

ABSTRACT

SC Department of Health and Environmental Control and Eat Smart Move More (ESMM) South Carolina funded Newberry County for an ACE Special Project. ESMM Newberry County worked with Dodd Studio to identify gaps and to create a plan for park and trail connectivity.

BACKGROUND

The West End neighborhood was identified as a priority community within the trail connectivity plan for Newberry. The City Council supported improvements for the West End neighborhood. The neighborhood had some sidewalks and a few parks; however, gaps in connectivity existed due to the lack of crosswalks and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessible ramps.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this project was to increase pedestrian safety by identifying gaps in trail connectivity and working with the City of Newberry to implement street-scale improvements.

ASSESSMENT & RESULTS

The community used the Active Neighborhood Checklist to complete a walkability assessment. The consultant, Dodd Studio, identified multiple intersections where crosswalks and ADA ramps were needed.

KEY STEPS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Federally-compliant signs, high visibility crosswalks, and ADA ramps were installed to connect sidewalks to parks in the West End neighborhood.
- Maps of parks and walking trails were distributed.
- Engineered drawings of railroad trestles were completed to connect the current Greenway in the West End neighborhood to downtown Newberry.
- The City of Newberry covered the cost of all ADA ramps and labor.
- Key partnerships were formed and included: Newberry City Council, Newberry Middle School, Safe Routes to School, Newberry County Parks and Recreation, Newberry Town Administrator, residents, and walkers.

LESSONS LEARNED

- Need city/town council support.
- Beneficial to have residents at the table.

NEXT STEPS

The City of Newberry is working on a Request For Proposal for plans to complete and connect Scott's Creek Greenway to Newberry Middle School and downtown Newberry, which will provide safe routes for students and community members alike.



HIGH VISIBILITY CROSSWALKS



ADA-COMPLIANT RAMPS



FEDERALLY-COMPLIANT SIGNS