

# Complete Neighborhoods: Resources for Thriving Lives

**OBJECTIVE:** We need walkable, complete neighborhoods where housing, jobs, schools, and destinations are close together. We need neighborhoods that make it easy for residents, particularly Black or Hispanic/Latino residents, youth, seniors, low-wealth, and people with disabilities to access the resources they need to thrive without having to get in a car.

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**BACKGROUND:** Many of the resources that residents need, such as nutritious food, jobs, healthcare, schools, and opportunities for wellness and play, are not present in some neighborhoods. Many residents do not have safe ways to get from their homes to the resources they need without a car because of physical barriers like dangerous roadways with no sidewalks, and little to no access to transit. As development continues to expand throughout the county, minimal assessment has been done regarding how residents, including youth and seniors, in new and existing neighborhoods will be able to access needed community resources without personal vehicles.

We want every resident to be able to access essential daily needs within a 15-minute walk, roll, or bike ride. We want neighborhoods that promote health and economic stability through the presence of quality community resources such as grocery stores with healthy food options, natural and naturally landscaped areas, parks and recreational opportunities, local jobs, community healthcare, and community schools.

## Quotes from Durham Residents

“Accessible Housing and Neighborhoods should take a more holistic approach to planning. There doesn't need to be a gas station (or church or grocery store or bank or yoga studio or doctor's office ... on every block), but there should be a safe way to get to those things and if it's by bus or transit and cost is a factor, then free transit via reduced fare.”

“A patchwork of complete communities”

“Mixed-use development so people live closer to the places they want and need to go to. Easy-to-use and free public transportation.”

“Focus on neighborhoods so unique identities can show thru but still be connected to one another”

“More doctor offices in the county, grocery stores, entertainment with all the building they're doing”

“Equitable distribution stores (grocery) and not convenient stores”

“Keep the bus transit going with proper sidewalks to get to transit area. Some people don't have cars need for getting to work, doctors' appointments and to get to grocery stores”

“Would like an equitable Durham accessible to people from all areas of all the abilities + at all work shifts”

“Housing – visited someone who lived closed to grocery store and strip mall, but the sidewalks were all torn up and not necessarily a safe neighborhood, safer place to live that has access to walking distance access to resources banks, grocery stores, concerns where kids steal food and then there's a restraining order on the parents at the grocery store within walking distance.”