



“By walking it is solved.” *Latin proverb*

## What makes a Street pedestrian-friendly?

A pedestrian-friendly street is *interactive*, achieving a balance among the various forms of transit: cars, bikes, buses and pedestrians.

Slowing traffic is important: Traffic calming helps reduce vehicle speeds but does not inhibit the efficient flow of transit. Crosswalks are ample, easy to see and may utilize pedestrian-activated signals.

A Virginia Study has shown that 85% of people die when struck by motorists going 40 mph; 45% of people die when struck by motorists going 30 mph; 5% of people die when struck by motorists going 20 mph.

A pedestrian-friendly street provides room for *circulation* – sidewalks that allow couples approaching from opposite directions to pass each other without having to step aside. Walking space is ideally 8 to 12 feet across, in good repair and *continuous*, meaning that one doesn't need to step around trees, benches and bicycle racks. And, of course, sidewalks are completely *accessible* and passable for people in wheelchairs and those using strollers.

The pedestrian-friendly street has *public spaces*. Trees, benches and community artwork create a sense of place on the street and are also important visual traffic calming measures.

Storefronts are welcoming, with windows and entry doors providing visual interest for pedestrians. Retail and restaurants thrive on a pedestrian-friendly street because it is an interesting place to be. Instead of targeted errand-running, shoppers and diners are encouraged to “stay awhile” and see what other retailers and restaurants have to offer.

Join the Campaign for a Walkable West Bluff.  
**Let's make Main Street a place people want to come!**  
[www.walkablewestbluff.org](http://www.walkablewestbluff.org).

The Campaign meets the last Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm at Bradley Hall, Room 139.