
 - Top priority was getting funding for sidewalks, which can be achieved through sweat equity in realizing the projects, though how much will be determined later as projects are realized.
 - Top three project priorities from that meeting:
 - 1) Community garden
 - 2) Signage/branding for the neighborhood
 - 3) Adopt the traffic circle that will be installed at Rockwood and Stillwood**
- Subsequent weekly meetings:
 - Discussed sidewalk priorities to present to membership
 - Discussed beautification of the “bulb-out traffic calming devices” on Rockwood south of Steck
 - Discussed beautification of bridges throughout NSC
 - Identified possible site for Ashdale pocket park

THE COMMUNITY GARDEN

- To be located at the southwest corner of Pillow Elementary.
- Requires separate application with the City, and stakeholder approval from Principal Hill, AISD, North Austin Soccer Alliance (NASA), and 60% approval from surrounding neighbors.
 - In discussions with NASA about assistance with installing drip irrigation (exempt from water restrictions)
 - In discussions with Principal Hill about assistance with water bill each month.
- Must be fenced-in and have a landscaped sitting area.
 - Plan is to transplant existing plants at Pillow to this area.
 - Obtain limestone seating similar to what is already out there.
- Must give back to the community in some way:
 - We have discussed donating a portion of harvest to Pillow and creating farm-to-table menu options.
 - Educational opportunities for Pillow students.
 - Note – There are existing garden beds the neighborhood association can assist in helping bring back to life to dedicate solely for Pillow student use.

*Note – there are other existing trees in this area not reflected on this map. These trees will NOT be removed, but are not reflected here so a better view of the plans can be shown.



SAMPLE NPP COMMUNITY GARDEN APPLICATION SUMMARY

Neighborhood Partnering Program Application Summary

Applicant: Adelphi Acres Community Garden

Project Name: Adelphi Acres Community Garden Project

Project location: 3701 1/2 Adelphi Ln, Austin TX



Project Costs & Cost Match

Total Project Costs: \$99,446

Design	\$3,079
Site Preparation	\$6,421
Construction / Installation	\$44,822
Contingency/Soft Costs	\$14,791
Maintenance	\$30,334

City of Austin Cost Share: \$51,792

NPP Available Awards Budget: \$250,000

COA Project Expenditures as a % of NPP Awards Budget	20.7%
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Community Cost Share: \$47,965

Cash Donations:	\$310
Professional Services:	\$5,979
In-Kind:	\$7,821
Volunteer Hours:	\$33,855 (1,500 Hours)

Project Budget Category: Small: \$25,000 - \$75,000

Cost Match Requirement: Met

Required Community Cost Match (%):	25%
Actual Community Cost Match (%):	48%

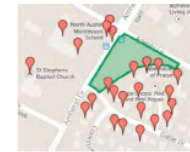
Project Scope & Description

- This project is for the first community garden on Public Works Right-Of-Way. The plan calls for the creation of a community garden that will contain 46 4'x12' plots and 14 10'x10' for lease and community use.
- Funding will cover the first phase of the garden, including a 10'x 12' structure that includes a sliding dam door and ramp access, and materials for a fence, plumbing tract, weed barrier, and decomposed granite for the main walkway, soil for the raised beds, compost for the first year establishment of plots, and the lumber to build them. Proposed solar panels and lights to be added to the pavilion for night gardening are planned for a future phase of the garden.

Description of Support, Participation & Maintenance

Evidence of Support Map

Impacted Households	25
Impacted Stakeholders Signatures	21
Percentage	84%



Evidence of Support

Criteria: **Met**

- Letters of support for this project were received from the Walnut Crossing Neighborhood Association, Milwood Neighborhood Association, Sustainable Food Center, and Texan Market.
- Several professionals have donated their time including: a native landscape designer, community arborist, GIS analyst, graphic designer and web designer. Donated labor from local neighbors and gardeners
- There is a required minimum of 12 hours per year from plot holders to the general upkeep of the common features of the garden. Upkeep of individual plots is the responsibility of the plot holder.

Quality of Life Enhancements & Incorporation of City Initiatives

- Conducting site clean-up, removal of invasive species and clearing deadwood from Heritage Trees.
- Provides a social space to bring neighbors together.
- Promotes the growing of organic foods and healthy eating. Plot spaces are available for local schools.
- Zero Waste Initiative: Program will include the ability for the neighborhood to bring compostable materials to the site.
- Project is not located in an area with an adopted Neighborhood Plan.



SOME INFO ON THE GARDEN

- Our garden will be less than half of the sample garden's size
- We *could* get funding for the whole thing through NPP
 - The city offers a certain %, and asks the neighborhood association to match what is left. This can be done through cash, donations, and sweat equity. Our goal is to meet that requirement through donations and sweat equity. We will need to discuss funding for future maintenance, which will be discussed at September 21 special membership meeting.
 - But we are gathering info to ask for grant assistance through Austin Parks Foundation, too.
- Must haves:
 - Bylaws agreement with garden's users
 - Maintenance each year going forward
 - Signage on the garden's fence, which will help realize our neighborhood's goal of wanting signage
 - Support from neighborhood association and a non-profit, such as the Sustainable Food Center.
 - Annual report to city
- To see garden application, visit: <http://www.austintexas.gov/sites/default/files/files/Parks/communitygardens/communitygardeninfopacket.pdf>

BULB OUT TRAFFIC CALMING DEVICES AT ROCKWOOD

- According to the latest word from the City, these things aren't going anywhere.
- A little beautification can go a long way here, and more bulk will contribute to the idea of “narrowing” the street.
- These are considered “rain gardens,” and we are awaiting answers from Watershed Department as to what plants can go here.
- There are six total. Two of them, as is:



And then with a little love!

BEAUTIFICATION OF NSC BRIDGES

- Identified 14 “bridges” total throughout NSC in 7 locations:
 - Anderson Lane, Shoal Creek, Crosscreek, Steck, Rockwood, Penny Lane, and Ashdale.
 - Working on a simple water theme (to reflect our creek) for the more interior “bridges” in the neighborhood for this NPP application
 - Wanting to reach out to local artist to create more complex designs for longer bridges, e.g., Steck Ave., to reflect the character of our neighborhood.

Ashdale



OTHER LOCATIONS...

Crosscreek



Shoal Creek



MORE LOCATIONS...

Steck Ave



Penny Lane



LASTLY....

Rockwood Lane

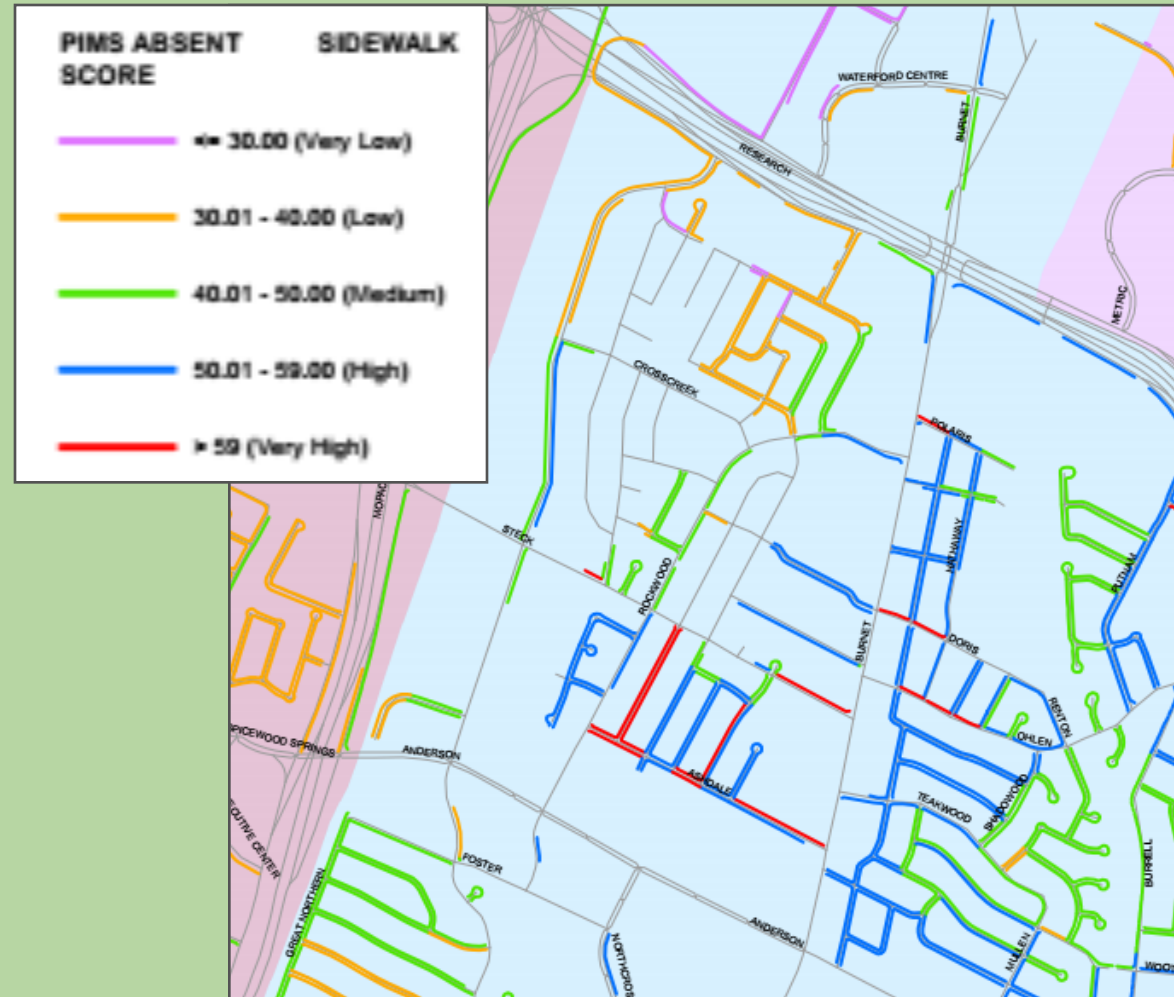


EXAMPLES OF OTHER CITIES' MOSAICS



SIDEWALKS, SIDEWALKS, SIDEWALKS

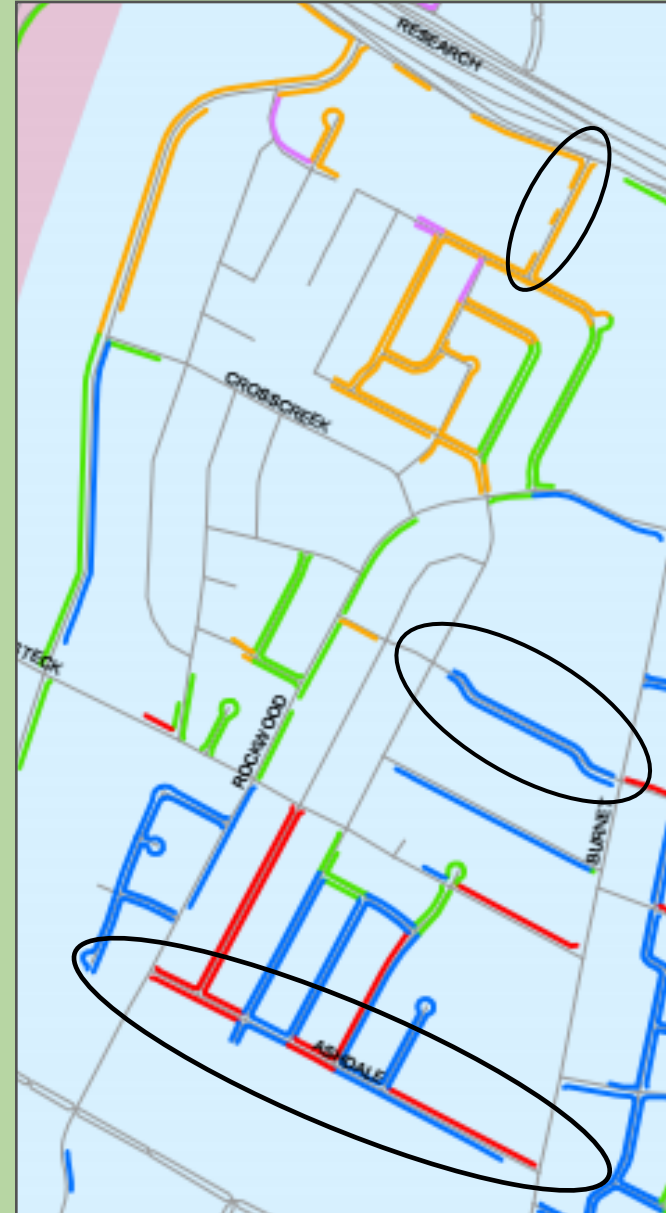
Absent Sidewalk Prioritization Map
Plotted on September 1, 2016



IDENTIFYING OUR SIDEWALK NEEDS

For discussion at next meeting:

- The City has spotted its high priority areas, but that does not mean NSC is high on *their* priority list compared to other neighborhoods.
- What are *our* priorities in the neighborhood?
 - Examples here (top to bottom):
 - Missing pieces of sidewalk on McCann
 - No sidewalk on Penny Lane
 - No sidewalk on Ashdale



NEXT STEPS

- Special Meeting on September 21 @ 6:30p over at Pillow Elementary
- To discuss:
 - Project Specifics
 - Present design ideas and locations
 - Investing the approx. \$25k + interest that we have
 - Can use this for future maintenance of NPP projects, e.g., community garden
 - Can spend some on sidewalks
 - Unrelated to NPP, but maybe a sign for “North Shoal Creek” in a conspicuous entry of our neighborhood, to achieve goals of better signage/branding for our neighborhood (one of the goals established at the July 23 meeting)
 - Sidewalks
 - Should have (rough) estimation of costs for new sidewalk for various identified areas
 - Decide which areas we want to apply sweat equity to apply for funding towards



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NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**
