

Rantoul Transportation Plan

Rantoul Village Board Presentation



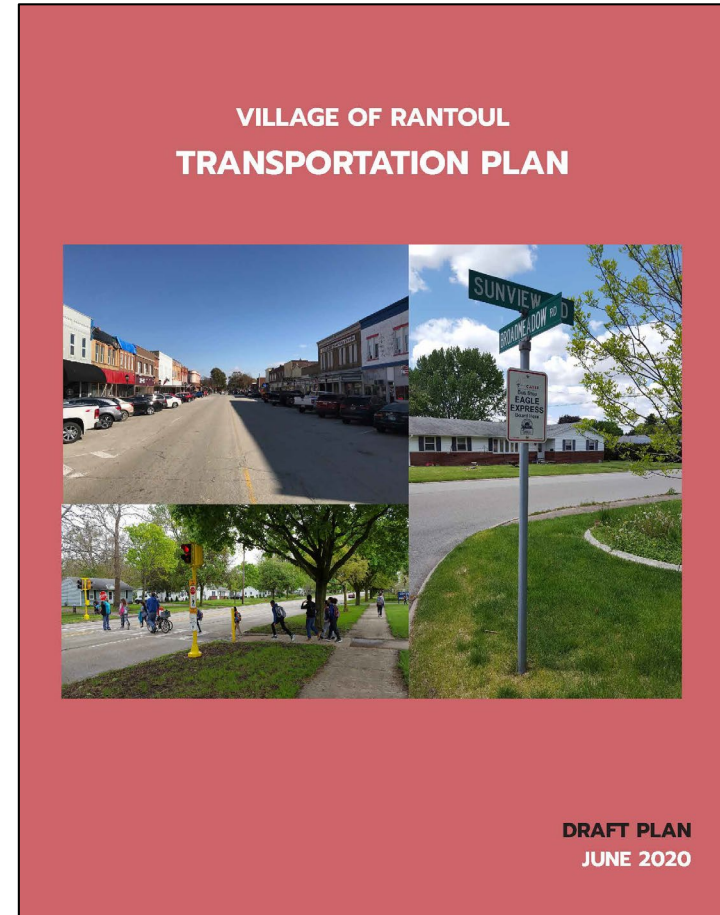
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Champaign County Regional Planning Commission
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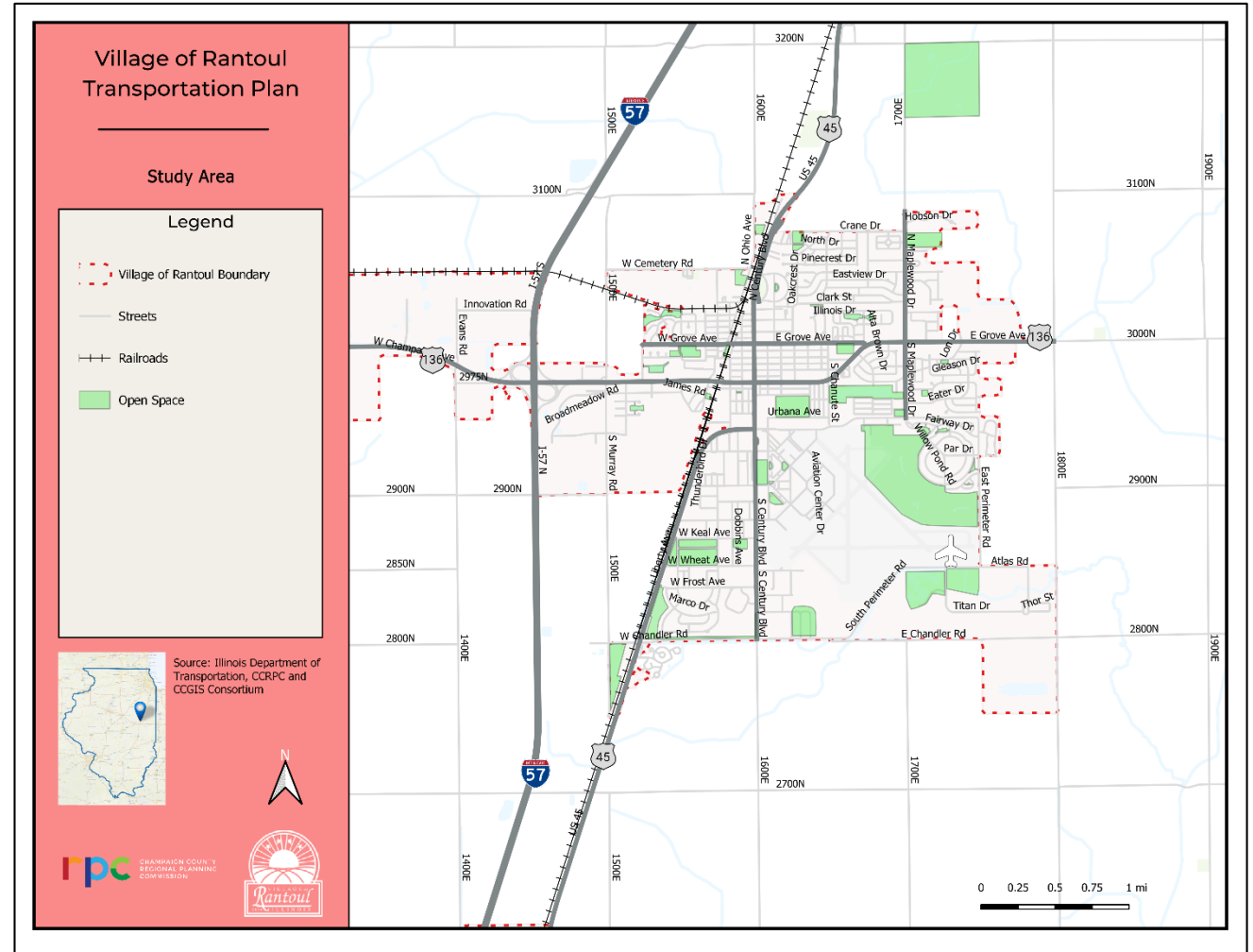
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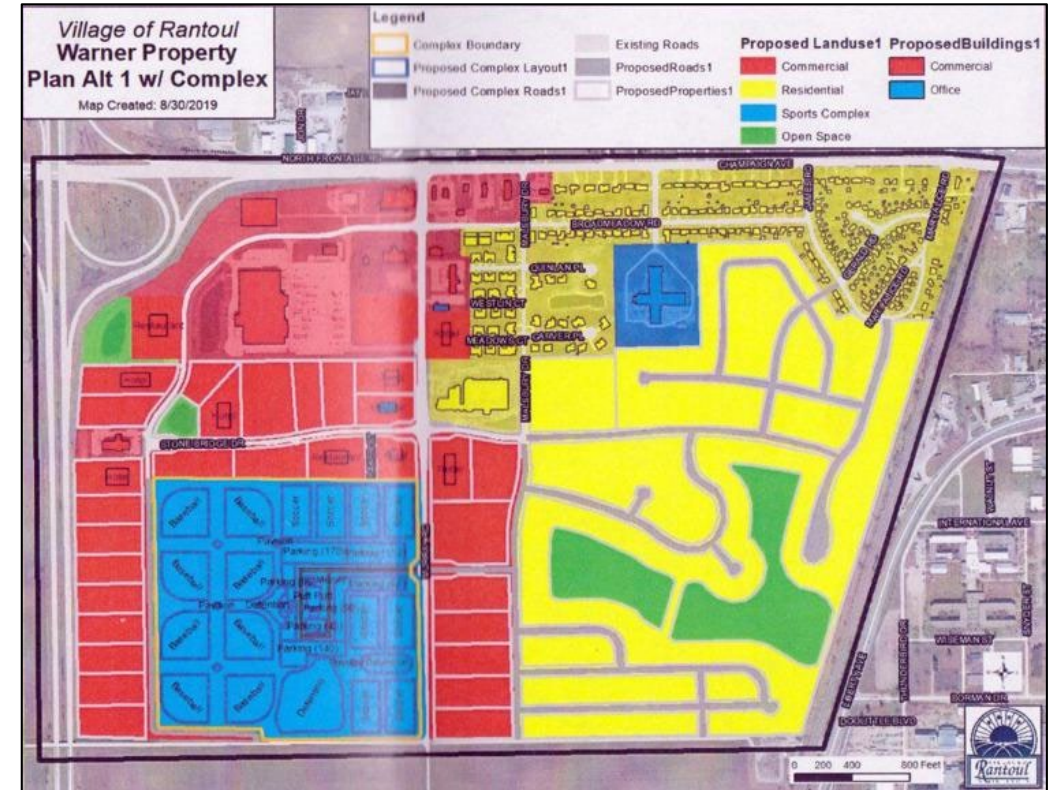
1. Introduction

- Purpose
- Planning Process
 - Involving the Public
 - Multimodal Approach
 - Transportation Plan & Transportation Model



2. Background

- Rantoul's Transportation History
- Review of Past Studies
 - Rantoul Initiative Report, 2011
 - Community Experience Plan, 2014
 - Rantoul Tomorrow Initiative, 2017
- Recent Developments
 - Illinois Autonomous and Connected Track
 - Rantoul Family Sports Complex
- Existing Plans & Policies
 - 2006 Rantoul Comprehensive Plan
 - Village of Rantoul Code of Ordinances



3. Existing Conditions

- Demographics
- Economics
- Housing
- Commuting Behavior
 - 90.4% drove to work
 - **77.5% drove alone**
 - 3.1% walked to work
 - 3% worked from home
 - 2.1% used a taxicab, motorcycle, or other means to get to work
 - 0.8% used public transportation to get to work
 - 0.6% biked to work



4. Transportation System

- **Transportation System**

- Appendix A: 12-hour traffic volumes at 12 intersections
- Most intersections are at acceptable ranges for Level of Service (grades A-D)

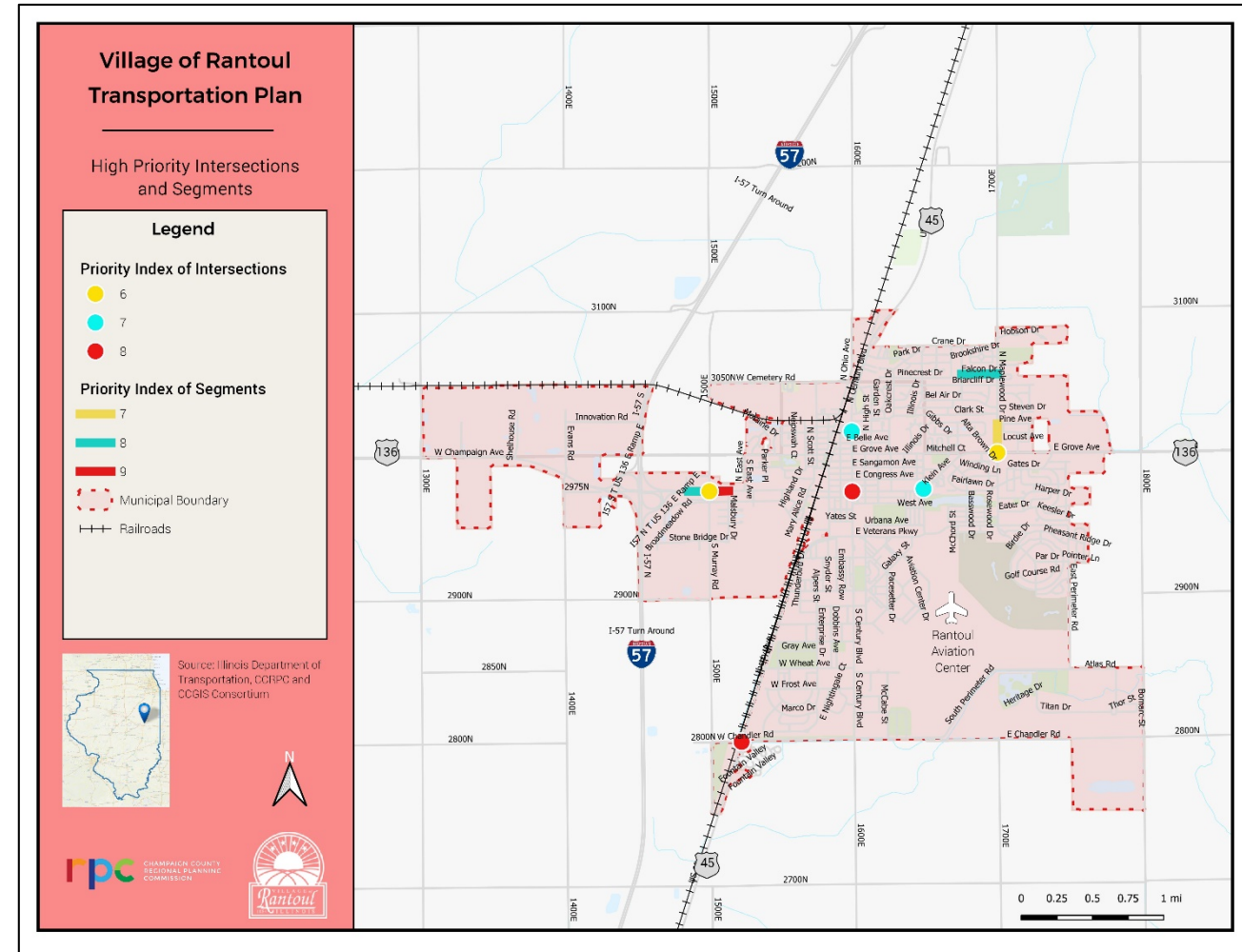
- **Automobiles**

- 4.8% of Rantoul residents age 16+ had no vehicle available in their household
- 583 crashes in 5 years, 1 fatality
- High priority intersections & segments identified

- **Public Transportation**

- Most common reasons that people use C-CARTS: medical & employment trips

- **Destinations identified**



4. Transportation System

• Bicyclists

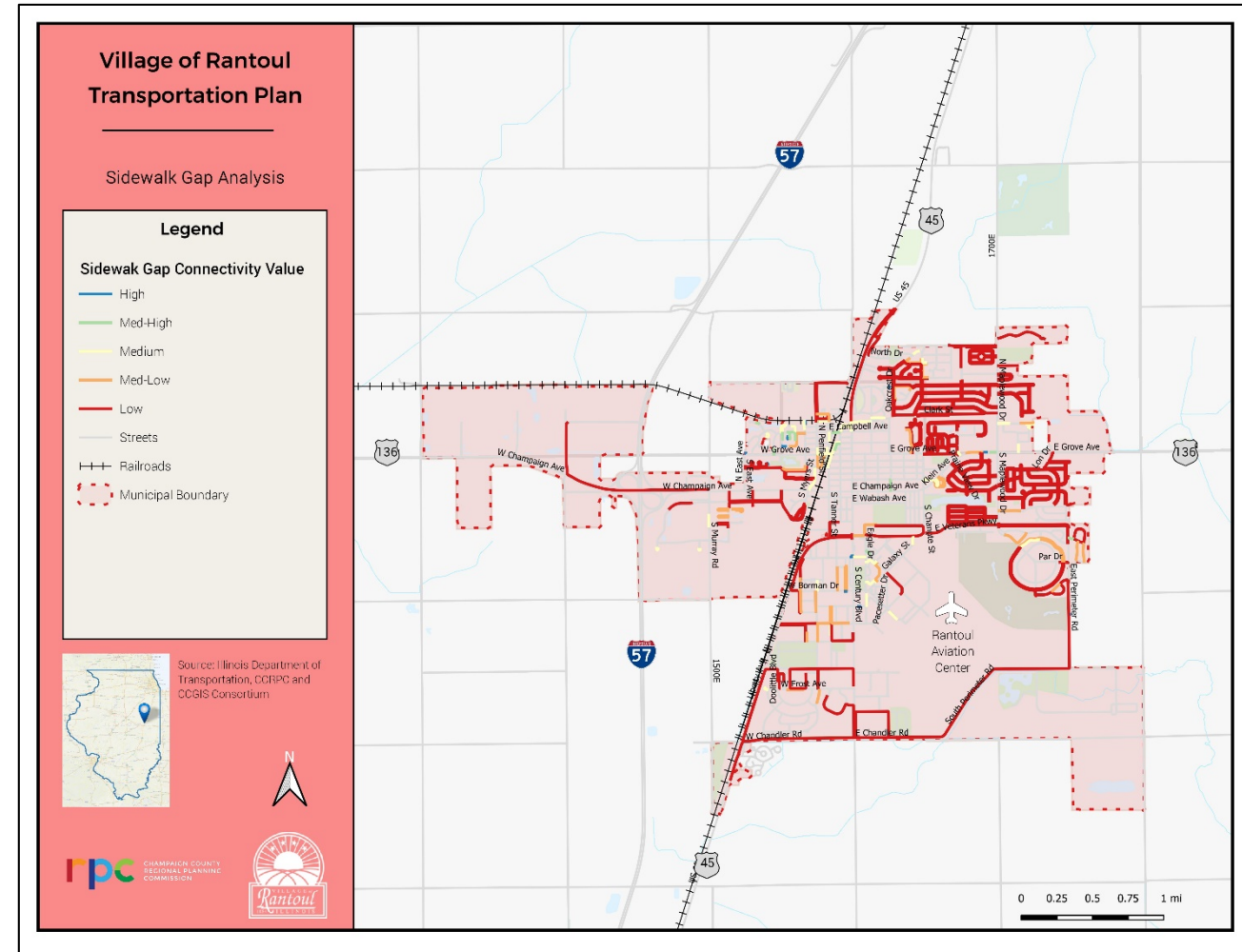
- 9 crashes in 5 years, no fatalities
- Level of Traffic Stress (LTS) highest along and across major roads

• Pedestrians

- ADA compliance & condition evaluated for Sidewalks, Curb Ramps, Crosswalks, and Pedestrian Signals
- 11 crashes in 5 years, no fatalities
- Level of Traffic Stress (LTS) high across most streets

• Sidewalk Gaps

- North & east Rantoul
- Parts of west Rantoul, especially across I-57
- Parts of south Rantoul



Appendix B: SWOT Analysis

- **Strengths = 9**

- Nearly half (46.7%) of population younger than 30 years
- Diverse multicultural population
- Presence of several industrial facilities and land availability
- Presence of University of Illinois ATREL facilities
- Presence of abundant land around former Chanute Airbase
- Easy access to Interstate 57
- Easy access to rail (AMTRAK and freight)
- Trail system in development
- Grid street system in village center → better connectivity

- **Weaknesses = 13**

- Population has been decreasing since 1970
- 14% of residents have a disability
- High poverty rate (19.8% of village residents)
- High number (48%) of rented houses
- High housing unit (16.5%) vacancy rate
- Old housing stock (only 3.2% built since 2000)
- Location of aquatic center, library, skate park and fitness facility isolated from major residential areas

- Significant distance and poor connectivity to major employment centers
- Poor access management on major roadways
- Safety problems (mainly around downtown and along Champaign Avenue) (speeding and lack of access management on major roadways)
- Lack of bike infrastructure near big generators such as County Market, Walmart, and some Rantoul schools
- Limited (schedule) public transportation
- Lack of sidewalks in some areas and poor sidewalk network condition

- **Opportunities = 6**

- Excessive roadway capacity
- Possibility to implement multimodal transportation network connecting to major public facilities and employment centers
- Expansion of Eagle Express and C-CARTS schedule

- **Threats = 2**

- Local, State and Federal funding for transportation
- Lack of employment diversification (Manufacturing accounts for 21.3% workers)

Appendix C. Public Input

Appendix E. Public Comment Period

- **Public Input Round #1**

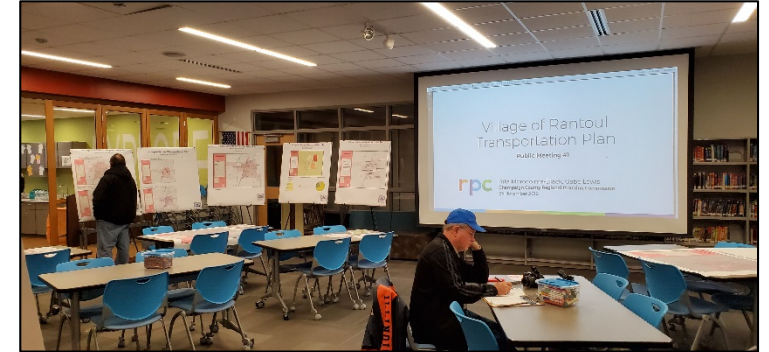
- November 25, 2019 public workshop
- January 2020 Safe Routes to School public workshops
- Surveys mailed to RCS families
- Input received on current likes & issues, recommendations, and vision

- **Public Input Round #2**

- March 11, 2020 public workshop
- Input received on prioritizing recommendations

- **30 Day Public Comment Period**

- May 1-31, 2020: draft plan made available on CCRPC website
- Comments received on transit recommendations



Appendix: Selected Public Comments

- Afraid of middle school kids walking home and getting hit by speeders on Sangamon Avenue
- C-CARTS needs more/extended hours, needs to be more affordable, and offer roundtrip service to Illinois Terminal
- Improve Champaign Avenue (US 136) by restaurants - congested and dangerous
- People speed on Sangamon Avenue where it crosses the railroad tracks

5. Vision, Goals, and Objectives

Vision: Create a complete transportation network that provides multimodal connectivity, improves accessibility for people of all ages and abilities, and ensures safety of all residents moving around the Village of Rantoul.

Themes & Goals:

1. Multimodal Connectivity and Mobility

- Create a connected transportation network to increase accessibility and mobility of people using different transportation modes, and to increase the efficiency of the transportation system by allowing the use of active modes of transportation.

2. Safety

- Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users

3. Accessibility, Affordability and Equity

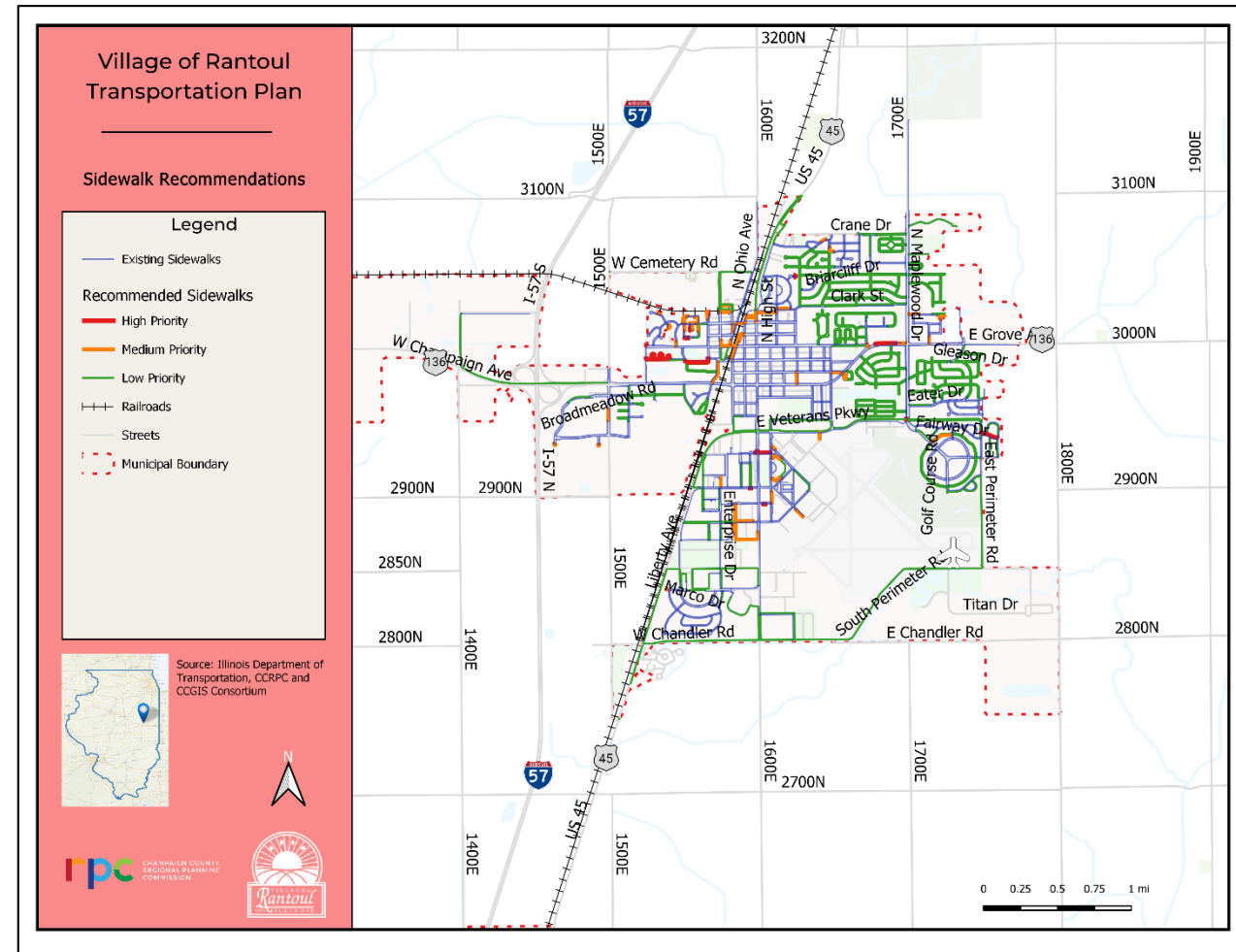
- Address the issues of equity to increase accessibility for underserved populations such as the elderly, low-income, and persons with disabilities.

4. Education and Encouragement

- Educate and encourage residents about active modes of transportation and facilities

6. Engineering Recommendations: Sidewalks, Study Area

1. Build New Sidewalk: 35 street segments
2. Close Sidewalk Gaps: 18 street segments
3. Conduct a traffic study on Maplewood Drive to evaluate the possibility of reducing the roadway cross section to three lanes, reducing speed, etc.
 - Curb extensions (i.e. bump-outs)
 - Complete Street
 - Speed tables



6. Engineering Recommendations: Bikeways

1. Install Bike Lanes: 2 locations

1. Grove Avenue (Twin Lakes Blvd.-Century Blvd.)
2. Century Boulevard (Congress Ave.-Veterans Pkwy.)

2. Install covered bike parking

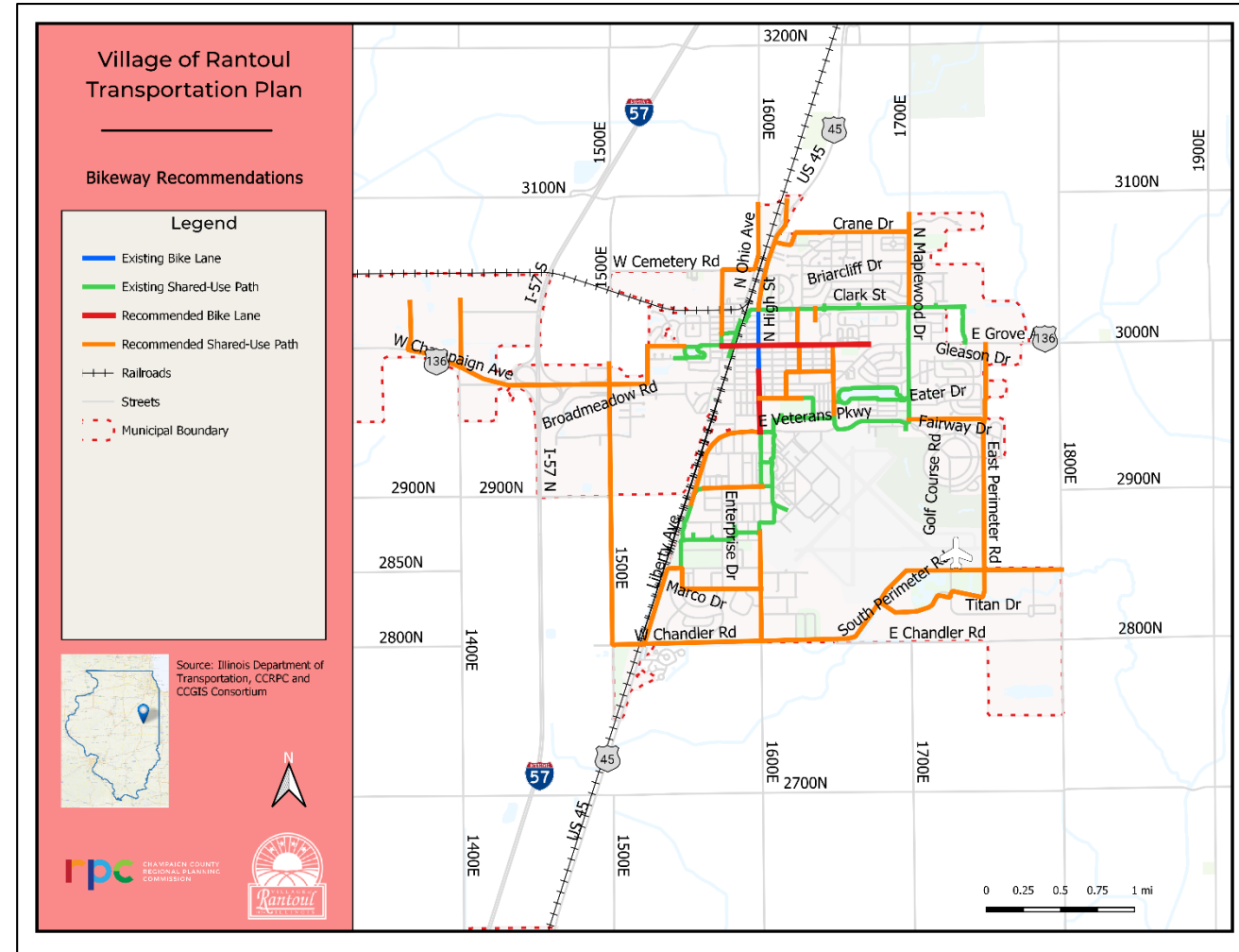
- Businesses
- Government facilities

3. Install Off-Street Shared-Use Path: 3 locations

1. Ryan Park Path Extension
2. Near Pleasant Acres School
3. Heritage Lake Park

4. Install Sidepaths: 29 street segments

- IDOT: 2 segments
- Village of Rantoul: 27 segments



6. Engineering Recommendations: Curb Ramps, Crossings

1. Improve or install curb ramps

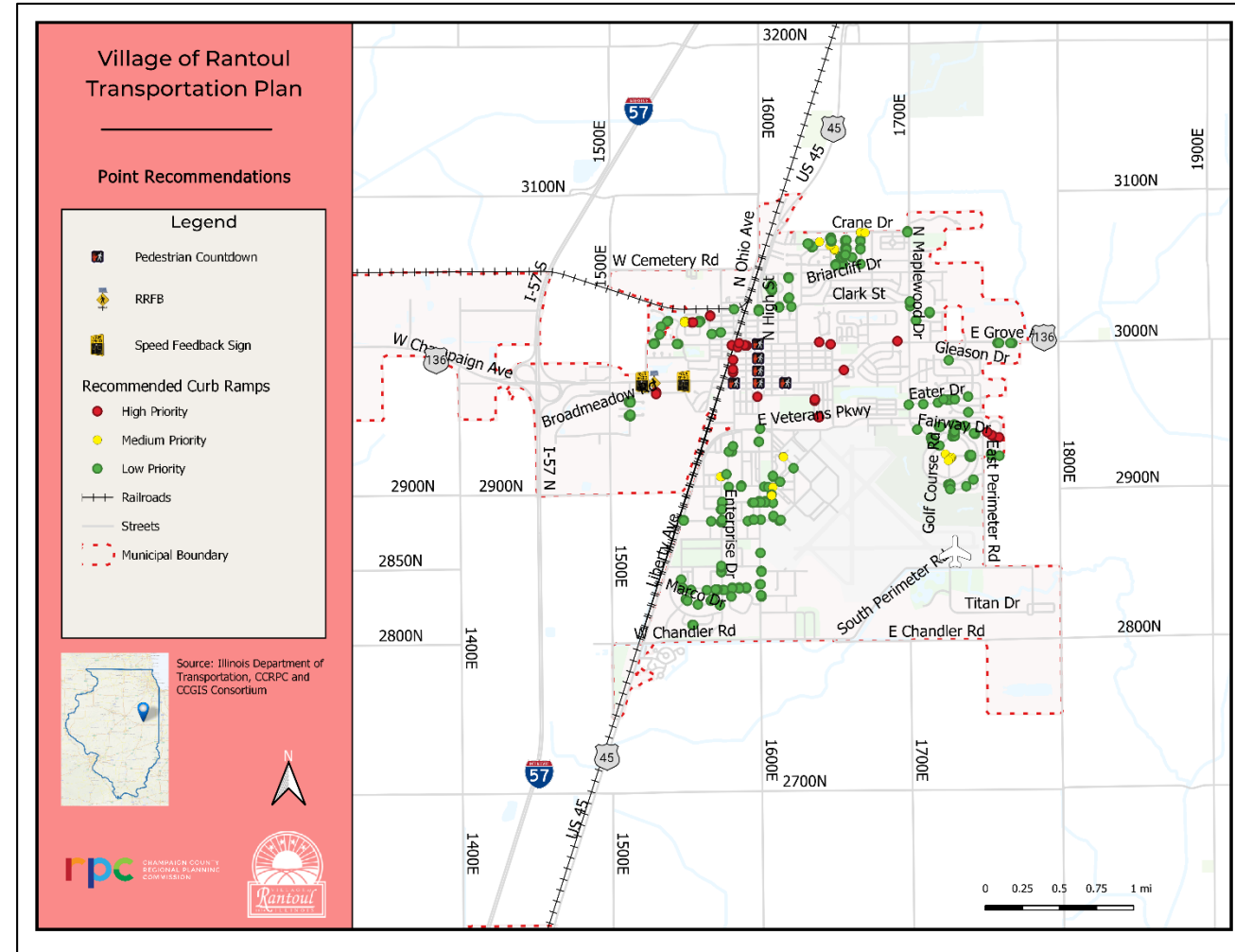
- Based on CCRPC Sidewalk Gap Connectivity analysis
- 20 locations with a high connectivity value

2. Install Pedestrian Countdown Signals: 6 locations

1. Century/Grove
2. Century/Sangamon
3. Century/Congress
4. Century/Champaign
5. Champaign/Tanner
6. Champaign/Fredrick

3. Install pedestrian crossing improvements: 2 locations

1. Champaign/Sunview
 1. **Near Broadmeadow School**
2. Champaign/Chanute
 1. **Near RTHS**
 2. **Proposed safe walking route to Northview School**



6. Recommendations

- **Public Transportation = 8**

1. Coordinate with C-CARTS to expand the hours of services in Rantoul.
2. Explore opportunities to subsidize the cost of providing public transportation services. Consider collaborating with local businesses.
3. Make transfers from C-CARTS to CUMTD free.
4. Make information available on the Village website:
 1. **Steps towards getting a DASH Pass for reduced fares for persons with disabilities**
 2. **Age requirements for riding C-CARTS**
 3. **Other relevant information**
5. Organize a no-cost method for C-CARTS riders to get to Illinois Terminal to acquire a DASH Pass.
6. Work with C-CARTS to introduce weekly/monthly/annual passes for the public to purchase.
7. Consider reducing demand-response scheduling from 48 to 24 hours in advance.
8. Seek additional funding to provide increased service, especially for persons eligible for Medicaid.



6. Recommendations

- **Education = 5**

1. Walk/Bike to School Days, Wellness Fairs
2. Traffic Circulation Map & Safe Walking Route Maps Distribution
3. Bike Education Pamphlets
4. Bike Rodeos
5. K-12 Bike Education Curriculum

- **Encouragement = 9**

1. Park & Walk Sites
2. "Bike to" and "Walk to" Events
3. Bike Route & Trail Signage
4. Bicycle Friendly Community Application
5. Snow Removal
6. Bikeway, Trail, and Walkway Dedication events & rides
7. Business Bike Parking Improvement Incentives
8. National Trails Day
9. Walk Friendly Community application



6. Recommendations

• Enforcement = 4

1. Enforce bicyclist & pedestrian violations
2. Enforce motorist violations
3. Police presence near schools
4. No Cell Phones in school zones

• Evaluation = 5

1. Annual Performance Measure Assessment
2. Bicycle & Pedestrian Counts
3. Speed Studies
4. Walkability & Bikeability Surveys
5. Travel Tallies



Take a walk and use this checklist to rate your neighborhood's walkability.

How walkable is your community?

Mark your walking path to school or bus stop (See back)

For the locations of problems, give the nearest intersection and/or mark a cross "X" on map on the back.

Rating Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6
awful very problems some problems great very good excellent

1. Did you have room to walk?

☐ Yes ☐ Some problems

- ☐ Sidewalks or paths started and stopped
- ☐ Sidewalks were broken or cracked
- ☐ Sidewalks were blocked with poles, signs, shrubbery, dumpsters, etc.
- ☐ No sidewalks, paths, or shoulders
- ☐ Too much traffic
- ☐ Something else _____

Locations of problems: _____

Rating: (circle one) 1 2 3 4 5 6

2. Was it easy to cross streets?

☐ Yes ☐ Some problems

- ☐ Road was too wide
- ☐ Traffic signals made us wait too long or did not give us enough time to cross
- ☐ Needed striped crosswalks or traffic signals
- ☐ Parked cars blocked our view of traffic
- ☐ Trees or plants blocked our view of traffic
- ☐ Needed curb ramps or ramps needed repair
- ☐ Something else _____

Locations of problems: _____

Rating: (circle one) 1 2 3 4 5 6

3. Did drivers behave well?

☐ Yes ☐ Some problems: Drivers...

- ☐ Backed out of driveways without looking
- ☐ Did not yield to people crossing the street
- ☐ Turned into people crossing the street
- ☐ Drove too fast
- ☐ Sped up to make it through traffic lights or drove through traffic lights
- ☐ Something else _____

Locations of problems: _____

Rating: (circle one) 1 2 3 4 5 6

4. Was it easy to follow safety rules?

Could you and your child...

☐ Yes ☐ No

- ☐ Cross at crosswalks or where you could see and be seen by driver?
- ☐ Stop and look left, right and then left again before crossing streets?
- ☐ Walk on sidewalks or shoulders facing traffic where there were no sidewalk?
- ☐ Cross with the light?

Locations of problems: _____

Rating: (circle one) 1 2 3 4 5 6

5. Was your walk pleasant?

☐ Yes ☐ Some unpleasant things:

- ☐ Needed more grass, flowers, or trees
- ☐ Scary dogs
- ☐ Scary people
- ☐ Not well lighted
- ☐ Dirty lots of litter or trash
- ☐ Dirty air due to automobile exhaust
- ☐ Something else _____

Locations of problems: _____

Rating: (circle one) 1 2 3 4 5 6

How does your neighborhood stack up?

Add up your ratings and decide.

1. _____	26-30	Celebrate! You have a great neighborhood for walking.
2. _____	21-25	Celebrate a little. Your neighborhood is pretty good.
3. _____	16-20	Okay, but it needs work.
4. _____	11-15	It needs lots of work. You deserve better than that.
5. _____	5-10	It's a disaster for walking!

Total: _____

Now that you've identified the problems, please turn in this form at your school.

7. Implementation

- **Maps by Timeframe**

- Short-Term = 0-5 Years
- Medium-Term = 6-10 Years
- Long-Term = 11+ Years

- **Infrastructure Tables**

- Location
- Treatment
- Responsible Agency(ies)
- Timeframe
- Length
- Cost Estimate

- **Funding Sources**

- Federal Programs
 - **Safe Routes to School (SRTS)**
 - **Surface Transportation Block Grant Program**
 - **Capital Investment Grants**
- State & Private Programs
 - **Doppelt Family Trail Development Fund**
 - **Illinois Bicycle Path Program**
 - **Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP)**
 - **OSLAD & LWCF**
 - **Recreational Trails Program (RTP)**
 - **Safe Routes to School (SRTS)**