

On Tuesday, May 10, Bike Walk Knoxville was proud to lead local elected officials, candidates, and community members on a walking tour of the Burlington area of East Knoxville. Beginning at Fern Street Missionary Baptist Church, we were joined by City Councilwoman Lauren Rider, County Commissioner Dasha Lundy, Knox County Board of Education candidate Annabel Henley (District 9), and Knox County Commission candidate Dylan Earley (At-Large Seat 10). The walk also featured a representative from the East Tennessee Design Center, a non profit organization working on the [Martin Luther King Jr. Corridor Vision Plan](#) and several other projects around the East Knoxville area.

The walk pointed out some of the pedestrian infrastructure around the nearby Fair Garden Family Center, including sidewalks, marked crosswalks, and flashing beacons indicating the area as a school zone. The tour continued onto the historic Speedway Circle, and highlighted the residential speed limit of 25 MPH as well as community resources within walking/biking distance, including Chilhowee Park.

The group then discussed challenges to navigating the intersection of Holston Drive and McCalla Avenue, as the placement of marked crosswalks is confusing, and the intersection lacks pedestrian signals. Similar issues were discussed at the intersection of Prosser Road and Holston Drive as well as Holston Drive and Kirkwood Street. Each of these indicate an area that has been designed for cars rather than people, and each create dangerous circumstances for those traveling outside a vehicle.

The tour also highlighted Magnolia Avenue, which [ranked 7th among Knoxville region arterials for crashes per mile](#). Lastly, we discussed improved crosswalks at the intersection of Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue and Fern Street and the sub optimal placement of signage and pedestrian signals.

Overall, the tour was an incredible opportunity to learn more about how improving walkability can make a community safer and more [economically productive](#).