

# Walk Audit: Community Learning, Shared Stories & Pedestrian Advocacy

A co-curricular training program from Temple University Office of Sustainability & the Clean Air Council

## OBJECTIVE

The Walk Audit Training Certification program is an original service learning curriculum that teaches students how to evaluate the pedestrian experience.

Through this program and its skill delivery in the fields of asset-based community development and community organizing, we present walking as a model for sustainable behavior change and active and engaged urban stewardship.

## OVERVIEW

Four interdisciplinary students selecting real routes within the City of Philadelphia High Injury Network, holistically evaluate a walk route or intersection

Certification program includes 1-2 training sessions, field research and a client presentation

## SCOPE

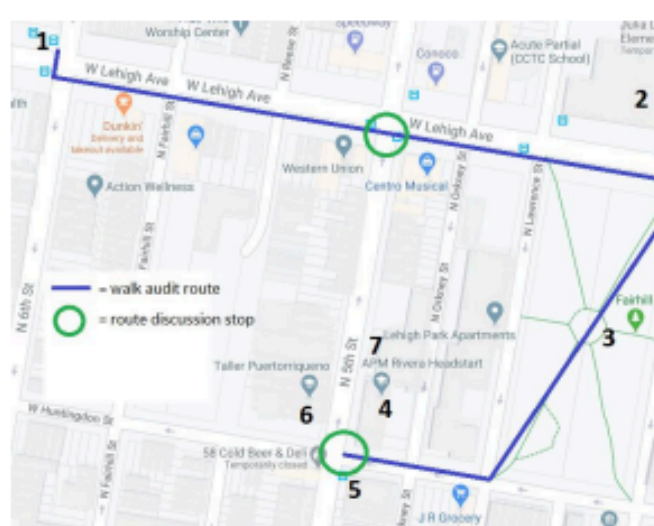
Can range from technical study of a single intersection to a broader evaluation of a walking route

Implemented as a course project-based learning tool and through co-curricular peer education and leadership development program, EcoReps

## METHODOLOGY

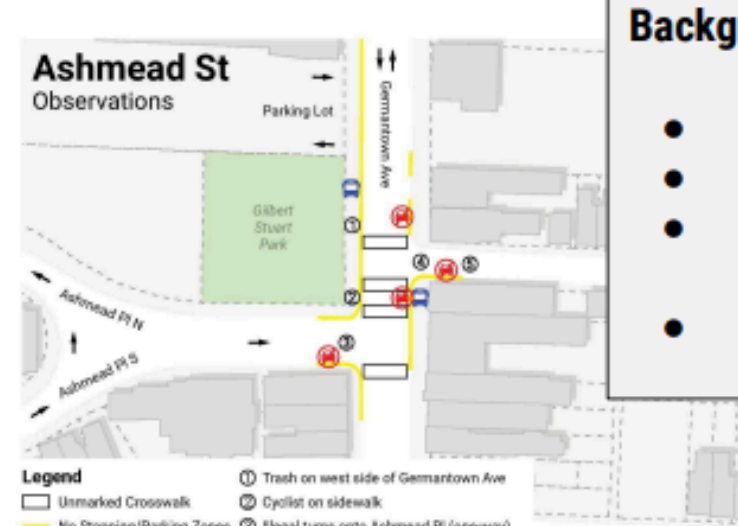
### Qualitative (Corridor)

- Varied Environment
- Designed for People
- Transportation Connections
- Safety and Accessibility for all
- Comfort and Appeal



### Quantitative (Intersection)

- Crossing streets and Intersections
- Sidewalks
- Driver Behavior
- Safety
- Comfort and Appeal



### Background research themes:

- History
- Demographics
- Past, current & future planning initiatives
- Institutional actors

## COMMUNITY NEED

Reduce traffic violence  
Promote shifts to low-carbon, active transportation modes  
Grow community development skills and strengthen civic responsibility

## COMMUNITY SCIENCE

Reflect on lived experience, understand role & agency  
Solutions-oriented, collaborative data collection & storytelling

## COMMUNITY BENEFIT

Consensus on concerns builds coalitions, creates shared stakes & empowers active participation in community advocacy & stewardship

## UNIVERSITIES & SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION:

**INSTITUTIONAL CHANGEMAKING:** Climate action, campus planning & carbon emissions

**BEHAVIOR & LIFESTYLE CHANGE:** Low-carbon transport & walking as community stewardship

**JUST POLICY:** Planning equitable, healthy and climate resilient communities in North Philly



Can we address **sustainability challenges** in **urban transportation** in a **holistic** way which considers **student leadership development** and teaches them to be more **active** and **engaged stewards** and **citizens** of their communities?

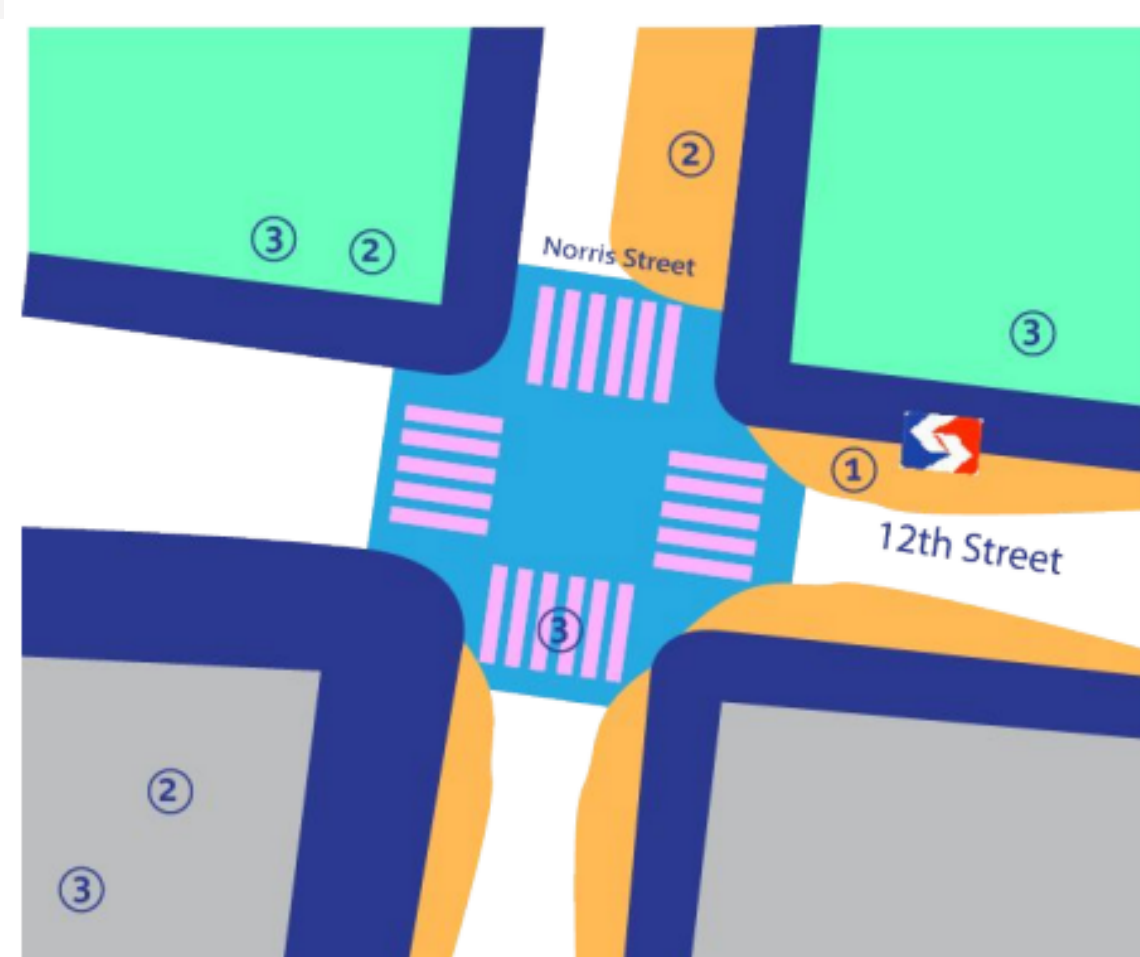
**Yes, through pedestrian advocacy and walk audits**



Temple students collect traffic data on site at the TTF trail head on Rising Sun Ave

## IMPACT

- **Literacy on Issues of Traffic Violence** TU representation on Safe People Committee and participation in Feet First Philly subcommittees
- **Tookany-Tacony-Frankford Watershed Partnership Intersection Audit** ArcGIS StoryMap featured in TTF Strategic Plan
- **DVRPC & OTIS Vision Zero Project at Cecil B. Moore Public** supplemental student perspective and survey data for local VZ capital project
- **Co-curricular project-based learning** in College of Liberal Arts' Geography, the Environment and Urban Studies department
- **Partnership with West Mount Airy Neighbors** Traffic Calming Committee collaborated with students to perform multiple intersection audits of proposed slow zone



Learn more online with the [Walk Audit Certification Toolkit on TUScholarShare:](#)



Students working with neighbors at a problematic intersection in West Mt Airy