

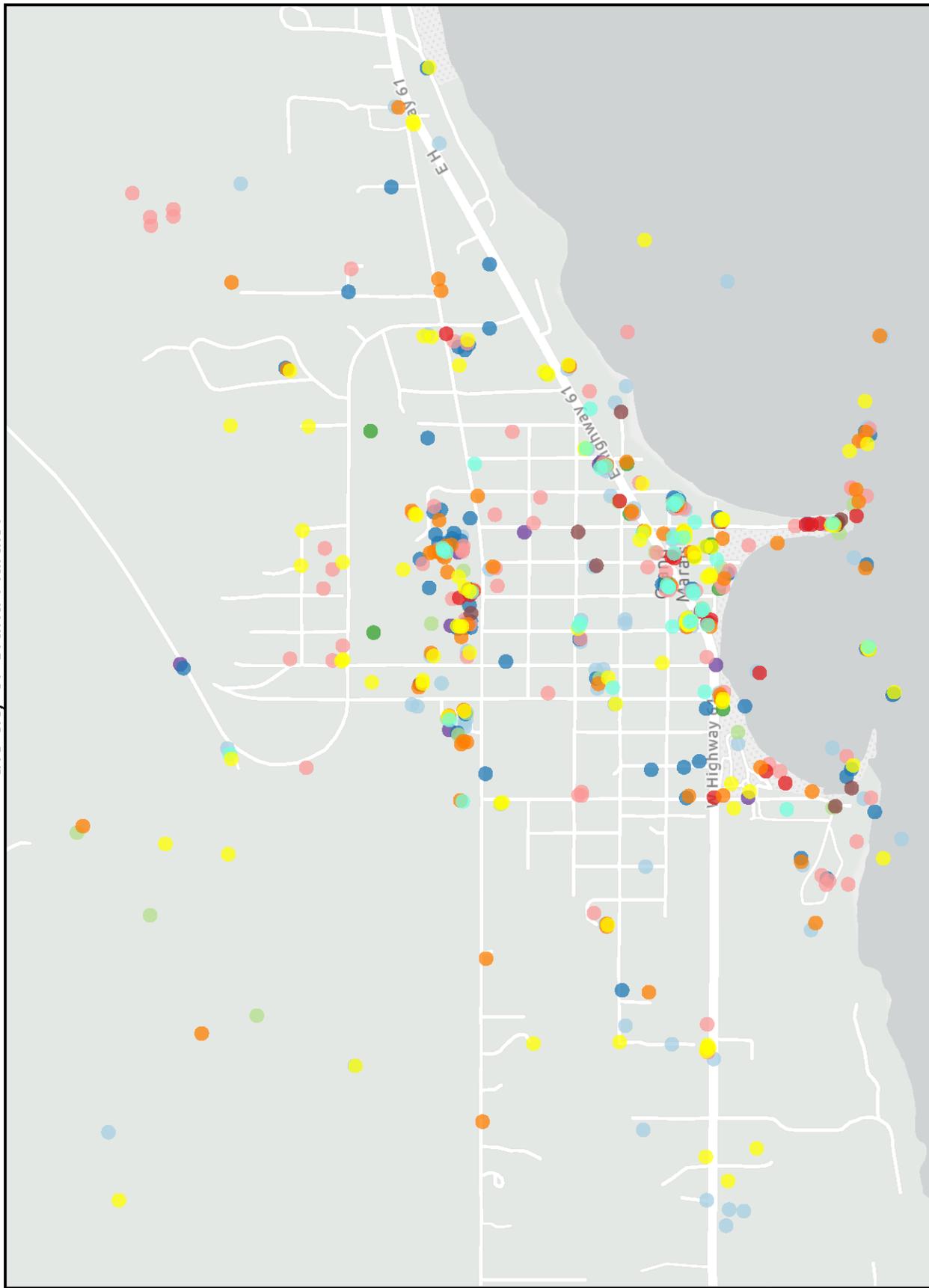
Grand Marais Pedestrian Plan

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Community Input Report

Where do you want to get to in the city of Grand Marais?



617 data points collected
67 comments collected

- Collection Points**
- Farmer's Market
 - Library
 - Online
 - PHHS
 - Ruby's Pantry
 - Sawtooth Mountain Clinic
 - Active Living Committee
 - YMCA
 - City Hall
 - Co-op
 - Courthouse

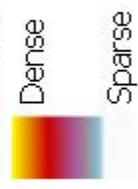
Data collected by the Arrowhead Regional Development Commission (ARDC) in cooperation with the City of Grand Marais, September 2018

Community Input Report

Where do you want to get to in the city of Grand Marais?



Collection Points



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Data collected by the Arrowhead Regional Development Commission (ARDC) in cooperation with the City of Grand Marais, September 2018

COMMUNITY INPUT REPORT

Have other ideas about walking in Grand Marais?

Whole Foods Co-op

- Walk safety for kiddos
- @ Dockside, Dangerous that vehicles pull in the trail area and park
- Infrastructure for walk/bike up to pincushion, along GFT
- 1st Ave E and Broadway intersections cars don't see peds (need marked crosswalks)
- Need for marked crosswalks
- Dog friendly paths 😊!
- Hwy 61 and 5th Ave West – need better control for walkers and drivers
- Library and 61 crossing hard, especially for kids
- Snow clear trail by post office – use regularly and saw senior fall and couldn't get up
- Winter maintenance – esp along east part of bike trail
- Buck's – cars cutting off Hwy @ SA
- Sidewalk to coast guard station (past Boulder Park)

PHHS Advisory Meeting

- Shoveled sidewalks
- Repaired sidewalks
- Post office access needs improvement
- Intersection at 7 and 5w dangerous – cars parked, cannot see well
- Corner on 61 from NS Pharmacy to Buck's need something to cross safely.
- Diagonal parking on Broadway dangerous
- I would like to walk completely around harbor easily – I would love a walk out on the break wall in the harbor
- Intersection light needed at Gunflint Trail and County 7 (Law Enforcement + Great Expectations)
- Intersection by Donut Shop is scary to drive and/or walk near... also, I often take students from the school to a variety of places in town – I wish there were more sidewalks
- Narrow streets with no sidewalks and two-sided parking scary, and very little accessibility for people with disabilities. (And I take many into the community)
- Rec park
- Higher ed
- Library
- School GES and ISD

Farmer's Market

- Everywhere (2)
- Downtown
- Crossing Highway 61 can be difficult even with crosswalks
- Sidewalks not cleared of snow in winter, and streets are icy and slippery, so have to walk on Hwy 61 with trucks going by and spraying slush
- Keep sidewalk clear from Johnson's to Post Office – winter especially
- Get walk trail on lakeside of 7
- Get rid of cars on Wisconsin St. – strolling, dining, quiet
- Basketball hoops downtown on the street (Wisconsin)
- Reduce snowmobile travel in town
- Love the crosswalk and orange flags for safety!
- Exercise walking path loop through town accessing behind school woods including behind community center green space

Library

- Walk from town to Harbor House, hill-side – crossing Hwy is not safe in peak season, and I am less likely to use stores lakeside because I'd have to cross street
- Bicycle, pedestrian footpath along Gunflint to favorite hiking areas
- Bike/walk path to local wooded paths – ie Pincushion, possibly new city camp and rec site on hill
- Path defined and signed from school woods to Pincushion area paths
- An actual crosswalk between Java Moose & Voyageur!
- To SMC and hospital to post office
- No sidewalks make it unsafe to walk with students from school to various local places in town.
- ↑Agreed!
- New policies of all downtown businesses to have their sidewalks shoveled within 8-10 hours of snow fall, regardless if they are not open or residing here in winter. City charging fees to do the shoveling – charge higher fees! Very dangerous to walk in street in winter for all.
- ↑True!
- The property/building east of the library has a water/drainage issue that makes the sidewalks particularly dangerous
- Dogs on 5th Ave West scare walkers. I observed someone trying to walk by and had to go to middle of street to get by.
- I live in a bus!!
- If you haven't swam in the lake, you haven't lived.
- You have some sidewalks but they have bicyclists on them! Pedestrians cannot escape being run over.
- Stop light at North House intersection
- I want to walk to Pincushion

Sawtooth Mountain Clinic

- Snow clearing/year round access is important!
- Maintain walking areas for pedestrians – stop letting sleds take over the path and putting peds on Highway shoulder.
- I walk almost every on Co Rd #7 sidewalk.
- There are a ton of sidewalks with vegetation (whether it be trees, plants, or shrubs) that are grown into and over the sidewalks (along people’s property). This always prevents one from walking on the sidewalk and pushes me into the street.
- Would also love to see more sidewalk or bike path along 61 and the Gunflint (in town)
- Sidewalks put in and never maintained
- More walkways, fewer roads

Senior Center

- Easier way to get uphill
- Lighting can be a problem
- Flags for crosswalks are very useful
- Add a shuttle from parking on the hill for Fisherman’s Picnic, etc.
- Teach walkers the etiquette of responsible walking!! Or they are a menace.
- Take care of the sidewalks we already have

YMCA

- Keep sidewalks clear of snow and ice in winter.
- ↑Imagine this?
- Create solarpowered lighted trail between YMCA and pincushion system
- ↑Love this idea! 😊
- ↑Another vote for Y to Pincushion
- Along both sides of streets on Hwy 61
- Beautiful accessible paved trail from downtown to the pincushion parking lot for bikes, walkers and skiers
- Walkway from Wisconsin St. to Coast Guard Station.
- I’m walking here!
- If you want to walk at night, use a headlamp
- Sidewalks – plowed, shoveled – free of over-hanging, encroaching tree branches, etc.
- ↑Yes!
- Sidewalks do not exist on many city streets – this is not safe and ADA accessibility is not being followed.
- Remember that our elderly community members need safe parking, close to their destinations
- More sidewalk space (with some lighting) on the Gunflint in town → also on 5th St towards GoFer cabins and on 61
- Crosswalks on east side: E 1st Ave particularly – 2nd Ave E, also 3rd Ave E
- Hwy 61 to Croftville Rd where many walkers drive to
- I want to walk up to Pincushion on a system trail

Online

- No other ideas, just keep a clear path open to the liquor store.
- Parking is an issue. Do NOT under any circumstances increase pedestrian routes at the expense of a single parking spot!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Do NOT start sliding into some kind of utopian no-car zone. Do NOT let the bike crowd dictate policy. Above all, don't rely on a survey monkey approach to base your findings as the same 10 loons are apt to vote early and often. For a change, try some kind of information gathering that has sound methodology and statistical integrity. And what would be the chances that this comment might ever be included when reporting the results..... Maybe it doesn't even get counted....
- A PUBLIC ART walking tour brochure of all the outdoor art in Grand Marais, artist designed benches, 1- year long temporary sculpture tour like CITY ART MANKATO MN
- Most drivers in Grand Marais completely ignore crosswalks -- even those clearly marked with signs and flags. Raising driver awareness about pedestrian-crossing laws and safety is critical.
- I think repairing existing sidewalks should be a bigger priority than adding in new... I also think that there are enough streetlights. I think many people who live in town don't want a bright light outside their bedroom window. We live in this small and beautiful town because we like the feel of that--we don't want it lit up like Minneapolis. Pedestrians that walk at night and rely on a headlamp to light their way :)
- snow removal on all sidewalks and walking routes
- Please remember that many who live and visit here have limited mobility. We need parking near our businesses and restaurants.
- Please remember that this is a rural area. Paved and lighted walkways everywhere that may be appropriate in a big city are not appropriate here.
- Because of the relatively low traffic in Grand Marais for most of the year, I think Grand Marais is already a pretty walkable city.
- Sidewalks would make walking safer. Incorporating public art, benches etc. would add to the sense of place and community.
- Intersection near Worlds Best Donuts can be difficult and sometimes dangerous to cross. Can also be difficult to cross the street to get to Voyageur Brewing or Angry Trout Cafe due to the speeding of vehicles.
- Wide sidewalks are great. Keep improving the connection to each side of hwy 61

Street/Road Crossing Concerns



Sidewalk Network Update Plan



The map above assumes completion of the Highway 61 corridor project by MnDOT in 2019.

Desired Infrastructure Network

Update Process

During the planning process, the steering committee participated in an exercise to identify “Walk-Friendly Corridors” (streets expected to be used by people walking). The steering committee identified a desire to replicate this process every five years to update the street corridors that should be considered for greater levels of pedestrian infrastructure accommodations. This process is documented below.

Prior to Update Process: Before you begin, think about the kinds of information you may need to aid your discussion.

- Where do people want to go?
- What are the priority destinations within the community?
- Where are people already walking?
- Where are the people walking within street corridors?
- Who (age, gender, ability, etc.) is using the different street corridors?
- Where have there been pedestrian-involved collisions/near misses?
- Where are there sidewalks already?
- What condition are existing sidewalks in?
- Where are street lights?
- Do all the street lights work?
- Who is responsible for clearing snow from the sidewalks?
- Do those responsible for clearing snow from the sidewalks clear the snow?

Preparing the answers to these questions with current information will require advance planning and may involve some level of community engagement. Due to the rigor, this data collection will require partnerships to complete. A resource that helps visualize the data, like a map, should be created using the information compiled from these questions.

Exercise: With a map including relevant information about the walking network, identify and mark the following items on the map:

1. Walk-Friendly Corridors: Which street corridors or areas naturally serve as connections for people walking? Note: Based on context (i.e. types of users, amount of traffic, speed of traffic, etc.), these corridors would not necessarily be recommended to have sidewalks in the future.
2. Road Crossings: What intersections or areas are considered “dangerous” for people walking across the street? Where do land use decisions or developments prompt people to cross mid-block (not at an intersection)?
3. Street Lighting: Which “Walk-Friendly Corridors” (identified above) do not provide enough light for people to see or be seen by motorists? Which corridors service low-light commuting patterns for people walking?
4. Snow Clearing: Who is responsible for clearing snow from street corridors and sidewalks in each “Walk-Friendly Corridor” (identified above)? Do those responsible adhere to their responsibilities?

Post-Exercise: After identifying the infrastructure network during the exercise, it is up to City and County staff to identify recommendations for pedestrian-designated facilities within each “Walk-Friendly Corridor” (i.e. Which corridors should have sidewalks or trails? On both sides of the street, or just one? If one side, which side?). Design of the walking facilities (i.e. street, sidewalk, parking, curb, boulevard) should be revisited each time a corridor improvement opportunity arises; design accommodating for people walking should respond to the context of the corridors using the following criteria:

- Traffic counts (motorized vehicles, pedestrians, bicycles, ATVs, etc.)
- Trip generators (existing and future)
- Density of residents
- On-street parking
- Land use (commercial, residential, recreational, etc.)
- Types of users (kids, seniors, pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, etc.)
- Recreational/active living use

The location of recommended separated pedestrian facilities (i.e. sidewalks or trails) should be noted within each corridor for the final updated network map.

Context Sensitive Design Table

The following table demonstrates a concept for identifying levels of potential use by typical street/road users and by functional classification of a street/road. This table can help street designers and engineers consider use patterns and think about context sensitive design solutions to prioritize the appropriate mode of transportation in each corridor. In this table, Grand Marais would be classified as a “Rural Town.” The table is from the NCHRP Report 855: “An Expanded Functional Classification System for Highways and Streets.”

Context \ Roadway	Rural	Rural Town	Suburban	Urban	Urban Core
Principal Arterial					
Minor Arterial					
Collector					
Local					

Legend

	Low		Medium		High
	Low		Medium		High
	Low		Medium		High

Figure 5. Typical user priorities in the Expanded FCS.

PUBLIC REVIEW REPORT

Grand Marais Public Library

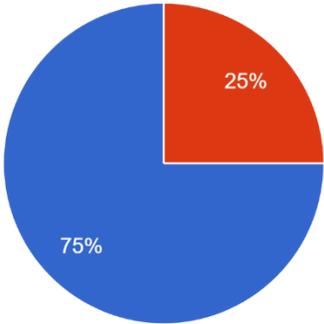
Please provide any comments you may have on the draft Grand Marais Pedestrian Plan below.

- User experience page – Remove reference to medium priority sidewalks
- Map – I see many people walking Hwy 61 from Gunflint Trail to Gofer/Building Blocks Cabins – Should be added as high priority – maybe wide shoulder is enough?
- There needs to be a sidewalk from the library entrance to Hwy 61 pointing toward the visitor center or Dairy Queen.
- Can the stoplight be changed so the walk lights engage automatically instead of requiring someone to push a button? In winter, it can be hazardous to get to the light pole. Even if the sidewalk is moved closer to the pole, it would be much nicer to not have to find a way to push the darned button.
- People who have torn-out sidewalks in their yards should have to put them back in. We need another stoplight at Voyageur and Java Moose – having two will make crossing 61 much safer because it will cause breaks in traffic from both directions.
- How about noise? Needless jake braking by local truck drivers. Youth driving pick ups with loud mufflers. Does law enforcement need sound measuring devices? Do we need sound ordinances? Would law enforcement foot patrols help. People visit here, move here looking for some peace and quiet.
- You need to connect with the C.E.C. “Creative Economy Collaborative” (the design advisory to city council). Perhaps visit one of our meetings 1st Thurs of month, 9:00 city hall or contact Ruth at Art Colony. Thanks.
- I think that pay phones should be re-instated by the library where they were before and maybe by the post office. I would suggest for winter especially, a type of small partially or fully enclosed waiting area – similar but warmer than a bus stop. Placement should be voted on, etc. Also a type of small library inside and some water from a water cooler (with big refillable jug) for summer especially. Thank you!

Online Form

Do you think public funding should be used for pedestrian-related improvements in Grand Marais?

4 responses

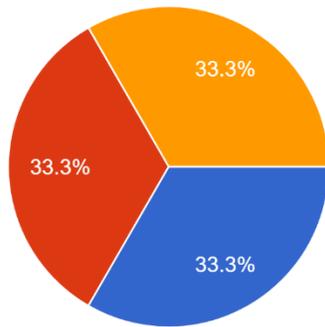


- Yes (This response will bring you to more questions about which improvements are a priority.)
- No (This response will bring you to the end of the survey, where you can provide feedback on the draft Pedestrian Plan.)

Prioritize the following categories based on where you think public funding designated for pedestrian improvements should go.

Priority #1

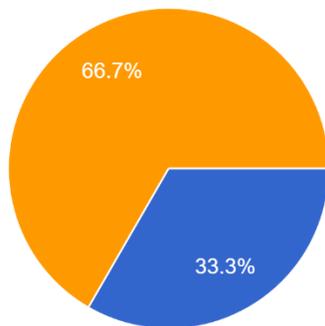
3 responses



- Construction of New Sidewalks/Trails in Select Corridors
- Maintenance of Existing Sidewalks/Trails
- Improvement of Crosswalk/Pedestrian Signage and Striping at Select Road Crossings
- Enhancement of Walking Amenities (i.e. Street Lighting/Benches/etc.) in Select Corridors

Priority #2

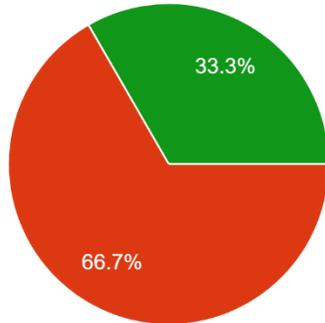
3 responses



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- Enhancement of Walking Amenities (i.e. Street Lighting/Benches/etc.) in Select Corridors

Priority #3

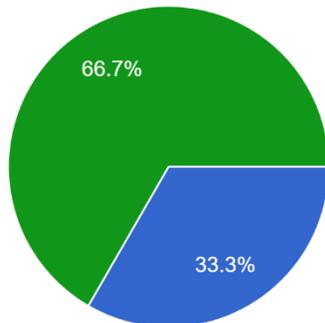
3 responses



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- Enhancement of Walking Amenities (i.e. Street Lighting/Benches/etc.) in Select Corridors

Priority #4

3 responses



- Construction of New Sidewalks/Trails in Select Corridors
- Maintenance of Existing Sidewalks/Trails
- Improvement of Crosswalk/Pedestrian Signage and Striping at Select Road Crossings
- Enhancement of Walking Amenities (i.e. Street Lighting/Benches/etc.) in Select Corridors

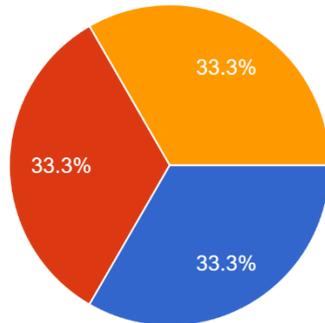
Prioritized list based on responses:

1. Improvement of Crosswalk/Pedestrian Signage and Striping at Select Road Crossings
2. Construction of New Sidewalks/Trails in Select Corridors
3. Maintenance of Existing Sidewalks/Trail
4. Enhancement of Walking Amenities (i.e. Street Lighting/Benches/etc.) in Select Corridors

Prioritize the "Infrastructure Network" action items below based on which items you think should be focused on in Grand Marais.

Priority #1

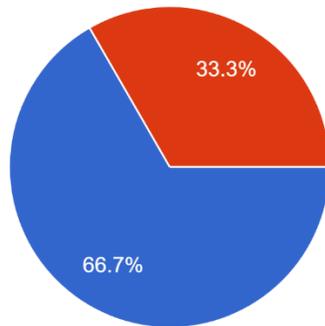
3 responses



- Leverage road construction, utilities work, and grant opportunities to update the pedestrian network over...
- For Walk-Friendly Corridors without adjacent sidewalks or trails, pursue context sensitive solutions to create...
- Study road crossings of concern and develop a plan to enhance infrastru...
- Reevaluate and update pedestrian infrastructure network desires every...

Priority #2

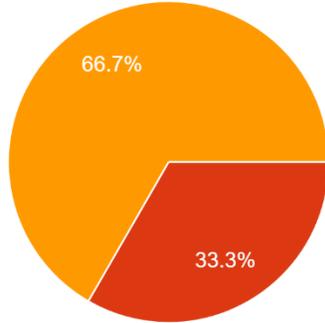
3 responses



- Leverage road construction, utilities work, and grant opportunities to update the pedestrian network over...
- For Walk-Friendly Corridors without adjacent sidewalks or trails, pursue context sensitive solutions to create...
- Study road crossings of concern and develop a plan to enhance infrastru...
- Reevaluate and update pedestrian infrastructure network desires every...

Priority #3

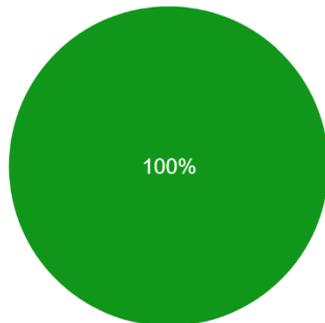
3 responses



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- Study road crossings of concern and develop a plan to enhance infrastru...
- Reevaluate and update pedestrian infrastructure network desires every...

Priority #4

3 responses



- Leverage road construction, utilities work, and grant opportunities to update the pedestrian network over...
- For Walk-Friendly Corridors without adjacent sidewalks or trails, pursue context sensitive solutions to create...
- Study road crossings of concern and develop a plan to enhance infrastru...
- Reevaluate and update pedestrian infrastructure network desires every...

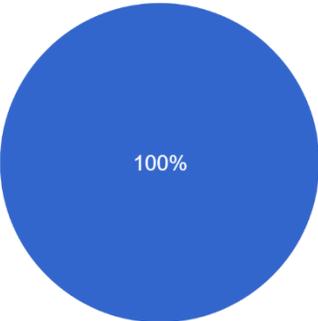
Prioritized list based on responses:

1. Leverage road construction, utilities work, and grant opportunities to update [network]...
2. For Walk-Friendly Corridors without adjacent sidewalks or trails, pursue context [solutions]...
3. Study road crossings of concern and develop a plan to enhance infrastructure...
4. Reevaluate and update pedestrian infrastructure network desires every five years...

Prioritize the "Maintenance" action items below based on which items you think should be focused on in Grand Marais.

Priority #1

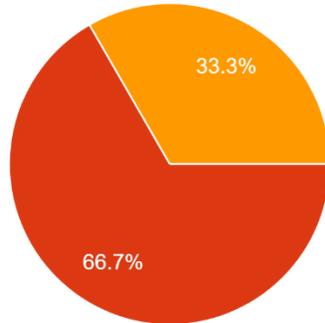
3 responses



- Continue government snow clearing services for high priority sidewalks.
- Evaluate sidewalks annually to monitor sidewalk conditions and maintenance needs.
- Communicate with property owners about their responsibilities to maintain the walking infrastructure network.

Priority #2

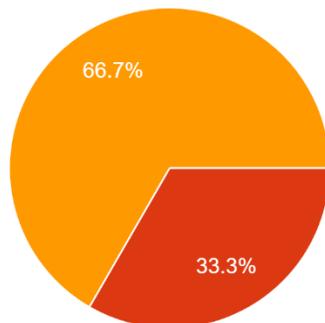
3 responses



- Continue government snow clearing services for high priority sidewalks.
- Evaluate sidewalks annually to monitor sidewalk conditions and maintenance needs.
- Communicate with property owners about their responsibilities to maintain the walking infrastructure network.

Priority #3

3 responses



- Continue government snow clearing services for high priority sidewalks.
- Evaluate sidewalks annually to monitor sidewalk conditions and maintenance needs.
- Communicate with property owners about their responsibilities to maintain the walking infrastructure network.

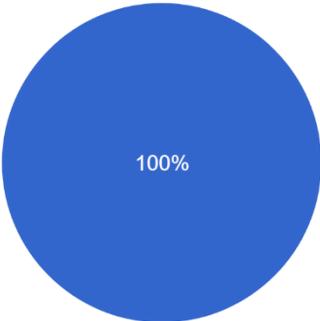
Prioritized list based on responses:

1. Continue government snow clearing services for high priority sidewalks.
2. Evaluate sidewalks annually to monitor sidewalk conditions and maintenance needs.
3. Communicate with property owners about their responsibilities to maintain the [network]...

Prioritize the "User Experience" action items below based on which items you think should be focused on in Grand Marais.

Priority #1

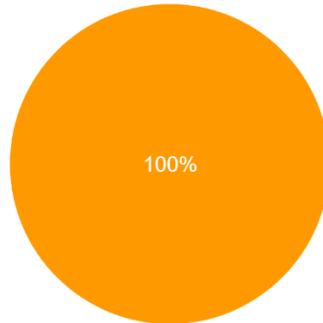
3 responses



- Prioritize the Downtown District, Highway 61, 1st Avenue West, and 5th Avenue West for street lighting that enhances corridor safety and e...
- Encourage property owners to provide amenities (i.e. benches or Little Free Library boxes) along the street for use by passers-by.
- Develop a plan to strategically locate walk-friendly amenities (i.e. benches and wayfinding signage) to accomm...

Priority #2

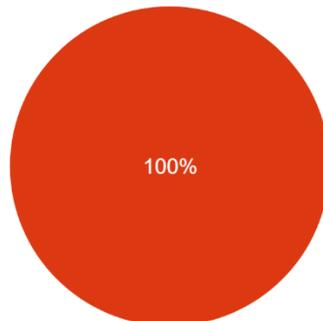
3 responses



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- Encourage property owners to provide amenities (i.e. benches or Little Free Library boxes) along the street for use by passers-by.
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Priority #3

3 responses



- Prioritize the Downtown District, Highway 61, 1st Avenue West, and 5th Avenue West for street lighting that enhances corridor safety and e...
- Encourage property owners to provide amenities (i.e. benches or Little Free Library boxes) along the street for use by passers-by.
- Develop a plan to strategically locate walk-friendly amenities (i.e. benches and wayfinding signage) to accomm...

Prioritized list based on responses:

1. Prioritize select areas for street lighting...
2. Develop a plan to strategically locate walk-friendly amenities...
3. Encourage property owners to provide amenities along the street...