

CHALLENGE #4

Richmond's transportation network is inadequate at providing connectivity and user-friendly services.

With the Cardinal Greenway, several trails along the river, and the most recent addition of the bicycle loop, Richmond has been taking strides to improve connectivity but there is still more to do. A popular response during public engagement opportunities reveal gaps in connectivity for pedestrians still exist. Furthermore, citizens expressed the need for public transit improvements that offer a more user-friendly, dependable and convenient service.

In addition to public input, data related to vehicle ownership in Richmond confirms the need for improved connectivity and enhanced services. Nearly 16 percent of occupied housing units in Richmond do not own a vehicle at all¹. Furthermore, 40 percent of households only own one vehicle. This could be problematic if there are two working adults in the household with only one vehicle.

The challenges related to connectivity and services stem from the existing transportation systems. When connectivity gaps exist and the system isn't easy to understand or operate, people will likely choose not to use the system or facilities that are available. Identifying where the gaps are and working to improve services with technology enhancements are essential to developing a working and sustainable multimodal transportation system.

A multimodal transportation system works to combine both motorized and non-motorized forms of transportation. Not only does it consider the roadway network for vehicles and bus transit but also takes into account the pedestrian network made up of sidewalks, trails, and bike facilities. Many communities are shifting toward multimodal transportation systems because it can help to relieve congestion and improve air quality by offering alternatives to driving. Additionally, non-motorized transportation infrastructure helps to enhance connectivity and improve safety for pedestrians. It also encourages a healthy lifestyle and serves as a community amenity for recreation and leisure. These systems of movement provide excellent opportunities for people to be physically active.

¹ U.S. Census Bureau, 2012-2016 American Community Survey, Housing Summary Profile



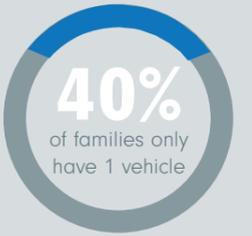
Both young professionals and senior adults find these alternative modes of transportation desirable and sometimes even essential for commuting. Therefore, offering a multimodal transportation network addresses the needs of individuals without a vehicle and the inability to drive while providing a recreational amenity that will help attract and retain the younger generation.

In order to provide a multimodal transportation network, Richmond must **CONNECT...**

- Residents to jobs, services, and amenities.
- Residents to regional trail segments, unique parks, and natural features.
- Residents to key destinations by providing wayfinding signage
- Residents to safe and maintained infrastructure.
- Residents to their desired destination in a reduced amount of time.



of occupied housing units in Richmond do not own a vehicle at all.



MULTI-MODAL BENEFITS...

Relieves congestion

Improves air quality



Encourages a healthy, active lifestyle

Improves connectivity

Serves as a recreational amenity



Community Survey Results

I WANT TO IMPROVE...

"Our walkability and bikeability in Richmond."

"The sidewalks and the capacity for people to walk on sidewalks instead of street."

"Communities and neighborhoods need to be more connected socially and physically. Easier for the pedestrian to travel around."