

# NEEDS ASSESSMENT

# 4

## 4-2 Corridor Issues and Needs

# Corridor Issues and Needs

A comprehensive assessment of the corridor identified current and future issues and needs through data collection, field evaluations, analysis, public input and stakeholder engagement. Issues relating to multimodal safety, traffic operations, connectivity, infrastructure deficiencies, quality of life, placemaking, design barriers, and land use compatibility were identified.

## ISSUE 1

**Improve equity for disadvantaged and impoverished communities.**

### Needs

- Improve connectivity and multi-modal infrastructure in historically lower income areas, near parks, and downtown.
- Expand the network of safe and accessible connections by implementing improvements identified in the Sidewalk Master Plan, Bike Master Plan and shared-use path connections.
- Invest in a well-connected, reliable public transit system with frequent service to connect disadvantaged areas to jobs and services as recommended in the City's future Transit Development Plan.

■ Supports  
Goals 1, 2 & 3

## ISSUE 2

**Address occurrences of stormwater ponding along the Corridor.**

### Needs

- Identify improvements to resolve ponding in problem areas.
- Prevent debris from blocking stormwater inlets.
- Improve drainage infrastructure in areas where stormwater ponding occurs.

■ Supports  
Goal 2

## ISSUE 3

**Implement access management strategies to reduce vehicle and pedestrian conflicts.**

### Needs

- Reduce the number of non-residential driveways.
- Reconfigure poorly designed driveways.
- Regulate access and reduce conflict points along the corridor.

■ Supports  
Goal 2

# This need assessment informs the concept recommendations related to planning, infrastructure development, and resource allocation.

## ISSUE 4

**Correct inconsistent sidewalk continuity and ADA compliance through the network.**

### Needs

- Connect the sidewalk network along the corridor and throughout the Study Area based on priority recommendations from the Sidewalk Master Plan.
- Improve failing or substandard sidewalk, ramps, and pedestrian crossings.
- Bring all pedestrian facilities into ADA compliance.
- Ensure all new pedestrian infrastructure improvements are constructed to ADA standards.
- Improve safety of crossings for mobility-impaired users.

Supports  
Goals 1, 2, 3 & 4

## ISSUE 5

**Unsafe maneuvering at Austin Avenue and I-35 NB Service Road Exit.**

### Needs

- Reduce and/or prevent prohibited through-movements across Austin Avenue into the housing complex.
- Reduce and/or prevent prohibited left-turn movements from the housing complex onto southbound Austin Avenue.
- Plan for future increase of traffic volumes at the intersection.

Supports  
Goal 2



# GOAL 1

Further the goals and priorities of existing plans.

# GOAL 2

Enhance multimodal movement, operations, and safety.

## ISSUE 6

Lack of protected pedestrian crossing at Austin Avenue and Chamber Way.

### Needs

- Address unsafe midblock crossing of Austin Avenue at and near Chamber Way.
- Improve sidewalk connectivity and pedestrian infrastructure near Chamber Way.
- Perform analysis to determine the most effective traffic control infrastructure for the location.

■ Supports Goals 2 & 3

## ISSUE 7

Safety concerns at Austin Avenue and San Gabriel Village Boulevard.

### Needs

- Improve overall safety at the intersection.
- Reduce conflict points for turning vehicles.
- Reduce high crash rates at the intersection.
- Address speeding issues along this section of the corridor.

■ Supports Goals 2 & 3

## ISSUE 8

Downtown pedestrian midblock crossings.

### Needs

- Address unsafe midblock crossings throughout Downtown.
- Improve safety of pedestrian crossings.
- Increase lighting and visibility where midblock crossings occur.

■ Supports Goals 1, 2 & 3

## ISSUE 9

Traffic impacts to leisure and dining activities between 7th and 8th Streets.

### Needs

- Improve the comfort and safety along sidewalks and sidewalk patio areas at Downtown businesses.
- Address traffic speeds and proximity of vehicles to multi-use spaces adjacent to Austin Avenue.

■ Supports Goals 1, 2, 3 & 4

**GOAL**  
**3** Enhance the Corridor character and pedestrian experience.

**GOAL**  
**4** Support economic development along the Corridor.

**ISSUE 10**

**Congestion at Austin Avenue and University Avenue/SH 29.**

**Needs**

- Address congestion causing traffic queues and long delays.
- Develop mitigation to prevent unsafe turning movements.
- Reduce unsafe driver behaviors.
- Plan for future increase of traffic volumes at the intersection.

■ Supports Goals 1 & 2

**ISSUE 11**

**Traffic speeds in the Old Town neighborhood.**

**Needs**

- Reduce incidences of speeding throughout Old Town.
- Increase driver awareness to the presence of pedestrians and driving in a residential area.
- Improve safety for pedestrians and residents.

■ Supports Goals 2 & 3

**ISSUE 12**

**Intersection alignment of Austin Avenue and Brushy Street.**

**Needs**

- Improve safety and reduce conflicts caused by skewed geometry at Brushy Street and Austin Avenue.
- Address unsafe maneuvering required to transition between Brushy Street to Austin Avenue.

■ Supports Goal 2

**ISSUE 13**

**High crash rate at Austin Avenue and Leander Road/FM 1460.**

**Needs**

- Improve overall safety at the intersection.
- Reduce the number of crashes and conflicts occurring at and near the intersection.
- Address safety issues caused by vehicles accessing nearby cross streets.
- Address congestion causing traffic queues and delays.

■ Supports Goal 2