Livable Streets





McDonald County



McDonald County is located in the southwestern corner of Missouri

Population

As of 2014 the population of McDonald County was 22,643.

It is made up of several small unincorporated communities and has 4 major towns which are:

Anderson-population 1,993

Pineville – population 790

Noel – population 1,831

Southwest City – Population 965



What are Livable Streets?

Over the last 50 years, America's streets have been designed and built for the automobile. But as communities grow and change their residents are wanting safer routes for alternative travel (biking, walking) and there has been a growing shift in perspective. That perspective has shifted toward designing streets and communities for cars, and pathways for people:

no matter age, ability or mobility.

How We Got Started

We utilized the Advocacy Manual provided by Missouri Livable Streets and the PedNet Coalition

By using the manual, we knew where to start.

Go to http://livablestreets.missouri.edu/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/advocacymanual-v2.pdf for a copy of the manual.

Understand the Needs of Your Community

- A livable Streets policy needs to be usable.
- A policy that works for a large city may not be suitable for a rural community.
- We had success with a policy that could be easily adapted and used when feasible.
- Our policy was written to be used with new construction, not to retrofit current sidewalks or streets.

Pineville





Anderson



Have Patience, Change Takes Time

- It took 2 years of hard work.
- Many meetings with mayors, a community workshop, community member interviews and hours of planning.
- We started out wanting a county wide policy but after meeting with County Commissioners, we had to reevaluate our plans.
- The Commissioners did not believe a policy would be able to pass county wide but would support our policies for individual cities.

Having a Back up Plan

- It's important to identify people within the community who share your vision of the future.
- The cities of Pineville and Anderson were conducting a Visioning project with the help of Drury University to see what Community members wanted to happen in the next 20 years.
- We decided to focus on these two communities.

Finding a Champion

- We found our champions with the Mayor of Pineville and the President of the Anderson Betterment Club. These wonderful people have a vision of trails and the future of their communities.
- It is also important to attend City Council meetings and know who your City Council members are.

How We Passed Livable Streets

With a lot of perseverance, we were able to pass an Livable Streets Ordinance in the City of Pineville and a Livable Streets Policy in the City of Anderson. I believe we were able to do this because we focused on what the policies could do in the future for the communities. Such as bring in funding. If a city is competing for grant money and already has a policy in place they would probably be considered for the funding over a city that did not have a

Livable Streets policy.

Steps We Took

- Established a group of supporters throughout the county by conducting the community members interviews.
- Provided the Mayor's of each town the sample policies in a private meeting and explained the importance of the Livable Streets movement in Missouri and left a copy of the Livable Streets manual for them to review.
- Provided each city council member with a copy of the policy two weeks before it was to be presented before the council.

- Had members of the Betterment club at the council meeting to help present the policy and to show support.
- We made sure everyone understood it would not cost anything to pass a policy and everyone could benefit from having a policy in place.
- It was also important to explain that the it may not have immediate results but having a policy in place shows forward thinking about a community's future and could possible bring in funding for parks and walking trails.

How the Policy is already working

(Letter from Harry S. Truman Coordinating Council) November 17th 2016

- I am so very proud to inform you that HSTCC has been notified of a \$150,000 grant award from the Missouri Foundation for Health, a nonprofit foundation whose funds are distributed via grants to organizations/causes that focus on improving health in Missouri.
- We applied for this grant in late summer. The purpose of this grant is to plan policies and programming in a specific community. The policies and programming should be developed to improve the quality of life and health in that community.
- We pinpointed McDonald County as our target community. We did this because there was sufficient evidence that health-related illness and mortality are higher down there than in other areas of our region. And two communities in Mac County have passed ordinances or resolutions to incorporate "Healthy/Complete Streets" in their development practices.
- We are so excited to begin working down there. Many thanks to the HSTCC staff, the folks in Mac County who helped us gather information and letters of support, and our entire HSTCC board and membership for the ongoing support you provide.

Jill Cornett, Exec Dir

Harry S Truman Coordinating Council

Remember to Say Thank you



We were able to purchase bike racks for each town

There is More Work to Be Done!

- As of 2016 Missouri currently has 30 Livable Streets or Complete Streets policies or Ordinances.
- We are focusing on two more communities in McDonald County – Noel and Southwest City.



Any Community can be a Livable Streets Community!









At the end of 2016 we had 9 Live Well Restaurants in McDonald County offering healthy menu items.



We were also blessed to have three local stores participating in the Stock Healthy Shop Healthy Program. We had a Wellness Fair, Kids in the Kitchen Cooking class and helped at a block party. I was blessed with a great MU Extension Person! Our third store was more challenging with most customers being Spanish speaking, but I believe with having the materials translated the message of nutrition education was delivered. We had a great time teaching and learning from the children.







