



Newtown Pike Extension

Lexington, KY

Lexington-Fayette
Urban County
Government

The project included a signature gateway bridge and many infrastructure improvements, including bicycle lanes, sidewalks, and pedestrian amenities. Photo by Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government.

An addition to the Newtown Pike Extension calmed traffic, renewed Lexington's streetscape, and advanced efforts for affordable housing and environmental justice.

CONTEXT

- Urban setting.
- Midwest.
- Completed in September 2017.
- Over \$100 million.



ROADWAY REDEVELOPMENT

- The project eased severe traffic congestion while contributing to economic development and providing affordable housing.

project was to complete the project in an equitable fashion without putting an undue burden on any neighborhoods. The project team was committed to performing robust **stakeholder engagement** and addressing the community's transportation and **Environmental Justice** needs.

The project was driven by a partnership between the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government, and the University of Kentucky.

WHAT WAS THE PROJECT DRIVER?

The Newtown Pike Extension project aimed to improve pedestrian and bicyclist infrastructure and address severe traffic congestion in downtown Lexington, KY. The project was also an opportunity to renew the streetscape of downtown Lexington and the surrounding areas and create spaces for future commercial development. A main guiding principle of the

HOW DID THIS CONNECT THE COMMUNITY?

The project extended the existing Newtown Pike to connect to other local roads via a four-lane boulevard that features bicycle lanes and sidewalks from West Main Street to Patterson Street. The project also added another four-lane boulevard that connects to US Route 68. Finally, the project includes a two-lane roadway with bicycle lanes, on-street parking, and sidewalks

that runs opposite the University of Kentucky's main entrance to reduce traffic congestion and provide increased mobility for bicyclists and pedestrians.

The project team conducted a multifaceted **stakeholder engagement** process throughout the project planning and development process and the design of mitigation strategies. The project team formed a Corridor Advisory Committee and funded a Neighborhood Liaison to build trusting relationships with the area's residents, discuss the project details, and gather input.

WHAT WERE THE BENEFITS?



RENEW

The project team conducted a **community impact assessment** that identified the **Environmental Justice** issues of the area, including the housing needs of the Davistown community. Based on this information, the project team developed a mitigation strategy that included the establishment of a Community Land Trust (CLT) and long-term protection of housing affordability. The CLT gave community members a voice in land use planning to protect the neighborhood's cohesiveness and to ensure environmental sustainability. The CLT also has the authority to request residential maintenance equipment, and is able to seek financial assistance and social support programs.

Additionally, the project included the construction of housing units between the Versailles Road Viaduct and Merino Street for residents that were relocated due to the project.



Housing units were constructed to retain current residents and provide for affordable housing in the area. Photo by Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government.

The project's positive effect on traffic congestion contributed to improved air quality in the area while increasing transportation options, including walking and biking. The project also considered opportunities for future economic development at key locations, such as commercial space at roadway intersections. The project also included other neighborhood improvements, including the redevelopment of a Southend Davistown park and several improvements to the Carver Neighborhood Center.

For more information:
<https://newtownextension.com>
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zGAbX_rFR5Y&feature=youtu.be (32:19)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B4ke-j5P6yY> (abbreviated 8:07)
<https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/Environment/ehei/awards/2008/kentucky.cfm>