

Emerging Themes

The ISU research team conducted virtual focus groups with active recreationists, parents, and the Alleman visioning committee. Not enough Alleman residents from the other demographic groups volunteered to participate, so those sessions were canceled. As a result, the information presented here is not inclusive of all transportation user types. However, understanding the similarities and differences among user types who are represented will offer insight when the visioning committee identifies programming objectives.

Desirable Qualities and Features

Walking is the most popular form of exercise among the three focus-group types; parents and actives also bike. Peace and quiet, safety, and scenic views make walking more enjoyable for these groups. The schools offer a network of walkways where people feel safe and are sheltered from the wind. All three groups enjoy scenic views and natural beauty while walking and/or biking, naming the views along NE 6th Street as attractive.

Undesirable Qualities and Features

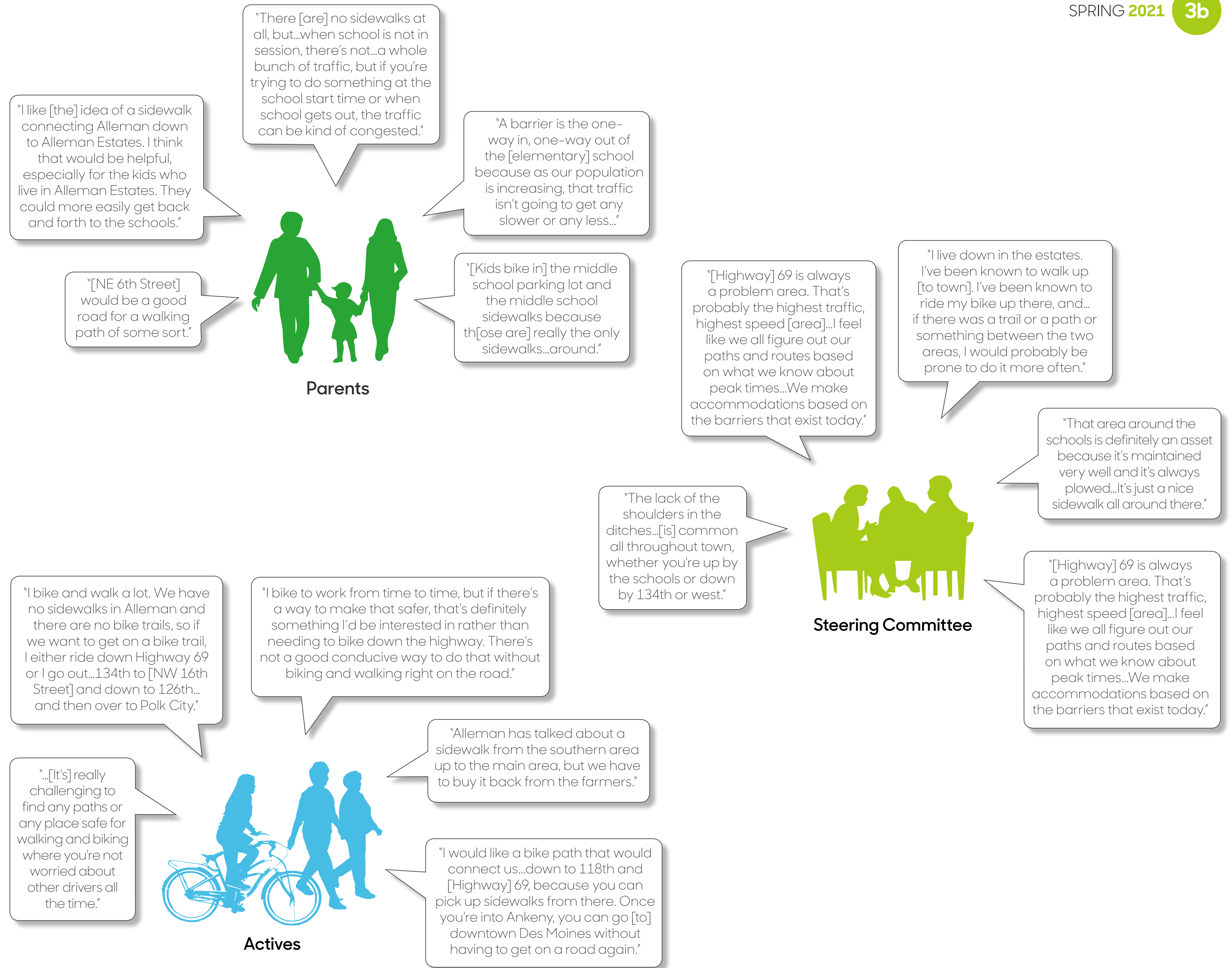
Although residents enjoy the scenery along NE 6th Street, all three groups identified that corridor as a barrier to pedestrians and cyclists because it carries a lot of traffic, including high-school drivers, and there is no sidewalk or trail. Inconsistent sidewalks throughout town and roads with narrow or no shoulders are also impediments to walkers and bikers. Actives feel constrained by the lack of bike trails in town, and parents find the limited options for recreation inconvenient. Flooding along Fourmile Creek and pooling water in the streets are seasonal issues.

Desired Improvements

Increased connectivity emerged as an important theme among participants. Active recreationists and parents want sidewalks that connect neighborhoods to the high school. Actives and steering committee members want trail connections between Alleman and recreation venues such as the High Trestle Trail and the Heart of Iowa Trail at Huxley. All groups noted the need for a sidewalk or trail along NE 6th Street between "Alleman proper" and the Alleman Estates.

Active recreationists are most interested in creating safe bike paths in and around Alleman. Along with the steering committee, this group suggested adding sidewalks throughout town as well.

Parents would like an additional exit from the schools to mitigate traffic congestion during school start and end times. They indicated that the one-way entrance and exit at the elementary school is inefficient. This group would also like access to the high school track for walking. Finally, parents said that Alleman should have a public park with shelters, grills, a gathering space, a playground, and fitness equipment.



Alleman What People Said

Transportation Assets and Barriers

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