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Planners want more feedback on Napier Avenue

By HP STAFF Apr 4, 2018 Updated 4 hrs ago



A cyclist makes his way down Napier Avenue in Benton Township last year. The Southwest Michigan Planning Commission is seeking public feedback on the Napier Avenue Pedestrian & Bicycle Plan. A second meeting is set for May and a survey is available at three locations.

Don Campbell / HP file photo

BENTON TOWNSHIP — The Southwest Michigan Planning Commission, having hosted a well-attended Napier Avenue Pedestrian & Bicycle Plan public open house in March, is seeking additional public feedback.

The Napier Avenue Pedestrian & Bicycle Plan is a community-driven plan to transform Napier Avenue into a more pedestrian- and bicycle-friendly roadway. The planning team would like to hear from as many area residents, business owners, and users of the road as possible in order to gather a more complete picture of specific issues along the corridor. Web-based and paper surveys are available which allow residents to give their feedback.

A web-based survey can be obtained by going to www.napieravenue.org. To complete a paper-based survey, go to www.napieravenue.org; call 925-1137, Ext. 1513; or visit one of the following locations:

- The Southwest Michigan Regional Planning Commission, 376 W. Main St., Benton Harbor
- The Benton Township Hall, 1725 Territorial Road, Benton Township
- The St. Joseph Township Hall, 3000 Washington Ave., St. Joseph

The deadline for feedback is Friday, April 13. Completed surveys should be returned or mailed to one of the locations listed above.

Surveys include background information and facts surrounding Napier Avenue today, questions regarding priorities for the future of the corridor, and maps that participants can use to identify opportunities for improving pedestrian and bicycle access along the corridor.

More information on the project can be found at www.napieravenue.org.

A second public open house will be 4-7 p.m. May 21 at Napier Parkview Baptist Church, 245 W. Napier Ave. Feedback gathered from the public during the first public open house meeting will be used to develop a set of design alternatives which will be presented during the second meeting.